

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY  
IN IRAN

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by  
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## CHAPTER I

### THE PROBLEM AND DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED

#### INTRODUCTION

The study of juvenile delinquency as an organized, systematized effort to alleviate the growing pressure of crime upon the social structure is of comparatively recent origin. Prior to the 19th century no appreciable distinction was made between the child offender and the adult criminal. Both were considered undesirable as members of the community, and both the child and the adult suffered equally for the commission of like violations against the group.

Thus in a period of 100 years, the conception of delinquency has undergone a complete change. The separation of adults and children in penal institutions, the introduction and widespread use of parole, and the establishment of separate courts for the legal disposition of adults and juvenile cases marked the beginning of a new era in the treatment of maladjusted members of society.

The 19th century is significant to the student of delinquency for its contribution to the treatment of juvenile offenders. Numerous attempts were made also to study scientifically the causes of crime. Little progress

was made in this field until 1909 when the Juvenile Psychopathic Institute of Chicago was established. William Healy was named its president. It was largely through his efforts that the case-study method, now widely used, was begun. In 1915 he published a study of 1,000 delinquents.<sup>1</sup> This work formed the basis for subsequent studies of delinquents through the case-study method. Since that time the scientific study of delinquency and the causes of crime have reached voluminous proportions.

As was stated above, Healy introduced the case-study method in the analysis of delinquency and its causes. One of his first and perhaps his greatest contribution was that which concerned the factor of heredity as a determinant in delinquency.

Through a study of a thousand delinquent repeaters he, in collaboration with Spaulding, concluded that the influence of heredity could not be determined because of the multiple social factors which influenced the delinquent.<sup>2</sup>

Bronner, another student of the problem of delinquency, has made outstanding contributions to the knowledge of social factors and their influence upon the lives of children engaged in anti-social activities.

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<sup>1</sup>William Healy, Individual Delinquency (Boston: Little, Brown Company, 1915), pp. 23-28.

<sup>2</sup>Author's note: for a complete account of the findings of this study see Edith R. Spaulding and William Healy's "Inheritance as a Factor in Criminality," Bulletin American Academy of Medicine, February, 1914.

Bronner's use of the individual case-study method in the analysis of causative factors in delinquency has served to strengthen the belief in the reliability of the procedure.

Judge Ben Lindsey of the Denver Juvenile Court, Denver, Colorado, has been of inestimable value to the student of delinquency. Lindsey has presented clearly and pointedly the problem of delinquency from the standpoint of legal treatment of those involved in illicit practices. His Revolt of Modern Youth<sup>3</sup> and other books have contributed to the knowledge of childhood as seen through the eyes of the child.

Probably the most outstanding contributor to the field today is Shaw. His work has resulted in a number of factual accounts concerning the delinquent and his environment. His monumental work includes, among others, two books of significance to this study. They are (1) The Jack Roller,<sup>4</sup> a study of one man's introduction to and life of wandering, crime, and imprisonment. This work is an excellent example of the use of the case-study in the diagnosis of factors of causation as related to delinquency and crime. (2) Delinquency Areas,<sup>5</sup> a study of the physical factors of causation relative to the geographical area in which

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<sup>3</sup>Ben S. Lindsey, The Revolt of Modern Youth (New York: Boni and Liveright, 1925), p. 602.

<sup>4</sup>Clifford R. Shaw, The Jack Roller (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1930), p. 205.

<sup>5</sup>Clifford R. Shaw, Delinquency Areas (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1929), p. 214.

delinquents are found. In this study, Shaw found that delinquency occurred in greater volume in some areas of the city than in others, and that certain types of delinquency were traceable to certain areas within the city.

While the above mentioned writers in the field of delinquency are by no means the only outstanding contributors, they are, however, representative of many others of no less importance who have devoted years of study and tireless research to the problem of delinquency and its causes.

The material presented in this study is offered in the hope that it may contribute in some measure to the further understanding of the problem of delinquency as it exists in the underdeveloped countries. Unfortunately, this important problem has been ignored in Iran, and there have been no studies done in regard to this vital social issue.

This research, then, is the first attempt to find reasons, analyze the problem, and finally find the factors that increase juvenile delinquency in Iran. An important concept to consider is that juvenile delinquency has frequently been interpreted incorrectly. Sometimes people think that if young people rebel against tradition and old-fashioned ideas they are juvenile delinquents. Many adolescents are misunderstood by parents who believe delinquents are those who violate traditions. Parents are sometimes

old-fashioned; young people may refuse to accept all the things that their parents believe. The young people respond violently toward the society because of changes in economics, social standards, industry, and education. Much care must be exercised in differentiating between the juvenile who violates the laws and the one who contradicts the regulations of the society.

Perhaps in some cases violation in any form might be interpreted as disregard for laws and regulations, but care must always be exercised not to condemn the youth who rebels against tradition and use their delinquency to achieve social reformation.

In this study, the researcher has tried to point out the causes of this social sickness that has crept into Iranian society. The researcher has tried to analyze the problem, but has not suggested any solution to it. There are two basic reasons for this:

First, if we want to suggest a practical solution to this social problem the research would have to be conducted for a longer period of time than was possible on the part of the writer. Too, the researcher felt that a follow-up study might profitably be conducted at some time in the future. Provision of additional recreational facilities or the manipulation of other aspects of the external environment of the youths identified as delinquent does not offer a solution. A great deal must be done on an

individual basis by trained personnel. There are many cases in which the roots of delinquency are deeply embedded in the total personality structure of the boys and girls. Such cases can be handled only through the patient efforts of skilled individuals with specialized training.

Second, the problem of delinquent behavior and its causes in developed countries has been studied very carefully by sociologists, and most civilized countries have found ways and means to face this social problem. Unfortunately the solutions are not absolute. The problem of crime and delinquency is deeply rooted in society, and it is not an easy task to find a solution.

#### THE PROBLEM

The purpose of this study is to determine the probable causal factors of juvenile delinquency in Iran.

#### Limitations of the Study

In studying any social problem we need to have figures and accurate statistics. Unfortunately, in Iran it was impossible for this researcher to get them. There are two primary reasons for this difficulty: (1) in Iran girls are at home or in school most of the time. They do not have freedom to go out and remain out until late hours, so they very rarely commit any kind of crimes. If they do the families try to settle the case out of court. Hence, twenty-eight of the thirty files that the researcher studied

belonged to delinquent boys. (2) This research was done in the capital city of Iran, Tehran, which has a population of 3,000,000 and Shiraz, one of the largest cities, with a population of 150,000. Because in small towns and provinces or villages there are no juvenile courts, delinquents are brought to Tehran or Shiraz. Delinquency exists as a social phenomena in all large cities in Iran and the researcher chose these two cities as representative of them.

### Statement of the Hypothesis

This research delineates those factors that are probable significant determiners of delinquent behavior in Iran.

### DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED

Juvenile. In this study of the problem in Iran a juvenile has been defined as any individual between the ages of twelve and twenty.

Delinquency. Juvenile delinquency is any behavior or accumulation of behaviors which within a given community at a given time is considered in conflict with its best interests, whether or not the offender has been brought to court.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Sophia Rabison, *Juvenile Delinquency, Its Nature and Control* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1960), p. 11.

Juvenile delinquency. A juvenile delinquent is any law violator under the statutory age as described by the state in which he resides, whether or not he comes to the attention of the court.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>Edward Eldefanso, Law Enforcement and the Youthful Offender: Juvenile Procedures (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1967), p. 13.



## CHAPTER II

### A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE AND RELATED RESEARCH

A review of the literature and research relative to juvenile delinquency are contained in this chapter with emphasis placed on the following areas: (1) definitions of juvenile delinquency, (2) theories of delinquency as a social product, and (3) basic factors and conditions of juvenile delinquency and related factors in juvenile delinquency in Iran.

In closing the chapter several causal factors pertinent to juvenile delinquency in Iran are given.

### A REVIEW OF LITERATURE IN THE DEFINITION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Generally, definitions of the term "juvenile delinquency" fall into two categories; psychological and legal.

Whether certain behavior is delinquent or not is entirely dependent on the motivation which is behind that particular behavior. No external feature can ever be used as a reliable index of delinquency.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>K. R. Eissler, "Some Problems of Delinquency," Searchlights on Delinquency, ed. K. R. Eissler (New York: International Universities Press, Incorporated, 1955), p. 5, cited by J. W. Kessler, Psychopathology of Childhood (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Incorporated, 1966), p. 297.

Legally, the term "delinquency" applies to offenders who are younger than the statutory age limit, which varies from 16 to 20 years.

The legal definition of a delinquent has been divided into five parts, each involving a group smaller than that preceding it. The first "legal delinquents", includes all those who at one time or another commit delinquent acts. This is perhaps half the teenage population.

The second, "detected delinquents", are those who are caught in the act.

The third, "agency delinquents", are those who are brought to the attention of some authority such as the police.

The fourth, "alleged delinquents", are those who are brought before a court.

The fifth, "ajudged delinquents", the smallest group, are those found delinquent under the law.<sup>2</sup>

### What is Delinquency?

Pomers and Witmer<sup>3</sup> found in their study that in order to define the real delinquents, it was necessary to take into consideration three concepts or criteria, namely: (1) the seriousness of the behavior, (2) its frequency, and (3) the attitude of the offender toward a lawfully

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<sup>2</sup>Lowell Juilliard, Delinquency Control (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1941)

<sup>3</sup>Prevention of Delinquency: The Cambridge-Somerville Youth Study (New York: Columbia University Press, 1951), pp. 180-186.

constituted society. Applying these categories, they classified the delinquents into five groups--most, ordinary, occasional, seldom, and least delinquent.

The legal definition of delinquency is complicated further by the fact that it contains a mixture of moral judgments, somewhat tempered by middle-class ideology. The interpretations and applications of law vary by cultural groups. Thus, what is considered antisocial behavior in one group may be regarded as fairly normal behavior in another group. The legal concept of delinquency simply states the type of conduct forbidden by law, which does not include the larger connotation.<sup>4</sup>

From a social psychological point of view, a juvenile is delinquent because he conceives of himself as being a delinquent person.

Once labeled as delinquent, either by official action or by the community, his attitudes and behavior are affected by the realization that he is regarded as a law violator or as being an antisocial person.<sup>5</sup>

The original law of the Illinois juvenile court defined as delinquent a child under the age of sixteen years

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<sup>4</sup>Martin H. Neumeier, Juvenile Delinquency in Modern Society (Princeton, New Jersey: D. Van Nostrand Company, Incorporated, 1966), pp. 19-20.

<sup>5</sup>J. W. Kessler, Psychopathology of Childhood (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, Incorporated, 1966), pp. 297-298.

who has violated any law of the state or any city or village ordinance.<sup>6</sup>

### Who is Juvenile?

The concepts in the field of delinquency are undergoing marked changes and vary considerably in accordance with national and regional differences in background. They may also vary considerably in different parts of the same country.

Considerable data have been collected by the Division of Social Welfare, Department of Social Affairs, of the United Nations.<sup>7</sup> Two broad criteria which make up the main conception of delinquency are (1) the nonadult status of the individuals concerned and (2) the act is regarded as delinquency according to the laws of the country.

The upper age limit is the dividing line below which a person is regarded as a juvenile, which ranges from fourteen years in Haiti and Dominica to twenty-one years in Chile, the states of Arkansas, California, and Wyoming (females) in the United States, and the British Solomon Islands. The most common upper age limits range from

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<sup>6</sup>Laws of Illinois, 1899, p. 137.

<sup>7</sup>International Review of Criminal Policy, Nos. 1-15 inclusive. Published by the United Nations from 1952-1959. Part IV, Asia and the Far East (1953) and Part V, Middle East (1953).

fifteen to eighteen years.<sup>8</sup> In Iran the age limit of the individual under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court is between twelve to eighteen years.

In the United States, each state has its own age floor and ceiling for purposes of juvenile court treatment, and the age limits are variable.

Most of the juvenile court jurisdiction laws do not specify a minimum age limit or floor, but in several of the states the laws provide that a child under a particular age, usually seven years of age, may not be convicted of a crime. In these states, however, children under the specific age may be classed as delinquents for acts that are prohibited by penal codes. The assumption underlying the differential treatment is that, under a certain age, (but there is no agreement as to which age) a child is not regarded as mature enough to be responsible for certain acts.<sup>9</sup>

#### A REVIEW OF THE THEORIES OF DELINQUENCY AS A SOCIAL PRODUCT

The search for basic theories to bring different types of delinquency into a common framework goes on

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<sup>8</sup>Neumeyer, op. cit., p. 21.

<sup>9</sup>For a more detailed discussion of the laws pertaining to juvenile court jurisdictions and state-by-state summaries of laws defining what acts are considered as delinquencies, see Frederick B. Sussman, Law of Juvenile Delinquency: The Laws of the Forty-eight States (New York: Oceana Publications, 1959).

increasingly. Specialists from many different disciplines formulate theories with or without supporting evidence from empirical research and often without any effort being made toward coordinating the various disciplines.

Many theories have evolved from the findings that show that official delinquency of a serious nature is concentrated in certain areas of cities.

The study that Shaw and his associates made in the 1920's and 1930's showed that the highest rates of juvenile arrests, juvenile court hearings, and correctional school commitments were in the lower-class areas of large cities.<sup>10</sup>

Sociologists have observed that there is an excess of juvenile delinquents in certain areas, over and above what can be accounted for by more stringent law enforcement. The Children's Bureau Report describes such neighborhoods as characterized:

. . .not only by physical deterioration, but by very great heterogeneity of background and moral standards, by lack of neighborhood solidarity, by lack of opportunities for youth to participate meaningfully in the kinds of activities that are available for children in more favored neighborhoods, and by the presence of 'successful' members of the underworld, who are regarded as heroes to be emulated. These circumstances of life are often associated with unstable families, and a high incidence of illegitimacy and desertion, leading both to maternal employment with inadequate provision for the needs of children, and to the lack of a father-figure to provide guidance and affection for the young child.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>Shaw, Delinquency Areas, loc. cit.; Shaw, Henry, McKay, and Associates, Juvenile Delinquency and Urban Areas. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1942).

<sup>11</sup>Children's Bureau Report (1960), p. 5.

### The "Functional" Theory

The idea that delinquency is a "normal" or probable aspect of some cultural situations has been stated most explicitly by Miller, a cultural anthropologist. He wrote that there is a "lower class culture" which operates in relation to a consistent, coherent, and rational set of norms and values which have grown out of the realities of economic and social functioning, and that such a culture is organized around six focal concerns: "trouble, toughness, smartness, excitement, fate, and autonomy."<sup>12</sup>

Miller suggested that much of the behavior found in this culture is not deliberately antisocial or systematically criminal and that its antisocial nature is the unintentional consequence of habitual patterns of behavior which appear to be reasonable within their own context.

Much of the delinquency of lower-class youngsters may be seen as an attempt by the acting individual to adhere to forms of behavior and to achieve standards of value as they are defined within this type of community.<sup>13</sup>

### The "Reaction Formation" Theory

Cohen and Cloward and Ohlin (1960) agreed in that they considered the delinquent gang a social deviation,

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<sup>12</sup>W. B. Miller, "Lower-Class Culture as a Generating Milieu of Gang Delinquency," Journal of Social Issues, XIV No. 3 (1958), 7, cited by Kessler, op. cit., p. 312.

<sup>13</sup>W. C. Kvaraceus and W. B. Miller, Delinquent Behavior, Culture and the Individual (Washington, D.C.: National Education Association, 1959), p. 63, cited by Kessler, Ibid., pp. 312-313.

and a pathological one; but, their concepts of the origin of gang culture are quite different.

Cohen viewed group delinquency as characteristically "non-utilitarian, malicious and negativistic."<sup>14</sup> Cohen depicted the working-class boy as often unhappy, frustrated, and angered by his position in life and as finding in delinquency an active solution for these feelings.

Thus, delinquency is functional--not, as in Miller's definition, because it is adaptive to cultural reality, but because it acts, like a neurotic symptom, to relieve tension and conflict.<sup>15</sup>

#### The "Illicit Means" Theory

Cloward and Ohlin stated that "the most crucial elements of a delinquent sub-culture are the prescriptions, norms, or rules of conduct that define the activities of a full-fledged member."<sup>16</sup> They described three types of delinquent subcultures: the gang based on criminal values (which has been organized primarily for the illegal acquisition of material gain); the gang based on violence (i.e., the fighting gang); and the gang based on the consumption

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<sup>14</sup>Albert K. Cohen, Delinquent Boys: The Culture of the Gang (New York: The Free Press of Glencoe, 1955), p. 25, cited by Kessler, Ibid., p. 313.

<sup>15</sup>Kessler, Ibid., p. 314.

<sup>16</sup>Richard Cloward and Lloyd Ohlin, Delinquency and Opportunity, A Theory of Delinquent Gangs (New York: Free Press of Glencoe, 1960), p. 13, cited by Kessler, Ibid.



of drugs. Cloward and Ohlin labeled these "criminal" conflict and "retreatist", respectively.<sup>17</sup>

Their theory of causation posits problems of adjustment that arise when there is little opportunity to reach desired goals. The frustration creates pressures which result in delinquent subcultures. The authors employ the concept of anomie, or anomy, originally prepared by Durkheim (1951) and extended by Merton (1957). Briefly, this term refers to a state of "normlessness", a condition in which social norms no longer control men's actions.

Merton viewed anomy as a result of the lack of relationship between goals and legitimate possibilities of attainment, rather than of unlimited aspiration alone. "Anomie", so defined, implies delinquent or antisocial behavior.

Cloward and Ohlin summarized their main hypothesis as follows:

The disparity between what lower-class youths are led to want and what is actually available to them is the source of a major problem of adjustment. Adolescents who form delinquent sub-cultures, we suggest, have internalized an emphasis on conventional goals. Faced with limitation on legitimate avenues of access to these goals, and unable to revise their aspirations downwards, they experience intense frustration; the exploration of non-conformist alternatives may be the result.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>17</sup>Ibid.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid., p. 86.

## BASIC FACTORS AND CONDITIONS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

It is obviously more difficult to determine the causes of juvenile delinquency than to ascertain the extent and trends of law violation among juveniles. Any dialogical research is beset with innumerable difficulties. Deviant behavior is an integral part of a dynamic social process and can be understood only in relation to the personal-social situation and the sequence of experiences and events of which it is a part.

The conditioning factors of delinquency have been treated, for convenience and to simplify the analysis, under the following headings: (1) personality traits, including (a) biological, mental, and emotional conditions and (b) character and behavior traits; (2) home and family situations; (3) companionship and juvenile gangs; (4) recreation and mass communication, and community institutions and agencies; (5) population elements and cultural differences; (6) economic, ecological, and physical environmental factors; and (7) inadequate controls.

These types or classes of factors could be variously grouped by those that have their main roots in personality, those that primarily show the effects of intimate groups (family, play, and gang), and those that illustrate the wider community and secondary environmental influences.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup>Neumeyer, op. cit., pp. 75-77.

## PERSONALITY FACTORS: BIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL

Experts do not agree on the physical characteristics of delinquents or the effects of biological conditions on the incidence of delinquency.

### Hereditary and Acquired Traits

Hereditary traits are both physical and psychological. The search for the inherited causes of crime whether chiefly biological, or psychological, or both has led to broad theoretical formulations, but the findings are not definitive. It is obvious that human conduct is affected by both hereditary conditions and by acquired traits, but the line of demarcation between them is not fixed. Hence differences of opinion have arisen with respect to the relative importance of hereditary and environmental influences.

Delinquent behavior or any other form of deviant conduct is not the immediate and direct result of hereditary conditions.<sup>20</sup>

### Physical Abnormalities and poor Health

Even though criminals, especially institutionalized cases, and noncriminals may differ considerably in incidences of illness or bodily defectiveness, physical abnormality or poor health does not necessarily constitute

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<sup>20</sup>Harry M. Shulman, Juvenile Delinquency in American Society (New York: Harper and Row Publishers, 1961), pp. 73-80.

the major cause of the differential behavior. The attitude of an individual toward his own misfortune, the reactions of others toward him, and accompanying social and economic welfare combine to affect the way an individual reacts to physical handicaps.<sup>21</sup>

Psychological factors are closely interwoven with physical conditions. The division between them is somewhat arbitrary and of value chiefly for the purpose of more complete diagnosis. Health conditions and physical handicaps affect the mental and emotional functioning of the individual, and the psychological disturbances may upset the physical organism, as studies of psychosomatic medicine have shown. The psychological factors studied most extensively, in so far as delinquency is concerned may be classified as: (1) mental deficiency and retardation; (2) psychoneuroses; (3) psychoses and associated personality disorders; and (4) emotional tensions and minor personality maladjustments, including borderlands of abnormality.<sup>22</sup>

Metfessel and Lovell, after surveying the literature on the relationship between intelligence and crime, especially the incidences of feeble-mindedness and the intelligence test scores of offenders, and reviewing the basic studies of this subject prior to the war, concluded

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<sup>21</sup>Neumeyer, op. cit., p. 109.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid., p. 112.

that intelligence is not considered so important a cause of crime as it was formerly.<sup>23</sup>

### Mental Diseases and Functional Disorders

The more extreme types of mental disorders may be broadly classified as psychoneuroses and psychoses.<sup>24</sup>

Psychiatrists, psychoanalysts, and clinical psychologists have described cases and given examples of various forms of mental and emotional disorders as possible elements in the etiology of delinquency.<sup>25</sup>

Some forms of psychoneuroses may predispose individuals to delinquent behavior, for like other forms of mental illness they may result in "disadaptation" and may lead to a kind of compulsive need to commit crime. Sexual crimes are of particular importance in this connection.<sup>26</sup>

### Emotional Tensions and Minor Personality Disorders

The symptoms of personality disorders involve organized and functional factors. Such disorders include emotional deficiency (apathy) and inadequacy, or excesses

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<sup>23</sup>Milton Metfarrel and Constance Lovell, "Individual Correlates of Crime," Psychological Bulletin (March, 1942), 38.

<sup>24</sup>Silvano Arieti (ed.), American Handbook of Psychiatry (New York: Basic Books, Incorporated, 1959).

<sup>25</sup>Benjamin Karpman (ed.), Symposia on Child and Juvenile Delinquency (Washington, D.C.: Psychodynamic Monograph Series, 1959).

<sup>26</sup>Juvenile Delinquency (New York: International Universities Press, 1947), p. 97.

and disharmonies; defects of cognitive processes (attention, perception, memory, judgment); minor disorders (mobility, volition, speech, writing); and a variety of other forms of deviations. Feelings of insecurity, inferiority, and guilt; forms of nervousness and excitability; stuttering and other speech defects are all forms of maladjustments or defects. Psychosomatic maladjustments are numerous and varied.

Although emotional disorders accompany physical and mental maladjustments, they constitute problems of their own.

Closely related to these forms of social maladjustment are the thwarting of the basic social drives, especially the wishes.

Thomas has classified the fundamental wishes under four main classes: (1) the wish for new experience, including curiosity, adventure, craving for excitement and sensations; (2) the wish for security, based on fear apprehensiveness, and avoidance; (3) the wish for response, as expressed in love, friendship, and affection; and (4) the wish for recognition, expressed in the struggle for status, prestige, and social approval.<sup>27</sup>

Dollard and his associates at the Yale Institute of Human Relations have emphasized that aggression is the consequence of frustration. When a child is frustrated he

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<sup>27</sup>Neumeyer, loc. cit.

may look for substitute responses and satisfaction. When these are denied or blocked, he may look for substitutes. This produces a conflict between the instigation and the inhibition. These investigators concluded that the strength of the instigation to aggression varies directly with the amount of frustration, provided the anticipation or threat of punishment is held constant. If the strength of frustration is held constant, then the greater the anticipation of punishment for a given act of aggression, the less likely that act is to occur.<sup>28</sup>

#### The Orthopsychiatric Approach and Mental Health

One of the approaches to the etiology of personality maladjustment, including deviant behavior, is known as orthopsychiatry. It is a subdivision of psychiatry that concerns itself with the diagnosis and treatment of borderline cases of mental and emotional deviations of personality rather than with the deep-seated psychoses and psychoneuroses. Since it is concerned with conduct disorders and incipient maladjustments in children and adolescents, its contribution to the analysis of the etiology of delinquency is promising.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>28</sup>John Dollard, Neal E. Miller, Leonard Doob, O. H. Hoover and Robert S. Sears, Frustration and Aggression (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1945), pp. 117-118.

<sup>29</sup>Negley K. Tuters and John O. Reinemann, The Challenge of Delinquency (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Incorporated, 1950),

## PERSONALITY FACTORS: CHARACTER AND BEHAVIOR

The biological and psychological factors of personality have varying degrees of influence in shaping conduct, most of which are background conditions and not directly causal in nature. Acquired traits, especially defective character and certain behavior patterns, have a more direct bearing on the responses of an individual to various kinds of situations, including those involving deviant conduct.

The relation between character traits and delinquent behavior has not been fully explored. In fact, there is no agreement as to the exact meaning of character. Character structure and character disorders, as described by psychiatrists and psychoanalysts<sup>30</sup> may be quite different from the usual dictionary definition of the term "character". Character is a complex concept, it has many meanings and implications, ordinarily it implies that a moral and ethical value judgment has been applied to conduct.

The early development of character occurs during the impressionable years of childhood, in which parents and playmates play a conspicuous role.

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<sup>30</sup>Joseph J. Michaels, "Character Structure and Character Disorders," American Handbook of Psychiatry, ed. Silvano Arieti (New York: Basic Books, Incorporated, 1959).



### Normlessness and Deviant Behavior

Deviant behavior is prevalent in areas and groups in which there is considerable social disorganization and in which members of subcultural groups, do not have clearly established norms of behavior.

Changing attitudes and standards of conduct likewise affect the rates of social deviations as well as the prevalence of deviation.<sup>31</sup>

### Types of Deviant Behavior

Of special significance to law enforcement agencies, because of the large number of cases involved are the following: (1) alcoholism, especially drunkenness and related offenses; (2) drug addiction and narcotic law violation; (3) sexual deviations, especially prostitution; (4) vagrancy and begging; and (5) gambling. Besides crime as a business (professional criminals, organized crime, white-collar crime, and ordinary criminal activities), books on criminology describe the above mentioned types of offenses as typical of the forms of deviant behavior that are characteristic of individuals suffering from personality disorders.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>31</sup>Neumeyer, op. cit., p. 138.

<sup>32</sup>Walter C. Reckless, The Crime Problem (New York: Appleton-Century-Croft, Incorporated, 1955), p. 218; Marshall B. Clinard, Sociology of Deviant Behavior (New York: Rinehart and Company, 1957), p. 319.

## The Maturation Process and Social Adjustment

Some delinquents are able to make an adjustment, especially later in life, and cease their criminal behavior.

The Gluecks, in their earlier studies, made a comprehensive analysis of a thousand juvenile delinquents.<sup>33</sup> In their studies it was found that with the passing of the years there was a diminution in the number of individuals who continued their criminal careers. By the time they were about twenty-nine, forty per cent had no further criminal records, and even among those who continued to commit offenses, significant improvement occurred. The proportion of serious offenders dropped from 75.6 per cent to 47.8 per cent during the fifteen year period. One may not agree with the Gluecks' conclusion that those who reformed had better heredity and enjoyed a more wholesome early environment than the men who continued to commit crimes, but the findings with respect to the extent of reformation are significant. It is apparent from this study that a considerable number of delinquents discontinued their practice as they matured, although the earlier findings did not reveal extensive reformation.

The McCords examined the cyclical and maturation theory and found the four factors that especially

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<sup>33</sup>Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, Later Criminal Careers (New York: Commonwealth Fund, 1937); Juvenile Delinquents Grown Up (London: Oxford University Press, 1940); After-Conduct of Discharged Offenders (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1945).

differentiated the reformed delinquents from the repeaters were: (1) the mother's personality, (2) the father's example, (3) disciplinary methods, and (4) neighborhood conditions.<sup>34</sup>

The analysis of personality factors in relation to criminality has led to a consideration of influences which are outside the immediate sphere of the individual's personality. Family life, peer groups relationship, and a variety of neighborhood or community conditions have a significant bearing on behavior. The environment of delinquents is complex, involving many variables.

#### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND FAMILY FACTORS

More than any other factor influencing delinquency, the economic conditions of the nation and changes in these conditions seem to exert the greatest power. The business cycles react profoundly upon delinquency trends. These economic swings are especially important as they directly affect the economic conditions of families and communities.

The contributions of poverty cannot be ignored in juvenile delinquency. Many child offenses against private property can be traced to economic causes, but usually causes other than sheer hunger or economic misery. To go

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<sup>34</sup>Ibid.

through life forced to submit to an apparent substandard level of living is a dim prospect for most youth and sometimes will not be tolerated at any cost.

Wattenberg and Balestrieri pointed out in their contribution, "Automobile Theft: A 'Favored-Group' Delinquency," that in contrast to young people charged by the Detroit police with misconduct, juveniles involved in automobile theft came in relatively higher proportion from good neighborhoods and favored ethnic groups.<sup>35</sup>

#### Influence of Home and Family

Every culture contains certain norms for home life. In the United States "normal" home life has been said to be characterized by seven fairly definite criteria: (1) structural completeness, (2) racial homogeneity, (3) economic security, (4) cultural conformity, (5) moral conformity, (6) physical and psychological normality, and (7) functional adequacy (emotional security).<sup>36</sup>

It cannot be overemphasized that a child's family is the most important influence in shaping his personality and character.

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<sup>35</sup>William W. Wattenberg and James Balestrieri, "Automobile Theft: A 'Favored-Group' Delinquency," The American Journal of Sociology, LVII (May, 1952), 575-579.

<sup>36</sup>Clyde B. Vedder, The Juvenile Offender (Garden City, New York: Doubleday and Company, Incorporated, 1954), pp. 53-54.

Delinquency and delinquent recidivism are often viewed as a consequence of a defective home life, with accompanying inadequate religious and moral education.

It is generally recognized that broken homes constitute an underlying cause of juvenile delinquency, but the concept "broken home" does not have an adequate definition or a universal connotation.<sup>37</sup>

Some social workers believe that juvenile delinquency is primarily parental delinquency.

#### RELATED FACTORS IN JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN IRAN

##### Economic Conditions and Social Reformation in the 1800's

Iran is a country which has 2,500 years of written history but a spoken history that goes back 6,000 years. Three hundred years ago the country started to go backwards.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, when machines were improved and proliferated, European cities started to become more industrial, the industrial revolution started to creep into Iran. Iranian kings, however, tried hard to stop the influence of the European culture because they wanted the people to remain ignorant. French reformation and the American Civil War were great factors in promoting rebellion against the government and unjust kings,

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<sup>37</sup>Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency (New York: The Commonwealth Fund, 1951), p. 133.

but the First World War and the coming of Russian and British governments to Iran stopped the revolutionary trends. The economic condition of the people in this period changed, and the people improved socially. The value of oil increased, big cities became industrialized, and the living standard of the upper and middle classes of the people rose. With the introduction of machines to the farm, however, the number of laborers necessary for efficient operation was reduced and many people were unemployed.

The owners of the factories and the landlords sought to repress the workers in order to insure a continuing labor force. The poor people remained poor, and the gap between the rich and poor grew daily. There was no comparison whatsoever between the upper class and the lower classes.

This gap played a large part in the appearance of juvenile delinquency. The young people, by noticing this class difference, rebelled against the law and any social regulation by theft, murder or committing other crimes against society.

#### Family and Religion only Casually Mentioned

In a country where the system of the government basically was absolute monarchy and feudalism, fathers were the dominant powers in the home. Although this kind of home exists in the new generation in Iran, paternal domination is beginning to disappear as younger generations achieve more

freedom. Reasons for this change include the following:

(1) government progressed from feudalism to Bourgeoisism and from partial freedom to democracy, (2) women's freedom increased, particularly the power of mothers in the home, (3) as cities became more industrialized parents were frequently able to spend little time with their children, (4) the work of young ones in farms, factories and the rush of people from villages to the industrial cities, (5) public education developed, and (6) radio, television and motion pictures from western countries were introduced.<sup>38</sup>

At the same time, the social and economic situation has operated to decrease the influence of religion and the younger generation shows no special interest in religious practices. Women's liberation and boys' and girls' relationships have opened new doors in the modern age in Iran.

Conservative middle-class parents felt very responsible for the future education of their children as a moderate way in giving them freedom. The very rich people, living in convenience and comfort, considered freedom a necessity to their children, but the poor people dwelling in abject poverty could not control the education of their children. Consequently, the children of the very rich most often ended up being spoiled, the children of the poor

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<sup>38</sup>Mehry Manocherian, Juvenile Delinquency as a Social Problem (Tehran: 1965), pp. 61-69.

turned to aimless wandering, and the younger generation in general was apt to rebel against society.

Divorce is an influential factor that destroys the future of the children; the running away of the husband from home because of disagreement with his wife, the contact of women and men in the society--men's pressure on women because of income, women's awareness of their freedom that has been given to them recently causing them to resist the dominating power of the men at home.

These are some of the destroying factors of the families and the first children probably will be the first victims.

These children will be deprived of love from their parents and their education will be ignored. Consequently, they will seek escape and in doing so they will frequently break the law.

### Education

After the revolution in 1900, the middle and lower classes became educationally ambitious. Even people in small villages demanded some kind of schooling and as a result the rate of illiteracy has dropped to fifty per cent. As recently as fifty years ago, however, the middle and lower classes did not have easy access to education. Only the upper class was automatically granted that privilege. Progress has been more quantitative than qualitative and has not satisfied the educational need of modern generations.



The educational level of the teachers remains low as they usually do not have an adequate psychological and educational background. They treat the student unfairly, a fact that has contributed to the high drop-out rate.

Most of the school districts are small and schools do not have recreational facilities. Inadequate recreational facilities is one of the many reasons why youth are attracted to friends that are not picked carefully or go to places such as the theater, movie or read dirty magazines and consequently they are led toward delinquency.

The editors and writers of magazines are interested in finding more readers. They do not deal with serious subjects such as politics, economics, social life, society, arts or science, but they very often write detective and sex stories. Television, motion pictures and finally everything which can give a constructive education to children, has become very destructive for the young generation and gradually they are led toward delinquency.

In summary, the following appear to be the most important causal factors leading Iranian juveniles toward delinquent behavior: (1) poverty and the lack of fair income among laborers and farmers lead children toward violence. They see the children of the rich living in convenience, and they desire to have that kind of privilege. Lack of money leads them to steal or find ways and means

to obtain it. (2) The rejection of religious instruction has been compounded by the lack of family influence in this line. (3) Unexpected political and economical freedom has had a negative influence. (4) Good educational systems are lacking and the drop-out rate is high. (5) Magazines, motion pictures, radio and television have had negative influences.

These factors, in Iran, as in other countries have tended to lead the young people toward aggressive behavior and violation of societal norms.

## CHAPTER III

### PRESENTATION OF DATA

For the purposes of this study it was necessary that data concerning the many sociological phases of the problem of delinquency be collected. The thirty juveniles who served as subjects in this study were randomly selected from the total of ninety cases processed by the juvenile courts of Tehran and Shiraz. The files of the probate courts of these two cities furnished the majority of the data collected for this study.

Additional information concerning the personal life of the child and his family was gathered by interviews with the delinquents and with some person closely associated with the delinquent and his or her family; and, by interviews with juvenile court officers.

The final randomly selected population of juvenile subjects consisted of twenty-eight males and two females. An individual case information summary sheet was prepared in which the following factors were considered: (1) the city in which the delinquent act was committed, (2) the subject's sex, (3) the subject's age, (4) the highest educational level attained by the subject, (5) the subject's occupation (if any), (6) the occupations and attained educational

levels of the subject's parents, (7) the financial condition of the subject's family, (8) the number of siblings in the subject's family, (9) the recreational activities in which the subject engaged, (10) the allegation which resulted in the subject's juvenile court hearing, (11) the subject's defense or reason(s) for having committed the delinquent act, and (12) the probable causal factors leading to the subject's commission of the delinquent act. Of the preceding factors those deemed to be of greatest importance by the investigator are hereinafter analyzed and discussed.

#### SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS OF RELEVANT DATA

##### Age of the Delinquents

In this study the age floor was twelve years and the age ceiling was eighteen years. The average of the population studied was fifteen and one-third years. Table I, page 37, indicates the categorical listing of the ages of the delinquents studied.

##### Education

Lack of education is one of the important factors contributing to delinquency in Iran. Table II, page 39, shows eight of thirty juveniles (27 per cent) charged were illiterate and seven (23 per cent) of delinquents had a high school background. Only one (3 per cent) was graduated from high school.

The average education of juveniles charged was four and one-half years of formal schooling.

TABLE I  
THE AGE OF THE DELINQUENTS\*

Year	Number charged	Per cent
12	2	7
13	3	10
14	6	20
15	2	7
16	8	27
17	4	13
18	5	17
Total	30	

\*Read table thus: 2 (7 per cent) of the juveniles charged were 12 years old.

Per cent

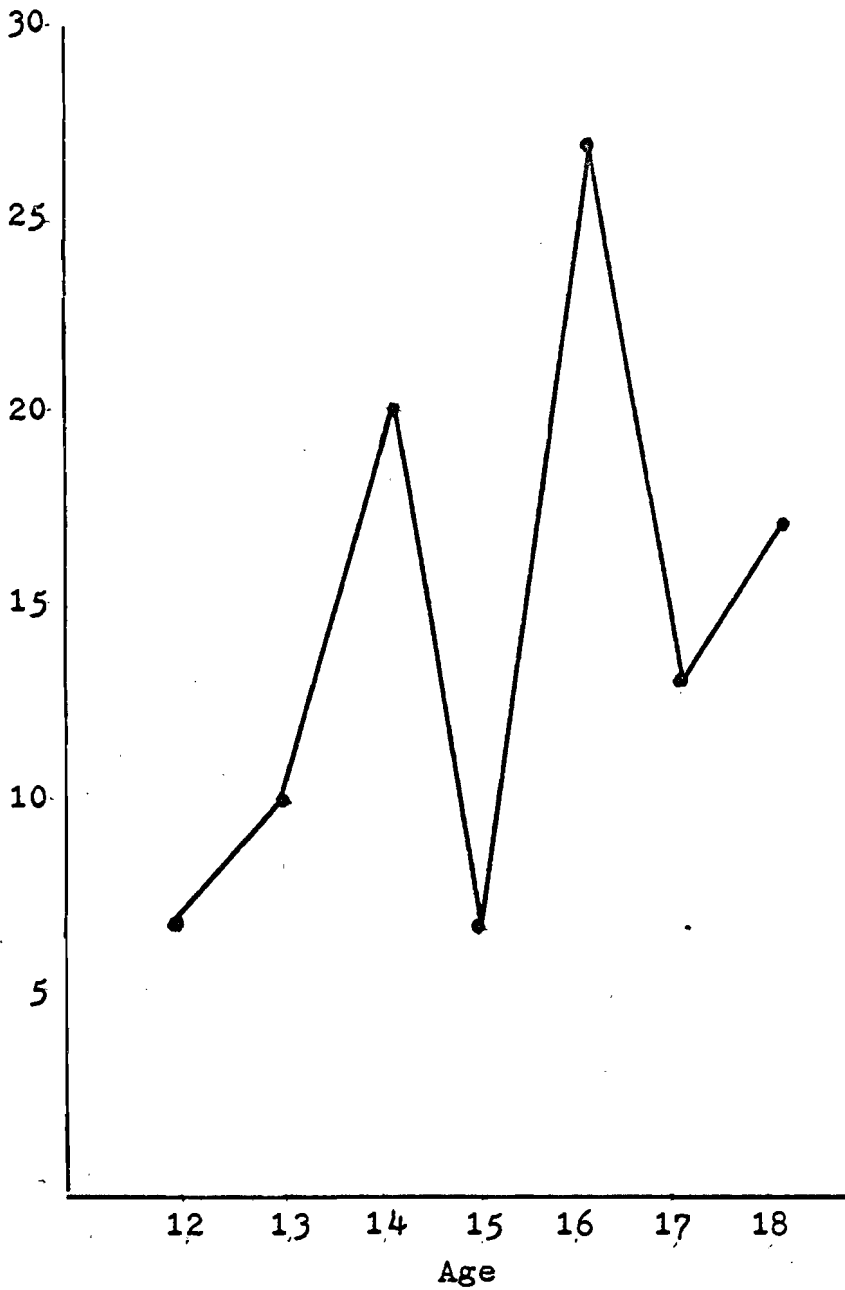


FIGURE 1\*

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE AGES OF THE  
JUVENILES CHARGED

\*This figure shows the upper age of the juveniles charged was 18 and the lower age was 12 and the age of 16 was the critical age.

TABLE II  
 THE DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATION OF  
 THE JUVENILES CHARGED\*

Education	Number of delinquents charged	Per cent
Illiterate	8	27.00
Grade 1	-	-----
Grade 2	2	6.66
Grade 3	-	-----
Grade 4	7	23.00
Grade 5	3	10.00
Grade 6	2	6.66
Grade 7	1	3.00
Grade 8	4	13.00
Grade 9	2	6.66
Grade 10	-	-----
Grade 11	-	-----
Grade 12	1	3.00

\*Read table thus: 8 (27 per cent) of the 30 juveniles charged were illiterate and just one (3 per cent) was graduated from high school.

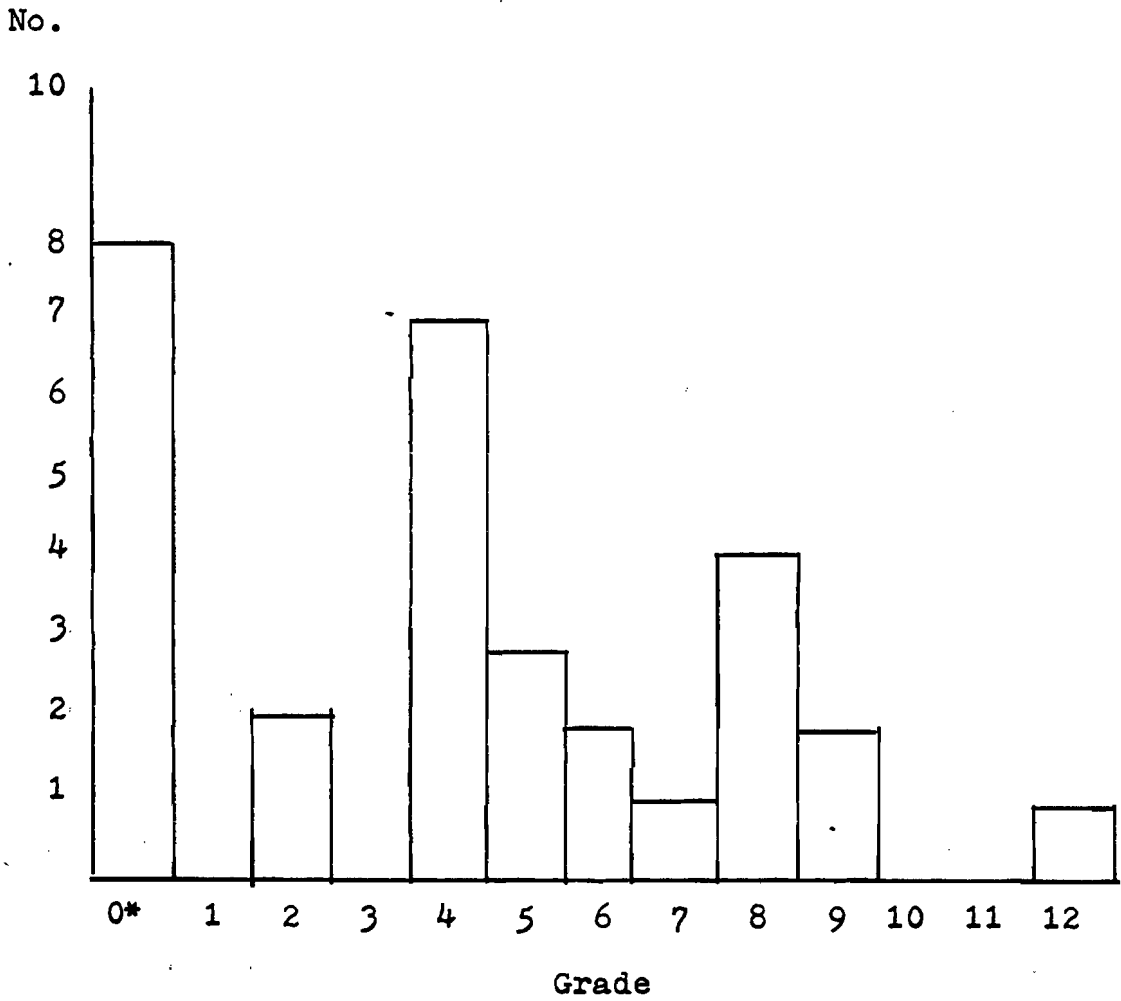


FIGURE 2

THE DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATION OF THE JUVENILES CHARGED

\*Illiterate



### Father's Occupation

Table III, page 42, is the distribution of the occupations of the fathers of the delinquents. This table shows that the fathers of thirteen (43.33 per cent) delinquents were day laborers.

### Economic Status of the Families

The delinquents in Iran came largely from families in which a lack of money was a constant source of worry. This is evidenced by the fact that twenty-three (76.66 per cent) cited poverty as a primary factor and three (6.25 per cent) as a secondary factor. Of the cases of which there was a record, thirteen (43.33 per cent) were from homes supported by day laborers, five (16.66 per cent) unemployed, three (10 per cent) farmer, five (16.66 per cent) unclassified, and two (6.60 per cent) transportation.

Based upon classification related to the economic status of families of delinquents, as observed by the courts, and as shown in Table V, page 45, twenty-three (76.66 per cent) were rated as "Poor," five (16.66 per cent) were rated as "Fair," while only two (6.66 per cent) received a rating of "Good."

The relation of poverty or near poverty to delinquency in Iran is apparently a significant factor.

TABLE III

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE OCCUPATIONS OF THE  
FATHERS OF THE DELINQUENTS BASED UPON  
RECORDS OF THE 30 CASES\*

Type of occupation	Fathers of delinquents	Per cent
Day Laborer	13	43.33
Transportation	2	6.66
Farmer	3	10.00
Merchant	1	3.33
Doctor (M.D.)	1	3.33
Unclassified	5	16.66
Unemployed	5	16.66
Total	30	

\*Read table thus: 13 (43.33 per cent) of the fathers of the delinquents were day laborers.

TABLE IV

FACTORS OF CAUSATION AND THE FREQUENCY OF APPEARANCE IN THE  
30 CASES OF DELINQUENCY CONSIDERED

Causative factors	Number of times primary	Per cent primary	Number of times secondary	Per cent secondary	Number of total times	Per cent 30 cases	Rank
Economic status of the family*	23	76.66	3	6.25	26	33.33	1
Family problem	3	10.00	14	29.16	17	21.79	3
Lack of education	2	6.66	19	39.58	21	26.97	2
Environment	--	---	6	12.50	6	7.68	5
Association	2	6.66	6	12.50	8	10.25	4
Total	30		48		78		

\*Read table thus: Economic status of family appeared 23 (76.66 per cent) times as a primary factor and 3 (6.25 per cent) times as a secondary factor in the 30 cases studied. It appeared 26 (33.33 per cent) times in all cases, and ranked number 1 in that respect.

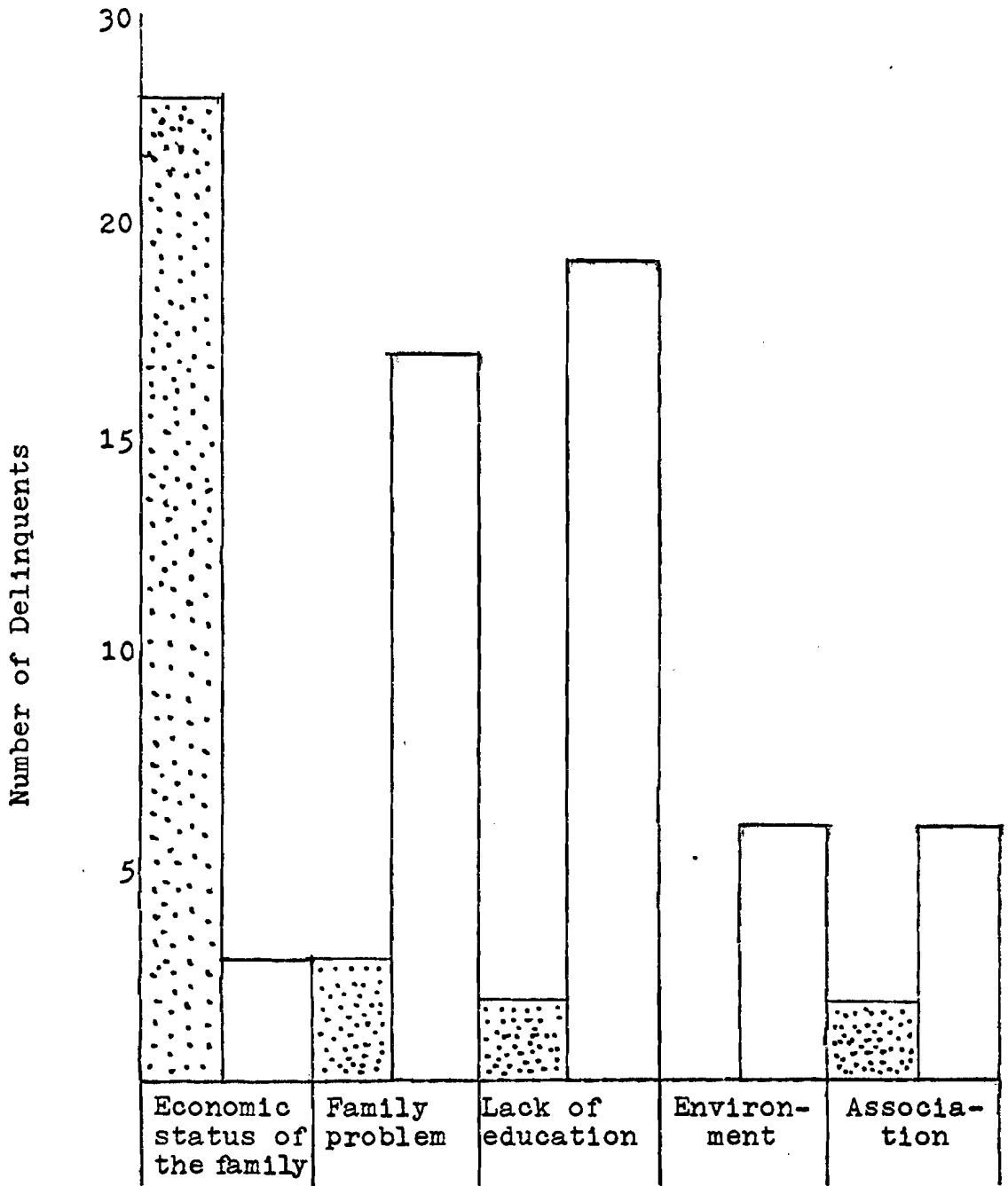
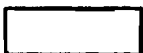


FIGURE 3

THE DISTRIBUTION OF CAUSATIVE FACTORS IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF TIMES OF APPEARANCE AS PRIMARY FACTORS AND SECONDARY FACTORS



= Primary



= Secondary

TABLE V  
THE DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC  
STATUS OF THE FAMILIES\*

Economic status	Number	Per cent
Poor	23	76.66
Fair	5	16.66
Good	2	6.66

\*This table shows delinquents in Iran came largely from families with lack of money.

#### Legal Status of Parents of the Delinquents in Iran

An analysis of the thirty cases of delinquents in Iran revealed seventeen (56.66 per cent) were from homes in which the parents lived together. Thirteen (43.33 per cent) were from homes broken by the separation of parents (for a variety of reasons). Table VI, page 46, shows the legal status of the parents. Of this number seventeen (56.66 per cent) of the homes in which the parents were living together were considered "disturbed" because of parental incompatibility.

#### Number of Children in the Families of the Delinquents

Table VII, page 48, shows the average number of siblings in the families of the delinquents based upon the total number of violations of the thirty delinquents.

The average number of children in families from which the delinquents came was 4.6.

The greatest number of siblings per family was found in those represented by juveniles charged with knife stabbing (6.5).

TABLE VI  
LEGAL STATUS OF PARENTS OF THE  
JUVENILES CHARGED WITH  
DELINQUENCY IN IRAN  
(30 CASES)\*

Legal status	Parents of delinquents	Per cent
Intact	17	56.66
Separated	1	3.33
Divorced	1	3.33
Death of one parent	8	26.66
Death of both parents	3	10.00
Total	30	

\*Read table thus: of the 30 cases, 17 charged with delinquency were from homes intact (i.e., parents were living together).

Status of parents	Number of Delinquents			
	5	10	15	20
Intact				
Separated				
Divorced				
Death of one parent				
Death of both parents				

FIGURE 4

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PARENTS OF THE  
DELINQUENTS IN RELATION TO THEIR  
LEGAL STATUS IN THE HOME

TABLE VII  
 AVERAGE NUMBER OF SIBLINGS IN THE FAMILIES  
 OF THE DELINQUENTS BASED UPON THE  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS OF  
 THE 30 DELINQUENTS\*

Type of violation	Number	Per cent	Average number of siblings
Auto theft	2	6.66	5.0
Stealing	15	50.00	4.6
Robbery	6	20.00	2.83
Herion peddling	3	10.00	6.0
Knife stabbing	2	6.66	6.5
Ran away from home	1	3.33	2.0
Sex delinquency	1	3.33	2.0
Total	30		

\*Read table thus: 15 delinquents were charged with stealing. This is 50 per cent of the total. The average number of children based upon the total number of delinquents involved in stealing was 4.6 per family.



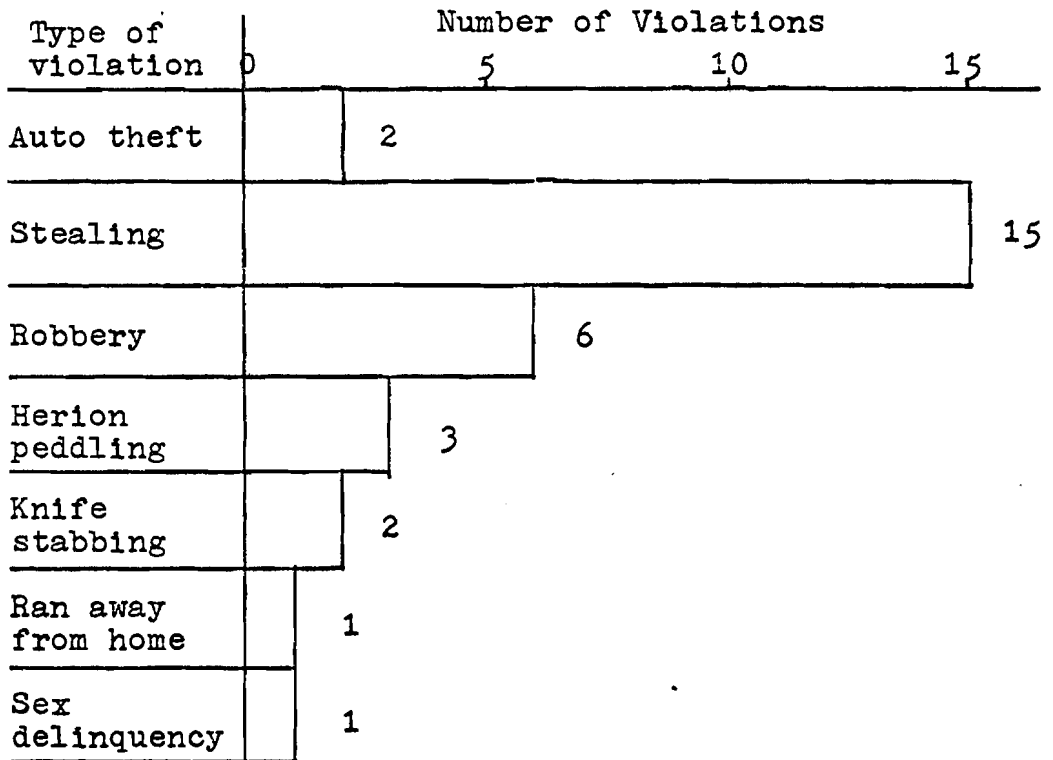


FIGURE 5

THE DISTRIBUTION OF 30 VIOLATIONS  
RELATIVE TO THE TYPE OF  
VIOLATION COMMITTED

Type of violation	Age in Months				
	50	100	150	200	250
Auto theft				180	
Stealing				176.6	
Robbery				198	
Herion peddling				180	
Knife stabbing				210	
Ran away from home				216	
Sex delinquency				216	

FIGURE 6

THE DISTRIBUTION OF AGE AVERAGES IN MONTHS FOR  
30 DELINQUENTS CHARGED WITH 30 VIOLATIONS

## CHAPTER IV

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The main objective of this study has been to analyze the cases in juvenile delinquency which occurred in Iran (Tehran and Shiraz), during the years 1968, 1969, and 1970.

In a preliminary investigation of the records kept by the probate courts of Tehran and Shiraz found:

1. Of the thirty families of these delinquents studied relative to economic status and occupation of the fathers, it was found that twenty-three (76.66 per cent) were classified by the court authorities as being "Poor," five (16.66 per cent) were rated "Fair" and only two (6.66 per cent) were rated by the court as being "Good" financially. Thirteen (43.33 per cent) of the fathers of delinquents were day laborers, five (16.66 per cent) unemployed, five (16.66 per cent) unclassified, three (10 per cent) farmers, two (6.66 per cent) transportation, one (3.33 per cent) merchant, one (3.33 per cent) doctor, M.D.

2. In this study eight (27 per cent) of thirty cases were illiterate, seven (23 per cent) had high school background and just one was graduated from high school.

3. Of the thirty families, seventeen (56.66 per cent) of the parents were living together. Separation, divorce, death affected the marital status of the remaining

thirteen (43.44 per cent) parents of the delinquents concerned here.

The average number of siblings found in the total thirty families of delinquents was 4.6.

4. The average age for all delinquents charged with violations was fifteen and one-third years.

5. In violations committed against property, the delinquents were charged twenty-eight instances against property and just two were committed against persons. It will be noted that only one of thirty cases was charged with sexual immorality.

#### CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of the summary as presented in this chapter some conclusions may be inferred from the combined data of the case studies.

1. In Iran, juvenile delinquency has its roots in economic and social problems rather than in emotional deprivation, mental illness, illiteracy, or poverty which are fundamental influences in other countries. Because of financial problems and the lack of education of the parents, families frequently provide a less than ideal environment for the maturing child. Further, society has failed to consider the problem, and on occasion the society is in essence a contributing factor.

2. There is a lack of recreational centers and sport clubs which have a specific orientation toward run-

away children or those who have no work or school activities. In addition, the educational system is inadequate since trained teachers are virtually non-existent. As a result, adolescents may expend their energies in violence and rebellion against the society.

3. Poverty serves basically to compound the problem of juvenile delinquency. In underdeveloped countries the solution is not easily reached since no special budget is provided for programs designed to reduce delinquency. However, in Iran, the Health Corps and the Educational Corps have been established to decrease illiteracy. Schools have been opened in small villages, slums, and urban areas. The author believes that through continually improving education, the society can diminish the rate of juvenile delinquency.

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APPENDIX

CASE INFORMATIONCase Number 1

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 16

Education: 8th grade

Occupation: ---

Father's Occupation: Day laborer

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 8

Recreation: He plays down in the street and he goes to movies two times in a month.

Accusation: Automobile theft

Subject's Defense: I have no recreation, and my father doesn't give me money. That is why I did it.

Probable Causal Factors: The lack of education in the family, poverty, parent's carelessness in supervision, and finally having bad friends.

Case Number 2

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 14

Education: 8th grade

Occupation: ---

Father's Occupation: Shoe-black shop

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Servant

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Fair

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: He has no recreation except playing in the street. He likes sports.

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I wanted to become a member in a club to build my body but I did not have the money.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, the lack of education in the family and not having proper and good recreational facilities.

Case Number 3

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 16

Education: 5th Grade

Occupation: ---

Father's Occupation: Father died two years ago  
(painter)

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Servant

Mother's Education: 1st grade

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Siblings in the Family: 2

Recreation: He plays in the street with children.

Accusation: Pocket-picking (stealing)

Subject's Defense: I found this money down the street.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, not having father  
and lack of education in the family.

Case Number 4

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 14

Education: 6th grade

Occupation: He works in a tailor shop. He makes \$3 in a week. He eats by himself.

Father's Occupation: Small grocery shop (shop is his own).

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: ---

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 11

Recreation: Social intercourse with friends.

Accusation: Heroin peddling

Subject's Defense: Some lady gave it to me and I didn't know what was in the box.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, parent's carelessness because of too many children, lack of education.

Case Number 5

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 13

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Servant in the house

Father's Occupation: Father died (day laborer).

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Servant

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: His employer sent him to a movie once during the week.

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: House needed money

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of love and education in the family.



Case Number 6

Place: Tehran

Sex: F

Age: 18

Education: 4th grade

Occupation: Housewife (she is married and her husband is 45 years old. She doesn't like him.).

Father's Occupation: Father is dead (Transportation)

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Mother is dead

Mother's Education: 1st grade

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: She doesn't have regular recreation.

Accusation: Running away from the home.

Subject's Defense: They forced me to marry this man. I did not love him.

Probable Causal Factors: Lack of education, the difference of ages, and not having guardians.

Case Number 7

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 15

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: ---

Father's Occupation: Father has died (bus driver).

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Servant

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 3

Recreation: He plays in the street.

Accusation: Heroin peddling

Subject's Defense: I didn't know what was in the boxes.

Probable Causal Factors: The lack of education, poverty, not having proper guardians.

Case Number 8

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 12

Education: 5th grade

Occupation: Student

Father's Occupation: Day laborer

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Housewife (she is sick from many years ago).

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 5

Recreation: Nothing

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I want to study medicine and become a doctor to treat my mom, but I do not have money.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, the lack of education for lower class people.

Case Number 9

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 14

Education: 4th grade

Occupation: Hoeing (sometimes)

Father's Occupation: Porter

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Mother is dead.

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: Walking in the railroad station and counting the trains.

Accusation: Automobile theft

Subject's Defense: I just wanted to try to see if I could start the car, suddenly it did start.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, the lack of education.

Case Number 10

Place: Tehran

Sex: F

Age: 13

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Servant and baby-sitter

Father's Occupation: Father is dead (waiter)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Mother is dead

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 1

Recreation: The lady of the house took her out for a walk.

Accusation: Stabbing

Subject's Defense: I got tired of this family. They didn't give me any wages.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, the lack of education, lack of parental love, mothering guidance.

Case Number 11

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 17

Education: 8th grade (after that he was failed twice). He dropped out of school.

Occupation: Maintenance

Father's Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Education: 12th grade

Mother's Occupation: Housewife (but now she is hospitalized)

Mother's Education: 8th grade

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: Going to movies and motorcycling

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I am a forgotten son and my father doesn't love me. He loves my brother and I want to revenge him.

Probable Causal Factors: Lack of love in the family, inferiority complex, jealousy.

Case Number 12

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 17

Education: 4th grade (he was going to school before his father died).

Occupation: Hoeing (for step-father)

Father's Occupation: Father is dead (He has step-father.) (Day laborer)

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 5

Recreation: No recreation

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: Silence and crying

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of father's love, bad environment.

Case Number 13

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 17

Education: 9th grade

Occupation: Student

Father's Occupation: Medical profession

Father's Education: M.D.

Mother's Occupation: Parents were divorced many years ago. (He has step-mother.)

Mother's Education: B.S.

Family's Financial Situation: Good

Number of Siblings: 6 (He has four step-brothers and sisters.)

Recreation: Going to parties, dancing and going to movies.

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I found them.

Probable Causal Factors: Lack of mother's love, having step-mother, bad social companions.



Case Number 14

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 18

Education: 12th grade

Occupation: Student

Father's Occupation: Merchant

Father's Education: 6th grade

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: 2nd grade

Family's Financial Situation: Good

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: Movies, associating with girls and married women.

Accusation: Sex delinquent

Subject's Defense: I didn't know she was married.

Probable Causal Factors: Bad associations, unlimited convenience, not having moral standard or code.

Case Number 15

Place: Tehran

Sex: M

Age: 17

Education: 7th grade

Occupation: ---

Father's Occupation: Day laborer

Father's Education: 2nd grade

Mother's Occupation: Tailor

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Fair

Number of Siblings: 3

Recreation: Playing with friends

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: Denied his accusation

Probable Causal Factors: Bad associators, the lack of parental attention because parents are too busy, lack of education.

Case Number 16

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 18

Education: 5th grade

Occupation: Worker (He makes \$15 in a week. He has to pay \$8 to his father).

Father's Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Servant (but she is divorced)

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 3

Recreation: Movies and bad associators

Accusation: Knife stabbing

Subject's Defense: My friend hurt me and I knifed him.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of education, bad associators, and not having enough education.

Case Number 17

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 17

Education: 2nd grade

Occupation: Butcher (He is responsible for his family).

Father's Occupation: Father is dead. (day laborer)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 10 (He is the oldest child in the family.)

Recreation: Nothing (He works very hard.)

Accusation: Knife stabbing; killing

Subject's Defense: Denying, and then silence

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, pressure of the unlimited responsibility, mental pressure, lack of education.

Case Number 18

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 18

Education: 9th grade

Occupation: ---

Father's Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Mother is dead.

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 3

Recreation: Associating with bad friends

Accusation: Robbery. He says my mother died because of poverty, I wanted to become rich.

Subject's Defense: He accepts the accusation.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, emotional instability which started after mother's death, unemployed problem.

Case Number 19

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 14

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 5

Recreation: Nothing

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: We came from Shiraz to find work. We did not have enough money. That is why I stole.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, the lack of education in the family, unemployed problem.

Case Number 20

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 16

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Father is dead. (He has a step-father; he lives with his grandmother.) (Day laborer)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 1

Recreation: Playing with friends

Accusation: Robbery for second time.

Subject's Defense: I do not have any other work.

Probable Causal Factor: Poverty, the lack of education, not having guardians, lack of love in the family.

Case Number 21

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 16

Education: 4th grade

Occupation: Hoeing--he makes \$20 in a week.

Father's Occupation: Day laborer

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Day laborer

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Fair

Number of Siblings: 4

Recreation: Machine pincher

Accusation: Herion peddling

Subject's Defense: My friends deceived me.

Probable Causal Factors: Lack of parents'

attention because they are too busy, lack of education.



Case Number 22

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 18

Education: 8th grade

Occupation: Worker (He makes \$8 in a week.)

Father's Occupation: Unemployed (His father is an alcoholic.)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: 1st grade

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 3

Recreation: Associating with bad friends.

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I need money.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, bad associates.

Case Number 23

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 16

Education: 4th grade

Occupation: Motorcycle driver

Father's Occupation: Father is dead. (porter)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 7

Recreation: He goes to movies one time in a week.

Accusation: Robbery

Subject's Defense: I wanted to be married with my favorite girl, but her father didn't let me, because I was poor.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of father's love, mother's care because of the number of children, and lack of education.

Case Number 24

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 12

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Farmer (He is dead.)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Mother is dead.

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 2

Recreation: Nothing

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I needed money. I wanted to buy oil.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of education, trying to get his wishes in an easy way.

Case Number 25

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 15

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Farmer

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 1

Recreation: Associations with slum's boys.

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: Silence

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, illiteracy,  
bad associations.

Case Number 26

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 14

Education: 4th grade

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Porter

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 7

Recreation: Playing with children.

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: I needed money.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of education, not having good recreational centers.

Case Number 27

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 14

Education: 4th grade

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Waiter

Father's Education: 3rd grade

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 7

Recreation: Vagrancy, associating in slum areas.

Accusation: Robbery

Subject's Defense: I needed money. That is why

I did it.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of education.

Case Number 28

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 16

Education: Illiterate

Occupation: Shoe-blacker. (He makes \$15 in a week, but his father takes \$10 for his liquors. He is an alcoholic.)

Father's Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 5

Recreation: Nothing. He works hard because he is worried about his mother and children in the family.

Accusation: Robbery

Subject's Defense: I robbed because I wanted to hurt my father.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, bad parental influence, hatred and aggressiveness, lack of education.

Case Number 29

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 13

Education: 2nd grade

Occupation: Hoeing

Father's Occupation: Farmer (Father left has never come back.)

Father's Education: Illiterate

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: Illiterate

Family's Financial Situation: Poor

Number of Siblings: 1

Recreation: Nothing

Accusation: Stealing

Subject's Defense: Somebody forced me to do that, and then he escaped and left me alone.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of education, parental love and broken family, and not having guidance.



Case Number 30

Place: Shiraz

Sex: M

Age: 17

Education: 6th grade

Occupation: Unemployed

Father's Occupation: Tailor

Father's Education: 3rd grade

Mother's Occupation: Housewife

Mother's Education: 2nd grade

Family's Financial Situation: Fair

Number of Siblings: 8

Recreation: Playing with children.

Accusation: Robbery

Subject's Defense: I did steal purposely. I wanted to go to jail.

Probable Causal Factors: Poverty, lack of education, broken home, need to love.