

Rehabilitative Methods and the Affect on Juvenile Delinquents

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Abstract

The purpose of this inquiry is to examine current rehabilitative programs and therapeutic methods employed to assist juvenile delinquents with re-entering mainstream society. Specifically, this research will examine the techniques, the rehabilitative programs, and the use of therapeutic models to assess the effectiveness of programs in addressing the personal needs of juvenile delinquents. Examples of the techniques, rehabilitative programs, therapeutic models are: substance abuse treatment, job placement, skills training, housing, social interactions with peers and family, and proper therapeutic treatment.

The type of research that will be conducted is evaluation research which looks at the merit of social programs (Ruane, 2005). Understanding the value of rehabilitative methods will help to ensure which types of methods have greater chance in rehabilitating juvenile delinquents. The rehabilitative methods that will be examined in this inquiry are therapeutic methods which include group therapy, group housing, and family counseling. The inquiry will look at vocational and skill training as rehabilitative methods. This goal of this inquiry is not to discredit all rehabilitative methods but to show the rehabilitative method trends more frequently used with juvenile delinquents. This inquiry was solely based on a critical and extended analysis of research in the literature.

Introduction

In today's society crime is an aspect of life that is present whether it is acknowledged or ignored. Crime is being committed more frequently and more often by adolescents. Juvenile delinquency has been on the rise and yet as delinquency rises so does the number of delinquents that go to correctional facilities to serve time for the crimes they have committed. Research shows that previously incarcerated youth return to the justice system at alarmingly high rates (Sametz, Ahren, Yuan, 1994). Eventually incarceration youth have to come out of the correctional facilities and be re-intergraded back into mainstream society once time has been served. This inquiry attempts to examine current rehabilitation methods and the affect on juvenile delinquents.

Problem Statement

Juvenile delinquents are coming into the juvenile justice system with an array of problems that have caused them to commit delinquent acts (Mincey, Maldonado, Lacey, & Thompson, 2008). Once juvenile delinquents finish their sentence, they must re-enter society. Correctional facilities that oversee the rehabilitation process for juvenile delinquents have to address problems that include:

- a. Receiving adequate treatment that rehabilitates the juvenile offender so they are less likely to recidivate
- b. Making sure the juvenile delinquent has realistic and obtainable resources and means to make it in society
- c. Making sure the juvenile delinquent is fully aware and ready for the transition back into society

Many juvenile delinquents, male and female are faced with issues such as poverty, substance abuse, and being victims of child abuse and rape (Mincey et al., 2008). Any of these issues can trigger the juvenile to lash out and commit delinquent acts. The question is what happens next? The juvenile delinquent commits the delinquent act, is found guilty, and they serve time in a correctional facility. They go through the juvenile justice system and they get the opportunity to have a second chance. Juvenile criminal offenses are a significant societal problem with great financial and social costs (Bradshaw & Roseborough, 2005). What is the next step for these juvenile delinquents once they get out of the system and try to reintegrate back into society?

Purpose of Inquiry and Inquiry Questions

The purpose of this inquiry is to examine current rehabilitative programs and therapeutic methods employed to assist juvenile delinquents with re-entering mainstream society. Specifically, this research will examine the techniques, rehabilitative programs, and the use of therapeutic models to assess the effectiveness of programs in addressing the personal needs of juvenile delinquents such as substance abuse treatment, job placement, skills training, housing, social interactions with peers and family, and proper therapeutic treatment. The following research questions guided this inquiry:

- a. How do juvenile delinquents adjust to life and cope with the consequences of their actions?
- b. What is being done to help juvenile delinquents lead a more positive life as opposed to recidivating to crime and or delinquent acts again?
- c. Are rehabilitative methods effective enough to cause juvenile delinquents to live better lives or possibly lead lives filled with criminal activity?

Significance of Inquiry

The development of effective programs and interventions to reduce juvenile recidivism is a national priority (Bradshaw & Roseborough, 2005). This inquiry is significant because the inquiry will examine therapeutic methods and vocational education that are used to help juvenile delinquents re-enter back into society. The main purpose of rehabilitation is to rehabilitate the juvenile delinquent and lessen the amount the juvenile delinquent recidivates. Chronic juvenile offenders often lack the means to become productive citizens (Sametz, Ahren, & Yuan, 1994). This inquiry will review programs and therapy methods to determine if they help the juvenile delinquent maintain a healthy lifestyle and confidently live crime free or give them alternatives to do so. This inquiry will look at programs and therapy techniques to examine the methods that are used that are ineffective.

Theoretical Framework

To understand the bases for this inquiry, the foundational theories must be examined to help explain juvenile delinquency and rehabilitative methods. To explain areas of subject matter the researcher will be relying on a dual theoretical framework which includes the rehabilitation model and three theories that aid in explaining juvenile delinquency. The three theories that will be used in this inquiry include Strain theory by Merton (1938), Control theory by Hirschi (1969), and Differential Association theory by Sutherland (1947).

Delimitations of the Inquiry

The way in which the researcher established boundaries to make this inquiry manageable was not examining every type of rehabilitative method. The types of rehabilitative methods that were examined in this inquiry included: group therapy, group housing, family therapy, and vocational education. This inquiry looked specifically at juvenile delinquents who were given the opportunity to re-integrate back in to mainstream society as opposed to the population of juvenile delinquents who remain in the justice system. This inquiry exclusively looked at the aforementioned rehabilitative methods and the immediate effects the rehabilitative methods had on the juvenile delinquents in relation to being rehabilitated to re-enter mainstream society again and practical alternatives to recidivating. This inquiry did not critique ways in which structurally and foundationally the rehabilitative methods, interventions, and programs were established or ran to rehabilitate juvenile delinquents.

Limitations of the Inquiry

Due to the nature of this inquiry, limitations must be acknowledged. First, a limitation to this inquiry is not having access to the juvenile delinquents to capture their perspectives. Because this inquiry is looking at rehabilitation methods and forms of therapy it would go against positive progression of treatment to ask

questions about what juvenile delinquents think about therapy methods used on them. In addition, the issue of being a minor and having the consent of a parent or guardian is required to further investigate the juvenile delinquent population. Another limitation was the amount of time allotted to conduct this inquiry. The nature of this inquiry requires completion and approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and given the extensive time frame it takes to complete the whole process (IRB) it was not possible to collect actual data with human subjects. Therefore this inquiry relied solely on critical and extended analysis of the literature. Third, an additional limitation of this inquiry is that the type of research proposed is limited to a specific group within the population which does not allow open and direct access to studying juvenile delinquents. Open and direct access is not allowed because are considered a vulnerable group which must be protected. Furthermore, it is hard to gain access to facilities to observe the nature of the environment and the techniques that are used. Gaining access is difficult because while juvenile delinquents are being treated through rehabilitation a sense of safety is created for juvenile delinquents while they go through this process. Finally, another limitation is that there is patient-client confidentiality so certain issues of individual juvenile delinquent scenarios a researcher does not have access to if given the opportunity to interview specialists (counselors, therapists, and supervisors of treatment programs).

Analysis and Discussion of the Literature

The purpose of the analysis and discussion of the literature and presentation of framework is to get a deeper understanding of rehabilitation methods and the effect on juvenile delinquents. Different alternatives for rehabilitation will be examined to show how the use of different forms of rehabilitative methods for juvenile delinquents helps reduce recidivism. Overall, this section will examine scholarly research studies and articles that address juvenile delinquency and rehabilitation in reference to juvenile delinquents, as well as therapeutic methods that help with rehabilitating the juvenile delinquents which include: a) group therapy b) group housing c) family therapy. Vocational education is another area that will be examined in relation to juvenile delinquents with rehabilitation and reducing recidivism. This analysis will investigate all different types of rehabilitative methods aforementioned that can be used to rehabilitate juvenile delinquents so that as a result juvenile offenders do not recidivate.

Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency is a major problem that effects America's youth. Child delinquents represent a significant concern for both society and the juvenile justice system (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). To understand reasons how one can help rehabilitate juvenile delinquents researchers must delve into uncovering some of the reasons why children resort to acts of delinquency at such a young age. Child delinquency is an enduring and troubling phenomenon that requires more research and the efforts of a broader community to be fully understood and addressed (Lober,

Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). Generations of studies in criminology show that the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). For example, children who are in environments such as poverty stricken neighborhoods where children are exposed to other young children, adolescences, and adults committing criminal activity are more likely to emulate that behavior because it is deemed as acceptable. This example lends evidence to understanding Differential Association theory by Sutherland (1947) because this theory states that all behavior is learned, delinquent behavior learned in small groups, and delinquent behavior is learned from collective and specific situational events (Mincey et al., 2008).

Juvenile delinquency is a problem that has been occurring at younger ages within society at higher rates and more frequently (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). One must begin to look at other factors that may trigger reasons why younger children are resorting to delinquency. Children showing persistent disruptive behavior are likely to become child delinquents and in turn, child delinquents are likely to become serious, violent, or chronic juvenile offenders (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). As stated in the original study from (Kazdin and Kendall, 1998a), understanding the early emergence of problem behaviors may help in the creation of earlier, effective interventions for prevention of child delinquency (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). For this reason, the issue of understanding re-occurring and persistent problems in behavior of children is essential to pointing out some of the risk factors that lead to juvenile delinquency.

The closer a child is to the mother; the less likely a child is to be at risk for delinquency (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). This statement lends evidence and validation to understanding the Control theory by Hirschi (1969) because this theory states that social bonds are things that keep people from committing criminal acts having strong bonds with family and social institutions such as church and school can aid in juveniles not resorting to delinquency (Mincey et al., 2008).

Additionally, many risk factors are interrelated that affect the reasons why some children commit delinquent acts at young ages. Early anti-social behavior, family characteristics are important predictors of early-onset offending (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). Family characteristics include: anti-social parents, substance-abusing parents, history of family violence, large family size, and prevalence of physical abuse are some of the risk factors that play into children participating in juvenile delinquency (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). When looking at reasons why children commit delinquent acts the issue of “peer pressure” must be addressed. Prior research suggests that peer associations are the most important proximate cause of adolescent delinquency (Payne & Cornwell, 2007). As stated in the original study conducted by (Coie & Miller-Johnson, 1995) youth who associate with deviant peers are likely to be arrested earlier than youth who do not associate with such peers (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). Going back to the Control theory by Hirschi (1969) if a juvenile delinquent has strong social bonds that are negative and perpetuate committing criminal deviant acts the juvenile delinquent is more likely to be influenced to participate in deviant acts with peers who engage in the

acts as well. The importance of having accomplices cannot be overstressed in child delinquency (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003).

Juvenile delinquency is a huge issue that has to be addressed because it is becoming more visible and accepted in today's society. Juvenile delinquency is a complex trend that must be critically dissected to begin to understand specifically all the reasons why children turn to delinquency. Unlocking the key to understanding juvenile delinquency is important because this deeply shapes ways in which juvenile delinquents who go through the juvenile justice system are rehabilitated. Also this shapes and creates ways in which prevention and intervention programs can be tailored to at risk youth before becoming juvenile delinquents

Rehabilitation

The rehabilitative model focuses on the treatment of the offender with the assumption that interventions such as probation supervision, work readiness, training, cognitive skills training, and behavior therapy will change behavior and reduce the frequency of juvenile offenses (Bradshaw & Roseborough, 2005). Rehabilitation is essential to juvenile delinquents and re-entry into mainstream society because being rehabilitated sets the foundation to lead a healthy lifestyle in the community once out of the juvenile justice system. The rehabilitation model is ideal over retributive model because the retributive model which primarily focuses on punishment as deterrence is not as effective (Bradshaw & Roseborough, 2005).

Rehabilitation is practical because some rehabilitative methods address the personal needs of juvenile delinquents and gives juvenile delinquents realistic options to make it in society without having to recidivate. The rehabilitation model ties into the Strain theory by Merton (1938) which states that in life there are “goals and means” and everyone wants to achieve their own version of the American Dream. When one does not have the means to obtain goals, sometimes one is forced to resort to illegal means to achieve one's goals. Therefore, rehabilitation is vital because it teaches one through the process of rehabilitation there are necessary steps that are taken to obtain goals and the means of getting one's goals accomplished in a legitimate way.

Juvenile delinquents' receiving proper rehabilitative methods is important because this lessens the likelihood of juvenile delinquents that will recidivate and have to re-enter the juvenile justice system. Child delinquents are expensive to taxpayers and society (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). Due to the fact that juvenile delinquents are rehabilitated through local, state, and federal funded programs and interventions, the money that supports these interventions are taxpayers. Rehabilitative methods have to be realistic to implement and teach juvenile delinquents how to make it in society after being treated. The need for rehabilitative methods to be effective is essential so that more money does not have to be wasted on programs that do not properly rehabilitate juvenile delinquents.

Furthermore, rehabilitation is a major factor for juvenile delinquents' successful re-entry into mainstream society. Effective intervention plays an essential role in any strategy designed to diminish the rates of juvenile delinquency (Lipsey, Wilson,

Cothorn, 2000). Rehabilitation is a necessary resource that is provided to juvenile delinquents to help ease the re-entry process back into society. Effective rehabilitation is important because it helps to eliminate the vicious cycle of recidivism and proper rehabilitation can lead to juvenile delinquent population not resorting to adult criminal activity.

Discussion of Therapeutic Methods

Group Therapy

The research journal titled “Advantages of Group Therapy in Relation to Individual Therapy for Juvenile Delinquents” looks at the reasons why group therapy is a better alternative and more effective than individual therapy (Yong, 1971). The journal gave reasons why group therapy is very advantageous to use especially with males. To begin, a main reason why group therapy works more so than individual therapy because it allows the therapist to take a moderator role and allow the juvenile delinquents to challenge themselves to figure out issues they deal with and overcome (Yong, 1971). This means that the therapist is at the therapy session, but juvenile delinquents take an active role over the therapist. In addition, group therapy creates a foundation for commonalities amongst the juvenile delinquents; this allows the juvenile delinquents to draw upon common experiences as opposed to being singled out (Yong, 1971).

In comparison to individual therapy sometimes juvenile delinquents can be unresponsive so individual sessions are not as productive, where as in group therapy a huge shift takes place because of all the non-verbal communication and active listening of the juvenile delinquents (Yong, 1971). This active listening creates a break through in rehabilitation because the juvenile delinquents are seeking answers and support from each other. In addition, another reason why individual therapy is ineffective is because the therapist is viewed as the authoritative figure and juvenile delinquents have a hard time listening and or respecting that person. Nevertheless, when it is a group setting the group mates have more respect for each other because all the juvenile delinquents are in similar situations it is easier for the juvenile delinquents to bond because they have similar experiences (Yong, 1971).

This research is important because it shows the positive effects of group therapy. This research study is compelling in relation to the current inquiry because this shows that if group therapy has a better success rate it should be used more often than other methods to help rehabilitate the juvenile delinquents. The research shows that the juvenile delinquents are more participatory, therefore this would be a better means of therapy to use. This in turn, can help reduce the juvenile delinquents from recidivating. Because juvenile offenders are able to draw on each other experiences of the other group mates, this makes the therapy sessions more meaningful and this rehabilitation method is more effective.

A limitation to this research journal is that it just focused on how males are affected by group therapy in relation to individual therapy. This journal did not talk about female juvenile delinquents and the effect that group therapy may have on

them. No knowledge on the female perspective is given. This could lead to future research in evaluating the effects of group therapy with females in relation to how group therapy affects males.

Group Housing

Group housing or Residential facilities offer a strong advantage for juvenile delinquents while going through the rehabilitation process. Many of the research articles discuss how rehabilitation is a process and sometimes going back to the same environment is not advantageous when trying to make a change in one's life. Because group housing is unique in offering a lot of services that juvenile delinquents need, they can get the services they need and have a safe environment to help with the transition process back into society. Research has shown that rehabilitation plays an important role in reducing recidivism (Mincey et al, 2008). This lends evidence to show that because rehabilitation is important in eliminating future crime, having group housing is necessary because it offers an array of advantages. Juvenile delinquents are not committing more acts of crime because they have a positive environment to flourish in rather than going back to the original environment that thrived delinquency.

Family Therapy

Family involvement and therapy is an important part of the rehabilitation process for juvenile delinquents. Research has shown that for many juvenile delinquents they come from families where there are many siblings so time is stretched and each child does not get adequate attention. Also the parents are not involved because of other issues such as substance abuse, incarceration, and or poverty. Supportive families help the former offender overcome difficult program experiences while going through the rehabilitation process (Mincey et al, 2008). Family therapy also allows the whole family to be rehabilitated because the family gets the opportunity to process the situation of their former delinquent child. Family therapy helps to explain the control theory (1969) because the therapy process allows for strong social bonds to be created through therapy so; juvenile delinquents are less likely to recidivate because they are rebuilding a strong foundational relationship.

Discussion of Vocational Education

The article titled “Education: Don't Leave Prison Without It” was interesting because it talked about the use of vocational education for juvenile delinquents. It talked about vocational programs can be something that changes these offenders lives once they come out the facilities (Conlon, Harris, Nagel, Hillman, & Hanson, 2008). This research study was done in Oregon at two of the largest correctional schools in Oregon which include William Lord High School at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility and Robert Farrell High School at Hillcrest Youth Correctional Facility (Conlon et. al 2008). These are schools that are accredited and comprehensive high schools with strong Career and Technical Education (Conlon et al, 2008). Research shows that educational attainment is significant factor in

reducing recidivism (Conlon et al, 2008). The article talked about how the success of the juvenile delinquents once they come out of these facilities is depended on upon having dedicated staff but also having all the necessary resources the juveniles need to become successful one they re-enter back into mainstream society (Conlon et al, 2008). A major part of this is transition services because they provide career counseling, job placement, find living arrangements, and developing hard and soft employment skills (Conlon et al, 2008).

This type of treatment is key because if the juvenile delinquents have an easier time transitioning back into society, knowing that they can live successfully they are less likely to commit a delinquent act or recidivate. The high schools offer an array of services which is key to juvenile delinquents' success. One program that is extremely used and popular is the welding program. Nearly every young man who has received multiple certificates in a variety of welding skills before being paroled is employed and successful in the community (Conlon et al, 2008). Juvenile delinquents are more confident when they have a skill or trade that they are trained in, thus making it easier to transition back into society. Research has demonstrated that reduced recidivism rates are a secondary outcome of a successful education program in youth corrections (Conlon et al, 2008). Education is a critical component of an overall plan for rehabilitation of juvenile offenders (Conlon et al, 2008).

Methods for Collecting and Analyzing the Literature

The purpose of this section is to review the methods employed to prepare this conceptual paper. In addition, this section will propose research methods for future empirical inquiry.

The methods used to collect and analyze the literature were using the university's online database services and the library specifically identifying books and journals that dealt with rehabilitation and juvenile delinquents. The researcher met with the Criminal Justice Librarian to seek additional guidance for sources in this research inquiry. The main databases that the researcher used came from Criminal Justice Abstracts and Criminal Justice Periodicals. In addition, the researcher looked for sources in other areas of databases that included Psychology, Family Science, Sociology, and General/ Multi-disciplinary to help broaden the search for relevant information.

Future research will employ qualitative methods over quantitative or mixed methods because future investigation will be designed to capture and convey the experiences of the subjects dealing with their personal narratives, statements and feelings (Ruane, 2005). For this inquiry and future research a qualitative method is the best method to use because of the nature of this research. The researcher will be conducting evaluation research which seeks to judge the merits of a social program (Ruane, 2005). Therefore, because the researcher is looking to understand the effectiveness of rehabilitative methods with juvenile delinquents this is the best method to collect that data.

The researcher analyzed the literature for this current inquiry by identifying themes that related to the inquiry questions. The common themes that helped the researcher analyze the literature included: (a) recidivism and positive affects of rehabilitation on juvenile delinquents; (b) readiness to re-integrate back into society; and (c) behavioral changes in the juvenile delinquents. The aforementioned themes were used to evaluate the effectiveness of the rehabilitative treatment and to analyze the literature in relation to answering the inquiry questions.

Data Collection and Data Sources for Future Research

Interviews and surveys will be used to collect data for the future research study. The interviews and surveys will be done in thirty minute intervals and will consist of open-ended questions. These methods are best for collecting data in this future research study because the researcher is conducting evaluation research. The methods employed are best for collecting the data will ensure that the inquiry questions on future research will be answered. These forms of data collection allow for in depth analysis and being able to code surveys to look for common themes and trends in the results. Data sources that will be used for this future research include but not limited to:

1. Counselor – who works at a court mandated group home for female juvenile delinquents in Baltimore
2. Juvenile Female Delinquents – who live at the court mandated group home in Baltimore
3. Probation Officer – who works in with juvenile delinquents in Washington, DC
4. SAMSHA representatives – who deal substance abuse issues with juvenile delinquents

Data Analysis Strategies for Future Research

The researcher will use three main methods to analyze the data for future research. First, the researcher will look at what each of the interviewees say about the affects of rehabilitation methods on juvenile delinquents and look at what each interviewee gives as a viable solution. This will allow the researcher to look for similarities and differences within their answers. In addition, the researcher will look for common themes in the interviews that were also present in the literature to see if the themes are consistent. The themes that the researcher will use are as follows: (a) recidivism and positive affects of rehabilitation on juvenile delinquents; (b) readiness to re-integrate back into society; and (c) behavioral changes in the juvenile delinquents. Finally, the researcher will look for patterns in the answers of the survey of subjects (i.e. juvenile delinquents) for the analysis. This will allow the researcher to be able to distinguish themes that the researcher is looking to answer in relation to the research questions.

Strategies for Minimizing Bias and Error

Strategies Related to this Inquiry

The current strategies were used by the researcher in this inquiry to help minimize error. The strategies used in this inquiry are as follows:

1. Using peer reviewed and scholarly journals for reliable sources
2. Meeting with the criminal justice librarian to help navigate and find good sources
3. Using different data bases other than criminal justice data bases to find sources

Strategies Related to Future Inquiry

The strategies that the researcher will take for future research include the strategies used for the current inquiry, the interview and survey questions will be reviewed by others to get suggestions and feedback, pilot study will be conducted to a similar group of subjects to test to see if the instruments used are properly used, and the researcher will take an objective role. These strategies will be employed to reduce error and bias in future research.

Ethical Considerations for Future Research

The researcher will take all necessary steps to ensure that all procedures for the future research will be done in an ethical manner. The researcher will do the following to deal with ethical considerations: the researcher will go through the entire Institutional Review Board (IRB) required by the university to get permission to conduct this future research, there will be a consent form made for the juvenile delinquents under the age of eighteen, all subjects will be informed of what the study entails and have the right to decline from participation at any time, the identities of all subjects will not be compromised, and subjects privacy rights will be protected. The researcher will also consider ethical considerations by giving credit where it is due by citing all necessary work, scholarly articles, research, and ideas.

Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations for Future Research

Throughout this section the findings from the literature will be addressed to answer the inquiry questions, conclusions about what literature presents, and recommendations for future inquiry will be addressed.

Findings

RESEARCH QUESTION 1:

How do juvenile delinquents adjust to life and cope with the consequences of their actions?

FINDING:

The findings from the literature suggest the overall rehabilitation process is a coping mechanism in and of itself. This process allows the juvenile delinquent to feel an array of feelings. But the key is addressing any and all feelings felt while going through the process of rehabilitation.

RESEARCH QUESTION 2:

What is being done to help juvenile delinquents lead a more positive life as opposed to recidivating to crime and or delinquent acts again?

RESEARCH QUESTION 3:

Are rehabilitative methods effective enough to cause juvenile delinquents to live better lives or possibly lead lives filled with criminal activity?

FINDINGS FOR RESEARCH QUESTIONS 2 AND 3:

For the purpose of this inquiry the findings for questions two and three will be answered together because the results were the same. The rehabilitation model has been used more frequently with juvenile delinquents because the foundation of what the model practices and it helps to reduce recidivism of juvenile delinquents (Cole & Smith, 2005). Rehabilitation offers a wide variety of therapy methods, educational, and vocational training. Therefore juveniles have a better chance in making in society because they are given resources that promote change and success rather than resorting back to delinquency. This creates strong social bonds, and eliminates the strain (Hirschi 1969; Merton, 1938).

Conclusions

CONCLUSION 1:

A main conclusion from this inquiry is that there has to be a separation of treatment for first time offenders and chronic offenders (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003). Many times the same rehabilitation methods are used for both groups. This is ok but that the fact is that chronic offenders tend to commit more crimes and more serious crimes. So the duration of treatment and even specific methods used have to be purposeful for chronic offenders.

CONCLUSION 2:

Rehabilitation and the success rate of the juvenile delinquent is contingent upon everyone involved in the rehabilitation process willing to make the changes and sacrifices necessary to achieve the goal of a rehabilitated juvenile re- entering society as healthy citizen (Mincey et al ,2008). This plays a major role in the success or failure of juvenile delinquents.

Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION 1:

Recommendations for future research look at the structural analysis of rehabilitation programs. Specifically research should focus on skills training of personnel hired to work with juvenile delinquents. This is important because major part of juvenile delinquents succeeding through rehabilitation is having adult figures who want to support them, advocate for success in their lives and other juvenile delinquents (Vasquez, 2000).

RECOMMENDATION 2:

Implementation of rehabilitation methods is another important consideration that must be addressed. This is because many times with vocational education, even though it does give juvenile delinquents job skills vocational education prepares juvenile delinquents for some jobs that they will not be able to obtain (Cole & Smith, 2005). This consideration is imperative because this could bring about further occurrences of delinquency. The strain theory states that if one does not have the means (specifically – getting the job that one was trained for) then ultimately the goals can not be reached to have a legitimate job. Therefore a “strain” is created and the likelihood a delinquency happening again is more than possible.

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