

# “CRIME TENDENCY AMONG YOUTH IN INDIA”

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## Abstract

This paper deals with the study to find the causes and decline measures of crime trends among youth. Youth is a crucial stage in life, full of provocation and insecurities . It is a phase that acts as a arch between childhood and adulthood . Our country is affected with many socio-economic problems such like corruption, terrorism, illiteracy and poverty. There is an emergency to overcome these problems by youth is very important. Criminologist and Sociologists have been broadly concerned with locating the cause of crime and analysing the effectiveness of the criminal justice system. With the passage of time crime rates are increasing all over the world. Several factors are responsible for this increase which relates Economic, Social and Family situations and problems.. Separate corrective homes may be established for such criminal youths as are not considered a threat to society. New work programmes may be introduced in prisons for training youths to help them in economic rehabilitation. Reshaping of police sub culture, through police organisation, and the professionalization of the police force are necessary for winning confidence and cooperation of the young criminals.

**Keywords**--- Crime, Criminal Behaviour, youth, stress.

## Objective:-

- 1:- To contribute in maintaining unity and integrity of india.
- 2:- To promote education and organize vocational courses.
- 3:- To solve all the possible problems amongst the members of society.
- 4:- To raise fund to help poor and needy people relate.

**Introduction:-**

The subject of youth crime has been one of much public debate over the last few years. Statistics demonstrate that many youths who resort to crime face serious social and economical marginalisation. Justice Action believes that major changes have to be made to the current youth justice system in order to combat these on going concerns. Youngsters these days are more independent and do not want any interference in their routine which is the main cause of this mania, said Shama Khan, associate professor of Government College. “The recent change I feel is the lack of discipline in the youth which leads to stress and depression ,” added Chanda Keswani associate professor of civics and political science.”The youth are under constant pressure to perform. Fierce competition and increasing stress in the environment compel the youth s to opt an easy way out,” said Chitra Arora, principal of Government Girls college and professor of Philosophy. Students work long hours and undergo a lot of stress, especially the resident doctors. They should rest and work in a relaxed manner to avoid becoming vulnerable to depression. Today, there is a crisis of confidence and feeling of unrest in large sections of youth in the country today. The issue of youth in crime is an area of increasing concern in the context of the fact that crime rates have been steadily rising in urban India. With liberalization and growth of a consumer economy, newer avenues in the illegal sector have emerged, which have direct absorption and income generating avenues for the educated and semi-educated youth.

**Criminal Behaviour:-**

The main focus of Criminal behaviour study is to understand offender better and answer questions like: who criminals are, why do they commit an offence (In order to define ways of preventing criminal), how do they think, what do they do (in order to predict their future actions and assist investigation in catching offenders). To understand what criminal behaviour is, and why it occurs, it's important to look at the psychology of crime. There are four generally accepted parameters that define behaviour as being criminal; they are:

1. The act is prohibited by law and punished by the state.
2. It is considered to violate a moral or religious code and is considered punishable by a supreme spiritual being.
3. The act violates norms of society or tradition and is punishable by a community.

4. It causes serious psychological stress or mental damage to the victim.

## Theories of Criminal Behaviour

Historically, there are three broad theoretical models of criminal behaviour:

- A) Psychological
- B) Sociological
- C) Biological

**Psychological Approach:-** There are many different psychological models of criminal behaviour ranging from early Freudian notions to later cognitive and social psychological models. Several fundamental assumptions of psychological theories of criminality are:

1. The individual is the primary unit of analysis in psychological theories.
2. Personality is the major motivational element that drives behaviour within individuals.
3. Normality is generally defined by social consensus.
4. Crimes then would result from abnormal, dysfunctional, or inappropriate mental processes within the personality of the individual.
5. Criminal behaviour may be purposeful for the individual insofar as it addresses certain felt needs.
6. Defective, or abnormal, mental processes may have a variety of causes, i.e., a diseased mind, inappropriate learning or improper conditioning, the emulation of inappropriate role models, and adjustment to inner conflicts. (Mischel, 1968.)

**Sociological Approach:-** Sociological and psychological principles of criminality are intertwined and technically not independent. As with psychological theories, there are numerous sociological formulations of the cause and control of criminality. Sociological notions of criminality as can be defined as:

1. Attempting to connect the issues of the individual's criminality with the broader social structures and cultural values of society, familial, or peer group.
2. How the contradictions of all of these interacting groups contribute to criminality.
3. The ways these structures cultures and contradictions have historically developed.
4. The current processes of change that these groups are undergoing.

5. Criminality is viewed from the point of view of the social construction of criminality and its social causes.

**Biological Approach:-** Biological theories of criminality basically purport that criminal behaviour is the result of some flaw in the biological makeup of the individual. This physical flaw could be due to...

1. Heredity
2. Neurotransmitter dysfunction
3. Brain abnormalities that were caused by either of the above, improper development, or trauma (Raine, 2002)

### **Characteristics of youth crimes:-**

1. Crimes (youth 16-21 years) such as theft requires less physical energy as compared to crimes ( youth 21-25 years) such like murder, rape assault, dowry death.
2. Adults group of 16-18 years are 44% of the offenders, 18-21 years are 39% of the offenders, 21-25 years are 17% of the offenders. The large portion of offenders of adults group of 16-21 years.
3. Criminal(40% ) come from the lower economic class ie income of less than Rs.1,500 per month and Half of the criminals (55%) come from the lower-middle economic class
4. About 38% criminals are from the rural areas and 62% youth criminals are from urban areas.
5. 77% youth criminals are unmarried and have no responsibility and youth criminals have a lower marriage rate.
6. Youth criminals differ from inability to read and write to graduation (39%) or educated below secondary level(41%) in the educational background.

### **Stress and crime**

Criminal actors and victims experience various forms of stress related to criminal activity resulting from stress. Lastly, victimization in the prison system and community will be explored as crime inducing stress. Future areas to explore the stress–crime relationship in research will be suggested. Victimization is a stressful

event resulting in significant levels of psychological and/or emotional stress (Atkeson, Calhoun, Resick, & Ellis, 1982; Burnam et al. 1988; Cook, Smith, & Harrell, 1987; Frieze, Hymer, & Greenberg, 1987; [Kilpatrick et al. 1985](#); [Roberts & Green, 2007](#) Stress and crime are interrelated in a linear fashion (e.g., stress causes crime) and in a reciprocal cycle (e.g., victimization inducing stress). Strain theories posit the causal relationship of stress to crime, and psychological conditions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder, explain the experience of stress caused by criminal action. Using general strain theory to explain the causal relationship, recent research explores the circumstances that cause stress and result in crime. Gender differences will be explored in relation to criminal activity). Emotional stress has been identified as a central and dominant response of victims of crime ([Cook, Smith, & Harrel 1987](#)). It is a latent factor among victims of crime and its manifestation involves four indicators: depression, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anger, and anxiety. Exposure to such stress often carries a risk of depression, anxiety, anger, and posttraumatic stress.

Stress of job is far and away the leading source of stress for adults but stress levels have also escalated in children, teenagers, college students, and the elderly for other reasons. The deviant behaviour of a youth, as stated earlier, is the result of him maladjustment and the breaking or weakening of social bonds with family and other groups.. When a youth considers himself ready to take up a job, ready to settle in life, ready to undertake responsibilities of life, and ready for enjoying material advantages of society .When his situation is suddenly affected by a failure to get a job, by being falsely implicated and accused of some action not committed, by a sudden jolt in life, or by the many practical problems of adjusting to existing environment, he gets the shock of his life. It is the time when appointments in youth"s life seem most unbearable, when the feeling of achieving something special in life is worn off, and the past is remembered for its dreams of imminent successes, for its sunlight and not for its shadows. Thus, starting from the „low“ point immaturity and inexperience, he reaches the top“ point of going to achieve success and then fall down again to the low point of violating the Law. This lead the youngsters to go in stress.

## Causes of youth crime

Crime is primarily the outcome of multiple adverse social, economic, cultural and family conditions. To prevent crime it is important to have an understanding of its roots. Country to country the causes of crime differ because of different cultural, economic and social characteristics. The causes of crime are primarily related to:

- 1) **Economic Situation** :- The major economic factors that contribute to the crime are Unemployment, Poverty and political situation.
- 2) **Social Environment**:- The core Social root causes of crime are Inequality, Not sharing power, Lack of support to families and neighborhoods, Real or perceived inaccessibility to services, Lack of leadership in communities, Low value placed on children.
- 3) **Family Structures**:- Youth whose family have one or more characteristics listed below, are more likely to be involved in crime. Parents are involved in crime, Poor parental supervision, Their parents neglect them, there is erratic discipline or they are treated harshly, Family income is low or they are isolated, Family conflict, Lack of communication between children and parents, Lack of respect and responsibility amongst family members, Abuse and neglect of children, Family violence, Family Breakup.

## Crime prevention strategies:-



The crime prevention strategies should be integrated in a cross-cutting manner, into a social, economic, educational, employment, health, housing, urban planning and justice. In all these areas, there is prevalence of crime, hence, prevention strategies are required to get incorporated in a cross-cutting manner. Strategies are required to be built upon cooperative partnerships between government institutions and ministries, community and non-governmental organizations and the business sector and civil society (Shaw & Travers, 2007).



## Models of Crime Prevention

There are four key models of crime prevention and each model illustrates different approaches to prevent the occurrence of criminal acts: (Clancey, n.d.).

- 4) Developmental Model
- 5) Social model
- 6) Situational Model
- 7) Criminal Justice

### Protective factors:-

There are many possible protective factors. The extent to which they have an influence on the prevention of crime or victimization will depend on the particular situation. People should have Positive attitudes, follow values or beliefs, conflict resolution skills, parent should have good parenting skills, parental supervision, and sense of self -esteem, creating mutual healthy relationship, improving the household income.

### Conclusion:-

Through the above analysis for the youth crime, we can see that the main crime is done by the youth. This is because the youth themselves are the main components of taking their own decisions not listening to their parents want to be self independent in every way of life , they are more inclined to accept everything as new thing, thus increase the probability of the implementation in crime. Life talent involvement must be undergone by the youth offenders; it is the real curing social skill and it will reduce future committing crimes and deal with conduct differ social norm issues, any drug and alcohol problems. On the other hand, because of the special physical and mental characteristics of youth and losing control of management taken by society for youth, the crime behaviour of youth tend to exceed the bounds of law. Only study the current problem for crime of youth in our country, can we further understand and master the current situation and reason of crime of youth, explore the characteristics and laws, detect the flaws and shortcomings of legal system and management in the aspect of crime to improve them purposefully, and achieve the purpose of effective prevention and control for the crime.

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