

## Personal and Social Adjustment of Potential Delinquents and Non-Delinquents of District – Baramulla

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### Abstract

The present paper examines the personal and social adjustment of potential delinquents and non-delinquents of District Baramulla. The Sample for this study was 50 delinquents and 50 non- delinquents. the result revealed that there is a significant difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on various dimensions of personal and social adjustments.

**KEYWORDS:** Delinquents, non- delinquents, social and personal adjustment

### Introduction:

Youth nowadays, regardless of gender, social origin or country of residence, are subject to individual risks but are also being presented with new individual opportunities-some beneficial and some potentially harmful. Quite often, advantage is being taken of illegal opportunities as young people commit various offences, become addicted to drugs, and use violence against their peers. The majority of studies and programmes dealing with delinquency focus on youth as offenders. Those most likely to be on the receiving end of violence are between the ages of 16 and 19 years. It has long been assumed that religious beliefs are effective deterrents to delinquent behaviour. It has been argued that religious beliefs are the foundation for moral behaviour. Thus the more religious a person is the less likely he or she will be to participant in delinquent or criminal behaviour (Durkheim 1915, Davis 1948, coogan 1954, Yinger 1957). It is claimed that the multiple and diverse function of religion in a person life makes it an effective personal control against deviant behaviour (Rohrbaugh and Jessor 1975) Stark (1985) stressed that if we conceptualize religion as a group or social characteristic ‘majority of an adolescence friends are religious “then its relation to deviance is negative”’.

Tittle and Weich (1983) conducted a study on delinquency and criminal behaviour of 1993 individuals. It was found that religion had a strong relation to deviant behaviour when there was normative ambiguity, low social integration, perception of low peer conformity and a relatively high proportion of people who were not religious, the proportion of Delinquents in such population were high. These findings suggest that religiosity has its great affect on adult deviance a disorganized social context, because the other social mechanisms that foster conformity are absent Religiosity was determined by how frequently the respondent read the Bible, watched religious TV programmes listened to religious radio programmes and held a family prayer. It was discovered in a strong religious community context, religiosity was related to lower occurrence of self projected deviant behaviour.

### **Need and Importance:**

A new menace has come to plague the valley schools and higher education with a sizable segments of students bunking off their institutions and spending time roaming about deserted roads or hanging around busy city squares or restaurants during class hours. Over the recent months in particular the number of such students has increased manifold without evoking any concern among teachers and parents. Though these students leave home early morning for school they play truant instead. They skip their schools at the ideal spots for bunking or the comparatively less populated bunds along sopore, and main chowk Baramulla.. Besides Restaurants and Snooker Points permit these fugitives in without even a cursory inquiry for they are just concerned about their money. On lookers divulge that apart from boys, girls too resort to absconding from their schools. Fleeing and roaming around roads can prove dangerous and can push these young students into the tentacles of various anti-social and illicit activities. The activities of delinquents is a great cause worry for parents and teachers, sometimes they feel as mute spectators and helpless before the delinquent activities of their children. These fugitive children are more prone to smoking, drug abuse, alcoholism, gambling, sexual exploitation, crimes and many other undesirable activities. The question before us is why these delinquent children engage in various anti-social activities like violence, lack of motivation and commitment towards studies, drug addiction, and damage to public property and disrespecting their elders and parents. Is it that the parental grip is loosening and the value system is collapsing, is it that the basic physiological need of love and belongingness is missing from the society and relations have become more contractual and mechanical. The question before us is why children show cold behaviour towards their parents and teachers and lack empathy. Worrying trend is attributed to numerous factors but after making in-depth probe the investigator found that the research that has been carried in this direction has been in piece meals. Many people have their individual opinion on the factors responsible for delinquency. What is the need of the hour is to generate/pool sufficient data on delinquency with the help of standardized constructed tools. The investigator is committed to make an in-depth study of delinquency and the findings that shall be generated shall help the clinical psychologists, teachers, parents, students and future researchers interested in delinquency to reflect and chalk out the pragmatic and effective intervention strategies to deal with the problem of delinquency.

### **Statement of the Problem:**

The Problem for the present study is: Personal and Social Adjustment of Potential Delinquents And Non-Delinquents of District – Baramulla.

### **Objectives Of the Study:**

The following objective has been formulated for the proposed study.

1. To identify potential Delinquents, and Non Delinquents.
2. To study the personal and social adjustment
3. To compare potential Delinquents and Non-Delinquents.

### **Hypothesis:**

The following hypothesis are formulated for the proposed study

1. There is a significant difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on various dimensions of personal and social adjustments.

### **Review of Related Literature:**

**Lahri, S.K. 1977:** Conducted study on Differential Personality Patterns of Normal, Vagabond and Delinquent Children. The main aim of the study was to find out the differences in the personality patterns of normal, vagabond and delinquents children (12-16) years old). A Hindi Version of IPAT's Jr. And Sr. H.S.P.Q., form B (standardized in the Indian Situation by Mehrotra) was used. Personality profiles based on mean scores were drawn. Mean, SD, T-Test, etc. were employed. Some of the major conclusions were:-While the differences between normals and vagabonds were less compared to normals and delinquents, it was more compared to vagabonds and delinquents. Adolescent normal's, adolescent vagabonds the delinquents differed more in personality patterns than pre-adolescents belonging to similar groups. Pre-adolescent the adolescents vagabonds and delinquent children differed more or less equally Vagabonds and delinquents had normal emotional stability and stronger super-ego strength. They had shown a tendency of self-sufficiency as normals. Vagabonds and delinquents had moral values to accept social norms to rehabilitate in a society.

**Neelofar Khan, N. A. Gash 2011:** Comparative Study of Extreme Groups of Delinquency Proneness, on the Verbal Dimensions of Creativity –In Kashmir Region. The study was executed with the objective to work on the title, “A Comparative Study of Extreme Groups of Delinquency Proneness, on the Verbal Dimensions of Creativity – in Kashmir Region”. Firstly the objective of the study is to identify high and low delinquency prone adolescents, to compare these delinquency prone adolescent groups on the various dimensions of verbal creativity i.e, Fluency, Flexibility and originality accordingly. The 100 adolescent subjects were drawn randomly, Lidhoo's delinquency proneness scale and Baqer Mehdi's verbal tool of creativity were administered. The extreme group technique was used, to categorize high and low delinquency prone groups. These groups were compared on the various dimensions of verbal creativity by using recognized statistical technique viz, Mean, S.D, and 't' value respectively, to pool out the required results of the study. The results of the said study revealed that the high and low delinquency prone adolescents show no significant difference on the originality dimension of verbal creativity. But on fluency and flexibility dimensions of verbal creativity shows significant difference.

**Wu Yuan 2009:** Conducted study on Factors Affecting Adolescent Delinquency In Singapore

The objective of this study is to find out if adolescent conduct problems are affected by inadequate parental bonding (paternal and maternal care and protection) during their growing up years. Socio demographic background variables, such as gender, occupation of the adolescent's parents, living arrangements of the adolescent, home intactness of his family, family income, family size, age and the marital relationship between the adolescent's parents, are also taken into consideration to see if they have an impact on the delinquency behaviour of the adolescent.. It was found that paternal care towards an adolescent, age of the adolescent, family size and family income had a significant impact on adolescent delinquency. It is hoped that the results of this study will prove useful in

influencing the attitudes of parents towards the development of their children in order to prevent them from turning to crime.

**SELECTION OF SAMPLE:**

Initial sample shall be 200 male students. After the administration of Lidhoo delinquency scale, 25% extreme group technique shall employ for identification of potential delinquents and non delinquents. Fifty delinquents and fifty non delinquents from private High School shall from the final sample for the proposed study of District Baramulla

**TOOLS USED:**

For the collection of data the investigator shall employee the following data gathering tools.

1. Lidhoo delinquency proneness scale shall (LDPS) be employed for the identifications of potential delinquents and non delinquents.
2. California Test of personality developed by Thorpe, Clark and Teigs shall be employed for measuring the personal and social adjustment of potential delinquents and non delinquents.
- 3.

**RESULT AND INTERPRETATION:**

**Table showing the significance of mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents of following dimensions of personal adjustment**

Dimension	Name of the dimension	Group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Level of Significance
1A	Self Reliance	PD	50	2.86	1.49	17.29	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	8.1	1.55		
1B	Sense of personal worth	PD	50	3.2	1.72	20.88	Significant .01 level Significant .01 level
		PND	50	9.32	1.18		
1C	Sense of personal Freedom	PD	50	2.64	1.24	15.23	Significant .01 level Significant .01 level
		PND	50	8.2	2.27		
1D	Feeling of Belongingness	PD	50	2.5	1.21	26.79	Significant .01 level

	s	PND	50	9.36	1.36		Significant .01 level
1E	Withdrawal Tendencies	PD	50	8.78	1.43	19.57	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	2.94	1.56		Significant .01 level
1F	Nervous Symptoms	PD	50	8.6	1.91	16.68	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	2.76	1.59		Significant .01 level
Composi te	Total	PD	50	28.58	3.23	14.75	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	40.68	4.82		

The perusal of Table I, showing the significance of mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents, on various dimensions of personal adjustment.

The perusal of Table 1:1 shows that there is a significant mean-difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents in 'self-reliance' dimension of personal adjustment and mean score favours potential non-delinquents. This signifies that potential- non delinquents (PND) are self-reliant personalities. They have a capacity to identify their strength and weakness. They believe in self-support. They have a faith in themselves which provides them the momentum to do things. Non-Delinquents, complete their assignments well in time. It has been observed by the investigator that Non-Delinquents display a faith in themselves. The perusal of Table 1:2, shows a significant mean difference between potential delinquents and Non-delinquents on 'sense of personal worth' dimension of personal adjustment and mean difference favours non-delinquents. This signifies that non-delinquents appreciate and acknowledge, the sincere efforts they put in accomplishment of the target. For them process is important not the product. Non-delinquents goal directed personalities. Whatever little they achieve in their life act as a catalyst for their future growth and development. They attach aesthetic value to their work. They derive pleasure and satisfaction from their job. They attach meaning to their life by engaging in purposeful activities. They strike a balance between intrinsic and extrinsic values of life. The perusal of Table 1:3 shows a significant mean-difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on 'sense of personal freedom' dimension of personal adjustment and the mean difference favours non-delinquents. This picture reveals that non-delinquents work with open-mindedness. They want a space to express themselves. They want to work in a culture which promotes fresh inquiry and independence of mind. It is because of this sense of personal freedom, that non-delinquents ask diversified question on the topic. This trait is responsible for imitativeness in non-delinquents. Whenever their services are called for, they offer them without any ifs and buts. They love to take responsibility. They like a

work in a culture which provides them a platform for self-expression. On the other hand, delinquents, work with a closed mind. Their aggression arrests their sense of personal freedom. Since delinquents are involved in various anti-social activities, this results in the creation of a culture which breeds narrow-mindedness. The perusal of Table 1:4 shows that there is a significant mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on 'Feeling of belongingness' dimension of personal adjustment and mean difference favours non-delinquents. This picture reveals that non-delinquents express warmth and love towards relations. They attach their identity to the family they belong they care for their family members. Whenever there is any stress or strain in the family it has a direct bearing on the non-delinquents. Non-delinquent is socially-sensitive. He shows a great concern and love for his family members. At times he displays a sense of maturity and responsible person. He attaches great importance to social and family values. It has been observed that non-delinquents come from a family where members understand the importance of relations. Parents do not quarrel with each other. They give due time and attention to their children with the result, children reciprocate with same-feelings. They feel secure. Their emotions are addressed in an atmosphere of love. On the other hand delinquents are somewhat cold-blooded. They do not shoulder the family responsibilities when called for. Pain and tension in the family do not touch their heart nor make them to move. They live in their own-world. They keep their mind busy with unnecessary things. They engage in theft, eve-teasing and other antisocial activities. They lack empathy. They fail to understand the value of relations. They weigh relations in terms of material gains. They display an inconsistency in their behavior. They quarrel with their parents and siblings. The perusal of Table 1.5 shows that there is a significant mean difference between potential delinquent and non-delinquents on "withdrawal tendencies' dimension of personal adjustment and mean difference favoured delinquents. The picture reveals that delinquents display an attitude of escapism. They do not display the courage to face the hard realities of life. They believe in a life of comfort which does not demand struggle. When they fail to achieve the specified goal they resort to various defense mechanisms. They project their weakness on others. For e.g., if they fail in the examination, they feel that the teacher was not competent or I lacked good study material or question-paper set was difficult. But the reality is that they had non-worked hard and wasted their time in unnecessary things. To hide their weakness they involve in blame gaming. Sometime they involve in unfair practices like copying, etc. These are all 'withdrawal tendencies'. They lack a capacity to self-introspect. They waste their precious time in activities like meaningless gossips, chatting, on social networking sites, eve teasing, fashion etc. When the time, to test their efforts comes, they escape and display behavioural inconsistency. On the other hand non-delinquents remain focused throughout their academic session. They prepare a academic calendar and strike to it in letter and spirit. They engage in meaningful discourse. They submit their home-work and other assignment as per the specified schedule. They work consistently and are accordingly rewarded for their efforts. They do not resort to defense mechanism or hunt for excuses. In case of any weakness, they display courage to confess and admit their weakness.

They learn from their failures. Every experience of life is educating and rewarding for them. They face the harsh realities of life with boldness. They are firm in their conviction. The perusal of Table 1:6 shows that there is a significant mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on ‘Nervous Symptom’ dimension of personal adjustment and mean score favours delinquents. The result reveals that delinquents display emotional swings. Sometimes they display a state of stress and tension, which crates behavior problems in them. It is this tendency towards ‘Nervous symptoms’ that delinquent became drug-addicts. These delinquent are always seen in a state of restlessness. They wander from one place to another, without any aim. They always think of some mischief. Advices, repeated warning have no effect on them. At the end of the day they are dictated by their own thoughts, which are sub-merged in nervousness. Because of this nervous tendency, delinquent find to difficult to accomplish a task. They start a task, get deviated leave it unfinished and start a new activity. They cannot put their heart into their work. Because of this nervousness, they fail to maintain a consistency in their mind. Parents, teachers find it very difficult to read the psychology of the delinquent. There is fluctuation in a behavioural clock. On the other hand, non-delinquents are somewhat composed and self-contained personalities. They do not get disturbed the ups and downs in life. They display a positive outlook towards life. They display a balanced mental health. In the face of success or failure, they are cool and composed. They do not get pricked on slight provocation. If someone criticizes them or blames them, they hear the inner voice.

**Table showing the significance of mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents of following dimensions of social adjustment**

Dimension	Name of the dimension	Group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Level of Significance
2A	Social Standards	PD	50	2.8	1.39	24	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	9.40	1.22		
2B	Social Skills	PD	50	2.38	0.98	30.26	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	9.34	1.30		
2C	Anti Social Tendencies	PD	50	9.02	1.46	8.4	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	2.3	1.03		
2D	Family Relations	PD	50	2.38	0.83	32.60	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	9.52	1.32		
2E	School Relations	PD	50	2.84	1.07	17.86	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	8.54	1.99		
2F	Community Relations	PD	50	3.16	1.07	18.87	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	9.18	1.61		
Composite	Total	PD	50	22.58	3.32	36.2	Significant .01 level
		PND	50	47.92	3.70		

The perusal of Table 2.1 shows the significance of mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on ‘social standard’ dimension of social

adjustment and mean difference favours non-delinquents. Non-delinquents understand the rights of others and subordinate certain desires to need of the group. This case study shall make it clear. There was a road-race, and one runner was speeding at serial no. he saw his physically challenged colleague getting unconscious and offered him water at the cost of winning the game. Non-delinquents confirm and acknowledge the desirable social standard. On the other hand, delinquents challenge the desirable social standards. They indulge in those activities which are approved by the society like eve-teasing and truancy. The perusal of Table 2.2 shows the significance of mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on 'social skills' dimension of social adjustment and mean difference favour non-delinquents. Non-Delinquents show liking for the people. They are identified as stars in the class. They take part in various social activities like Red-Cross Day, co-curricular activities. They are appointed as monitors of the class and are assigned various social responsibilities by the teacher. They exhibit a sense of social maturity. He is in good terms with his friends and teachers. He is always ready to extend a helping hand, to his friends. Whenever his services are called for he does not shy away from the responsibility. Individual interests are sub-servient to Association Interests. He shows a feeling of empathy, love and warmth towards the members of the group. He exhibits group-dynamism and works for the cohesiveness of the group. On the other hand delinquents live in their own-world. They are not bothered about the welfare of the group they belong to their self-centeredness revolves around material things. They cannot feel the pain and suffering of their friends. The perusal of Table 2.3 shows the significance of mean difference, between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on 'Anti-social' dimension of 'social Adjustment' and mean difference favours delinquents. The result reveals that delinquent engage in various 'anti social activities'. Some of the anti-social activities include cheating in the examination, bullying, stealing, truancy, quarrel with the parents, eve-teasing, drug addiction, posting objectionable photographs and material in social networking sites like face book and orkut. The personal of Table 2.4 shows, the significance of mean difference between potential delinquents and non-delinquents on 'family relations' dimension of social adjustment, and the mean-difference favours non-delinquents. The result reveals that non-delinquents made good family relations. They are not quarrelsome. They respect and love their family members. If any untoward incident happens in the family, they share the responsibility. They do not ask for undue demands, from their family members. Non-delinquent value the time and money parents spent on them. On the other hand, delinquents are very aggressive.

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