3.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes the research objectives of this study as well as description of the research design. It also discusses how respondents were selected for the primary study (from which data were used for the present study). Instruments used how data were collected and analyzed for the current study. The present study is aimed at investigating the psycho social correlates of juvenile delinquency.

3.2 METHODOLOGY

3.2.1 Objectives

- To study whether there are any significant differences between normal and delinquent children with regard to their parental involvement.
- To study whether there are any significant differences between normal and delinquent children with regard to their social support.
- To examine whether there are any significant differences between normal and delinquent children in their Intelligence.
- To examine whether there are any significant differences between normal and delinquent children with regard to their anxiety.
- To study whether there are any significant differences between normal and delinquent children with regard to their adjustment in home.
- To examine whether there are any significant differences between normal and delinquent children with regard to their adjustment in friendly vs hostility.
- To study whether there is any significant relationship between demographical variables such as age, Grade, mother occupation, father occupation, mother education, father education and parental income to juvenile delinquency.

3.2.2 Hypotheses

In order to realize the above objectives the following hypotheses are formulated.

- There would be significant difference between normal and delinquent children with regard to parental involvement.
- There would be significant difference between normal and delinquent children with regard to social support.
There would be significant difference between normal and delinquent children with regard to Intelligence.

There would be significant difference between normal and delinquent children with regard to anxiety.

There would be significant difference between normal and delinquent children with regard to adjustment in home.

There would be significant difference between normal and delinquent children with regard to adjustment in friendly vs hostility.

There would be significant relationship between demographical variables such as age, Grade, mother occupation, father occupation, mother education, father education and parental income to juvenile delinquency.

3.2.3 Variables studied

In the light of hypotheses formulated the following variables are studied.

**Delinquency** is when an individual deviates from the course of normal social life, his behaviour is called delinquency.

**Cyril Burt** defines “Delinquency as occurring in a child when his antisocial tendencies appear so grave that becomes or ought to become the subject of official action”.

**Friedlander** says “Delinquency is a juvenile misconduct that might be dealt with under the law”.

**Juvenile delinquents** are those offenders including boys and girls who are under 18 years. A juvenile delinquent is a young person incorrigible or habitually disobedient. Acts of delinquency may include running away from home, habitual truancy and committing sexual offences. Juveniles may do such activities single or through gang.

**Parental Involvement** is defined as participation of parents in every facet of children’s education and development from birth to adulthood recognizing that parents are the primary influence in children’s lives.

**Social support** is an existence of people on whom we can rely, people who let us know that they care about values and love us.
“Resources provide by others” by Cohen and Syme, (1985)

**Intelligence** is defined as general cognitive, problem solving skill, mental ability involving reasoning, perceiving relationships and analogies, calculating, learning quickly etc.

**Adjustment** may be defined as process of altering behaviour to reach a harmonious relationship with the environment. When people say, they are in an (adjustment period) they typically mean they are going through a process of change and searching for some level of balance or acceptance with the environment, others or themselves.

**Anxiety** is characterized by overwhelming sense of apprehension, the expectation that something bad is happening or will happen, class of mental disorders characterized by chronic and debilitating anxiety (generalised anxiety disorder, panic disorder, phobias, post-traumatic stress disorder) – Jacobs, L. (2004)

### 3.2.4 Population

There are 21 government juvenile delinquent homes in Andhra Pradesh. In each home there are about 100 juvenile delinquents in the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh. There are 3 juvenile delinquent homes. First category is children home, where street children/runaway children from home, habitual truancy, neglected, children from broken families etc. given accommodation, care and protection. Second category is observation home which consists of children below the age of 18 who are involved in various crimes such as theft, substance abuse, burglary and criminal activities. These people will be under trial of judgment once they get the bail, they are released from observation home. The third category is special home where the children from observation home are given the judgment for correction by staying in the special home. In Rayalaseema zone, there are three homes Kadapa, Kurnool and Tirupati. Homes for only boys are there in Kadapa and Kurnool where homes for both boys and girls are there in Tirupati for all the three categories mentioned. There are 100 delinquents in each home with a total of 300 juvenile delinquents in all the three homes. In equal number of 300 school going children both boys and girls are
selected from the normal population. Altogether 600 subjects were the population of
the study. Population details are given in the Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Distribution of Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the District</th>
<th>Normal Boys</th>
<th>Normal Girls</th>
<th>Delinquents Boys</th>
<th>Delinquents Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kadapa</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirupathi</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2.5 Sample

From 300 juvenile delinquents, 60 boys and 60 girls (total 120 subjects) were
selected. Equal number of children was selected from the 300 normal populations by
resorting to the systematic random sampling technique in such a way that they fit into
2 X 2 factorial design. There are 20 boys and 20 girls from each home of
Rayalaseema region. The total subjects selected for the sample are 240. Their age
ranges from 8 to 18 years. The distribution of sample is presented in Table-3.2.

Table-3.2: Distribution of Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delinquents</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>240</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2.6 Psychology Tools

3.2.6.1 Parental Involvement Rating Scale (PIRS)

PPRS developed by K.Abdoool Gafoor (2001) was harnessed to assess the
parental involvement. The scale consists of 76 items, with 3 response categories,
always true, sometimes and never true numbered 3, 2, 1 respectively. The minimum
and maximum possible score scale ranges from 76 to 228. Low score indicates low
parental involvement and high score indicates high parental involvement.
3.2.6.2 Social support questionnaire (SSQ)

Social support of the sample was assessed using social support questionnaire (SSQ) developed by Sarason, I.G., Levine, H.M., Basham R.B. and Sarason, B.R. (1983). The questionnaire consists of 27 statements. Each statement has two parts. For the first part, listing all the known people whom one can count on for help or support in the manner described. The second part is to mark the satisfactory level of the individual for the support given in the first part. If there is no support for a question check the words “No One”, but still rate the level of satisfaction. The minimum and maximum scores possible on the questionnaire are 0 to 243. Low score indicates low social support and high score indicate high social support.

3.2.6.3 Ravens Progressive Matrices Test (RPM):

The intelligence of the sample was assessed by using Raven’s Progressive Matrices test by J.C.Ravens (1947), the test consists of 5 tests of A, B, C, D, E. and each set contains 12 items. There are totally 60 items in the test. The minimum and maximum possible scores range from 0 to 60. The scoring pattern was followed as per the test norms. Low score indicates low intelligence and high scores indicates high intelligence.

3.2.6.4 Spence Children Anxiety Scale

Anxiety level of the sample was assessed by using the Spence Children Anxiety Scale developed by Susan H Spence (1994). It consists of 45 items with 4 response categories namely never, sometimes, often and always. There are both positive and negative statements. The minimum and maximum possible score on the scale is 45 to 180. The low score indicates the low level of anxiety and the high score indicates high level of anxiety.

3.2.6.5 Bell adjustment Inventory

The adjustment of the samples in home and friendly and hostility components was assessed by using Bell Adjustment Inventory developed by Hugh M. Bell (1962). The inventory consists of 200 items. It provides measures on 6 components such as Home Adjustment, Health Adjustment, submissiveness- self assertion, emotionality, hostility – friendliness and masculinity – femininity. The researcher has considered
only 2 areas, i.e. Home Adjustment and hostility – friendliness. In home area there are 37 items with 3 response categories; “yes”, “no” & “?”. The minimum and maximum scores range from 0 – 27. Low score indicates better adjustment and high score indicates low adjustment. On friendly Vs Hostility component there are 29 items with 3 response categories “yes”, “no” & “?”. The minimum and maximum scores rage from 0 – 37. Low score indicates secured social friendly nature and high score indicates high hostility.

3.2.7 Procedure

The investigator met the superintendent of juvenile delinquent homes and appraised him of the significance of the study for obtaining his permission to administer the test. The researcher met the subjects of groups of 10 subjects at times and explained the purpose of the research. Researcher established rapport with them and then explained them as to how they should do fill the responses. Since of the majority of the delinquents were illiterates, the researcher her self explained each statement in their mother tongue and they were asked to mark the responses in the appropriate places. The five instruments were administered in ten sessions and they were given sufficient time to fill in the questionnaires. The filled in questionnaires were collected from the respondents and their responses were scored accordingly. This constituted the data of the study.

In order to overcome the problem of attrition 20% of the oversampling was resorted to.

3.2.8 Research Design

In the present investigation 2 X 2, two group design and more than two group and factorial designs are employed to analyze the data.

3.2.9 Statistical Analysis

The data are quantitatively analyzed using descriptive statistics such as mean, standard deviation, inferential statistical analysis of variance (ANOVA-both one way and two way), t-tests and chi-square test to test the hypotheses.