SUMMARY
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The main objectives of the study were:

1. To assess the scores of the recidivists on measures of personality, locus of control, psychopathology, attitude towards law, parental attitudes, and socio-economic background.

2. To see the performance of the non-recidivists on indices of personality, locus of control, psychopathology, attitude towards law, parental attitudes, and socioeconomic background.

3. To compare the scores of recidivists and non-recidivists with that of the normal sample on all the variables included in the study.

4. To compare the recidivists and non-recidivists on all the measures included in the study.

5. To use discriminant analysis in order to precisely discover the cluster of variables which most reliably and significantly distinguish the three groups.
Three groups of subjects participated in the study. They comprised of recidivists (Group I, N = 100), non-recidivists (Group II, N = 100) and normal population (Group III, N = 100). These groups were administered the following tests in order to get the subjects’ scores on personality, locus of control, attitude towards law, socio-economic status, and parental attitudes. These tests were administered in a uniform sequence and scored according to the instructions given in their respective manuals.

The main hypotheses of the study were:

1a. Recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on extraversion.
1b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on extraversion.
1c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will score higher on extraversion.
2a. Recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on neuroticism.
2b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on neuroticism.
2c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will score higher on neuroticism.

3a. Recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on psychoticism.
3b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on psychoticism.
3c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will score higher on psychoticism.

4a. Recidivists as compared to normals will have a greater belief in external locus of control.
4b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will have a greater belief in external locus of control.
4c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will have a greater belief in external locus of control.

5a. Recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on all indices of psychopathology.
5b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will score higher on all indices of psychopathology.
5c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will score higher on all indices of psychopathology.

6a. Recidivists as compared to normals will have a more negative attitude towards law.
6b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will have a more negative attitude towards law.
6c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will have a more negative attitude towards law.

7a. Recidivists as compared to normals will come from lower strata of society.
7b. Non-recidivists as compared to normals will come from lower socio-economic strata of society.

7c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will come from lower socio-economic strata of society.

8a. The home atmosphere of recidivists as compared to normals will be more negative.

8b. The home atmosphere of non-recidivists as compared to normals will be more negative.

8c. The home atmosphere of recidivists as compared to non-recidivists will be more negative.

The following statistical analysis were undertaken to process the data and verify the hypothesis:

1. Frequency Distributions
2. Reliability Coefficients
3. One-way ANOVA
4. t-ratio
5. Discriminant Analysis
The main findings of the study:

Results obtained in the present study provided support to most of the hypotheses proposed in the study. Application of one-way analysis and t-ratio revealed the following significant results:

1a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on extraversion.

1b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on extraversion.

1c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists scored significantly higher on extraversion.

2a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on neuroticism.

2b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on neuroticism.

2c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists scored significantly higher on neuroticism.
3a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on psychoticism.

3b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on psychoticism.

3c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists scored significantly higher on psychoticism.

4a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects are significantly higher on external locus of control.

4b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects are significantly higher on external locus of control.

4c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists are significantly higher on external locus of control.

5a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on all indices of psychopathology.

5b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects scored significantly higher on all indices of psychopathology.
5c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists scored significantly higher on all indices of psychopathology.

6a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects had significantly negative attitude towards law.
6b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects had significantly negative attitude towards law.
6c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists had significantly negative attitude towards law.

7a. Recidivists as compared to normal subjects came from significantly lower socio-economic strata of society.
7b. Non-recidivists as compared to normal subjects came from significantly lower socio-economic strata of society.
7c. Recidivists as compared to non-recidivists came from significantly lower socio-economic strata of society.

8a. The home atmosphere of recidivists, as compared to normal subjects, was significantly negative.
8b. The home atmosphere of non-recidivists, as compared to normal subjects, was significantly negative.

8c. The home atmosphere of recidivists, as compared to non-recidivists, was significantly negative.

Significant Wilks’ Lambda obtained in Discriminant Function Analyses provided clear support to the hypotheses that the three groups of subjects, namely, recidivists, non-recidivists, and normals can be differentiated in terms of the psychosocial variables related to personality, locus of control, psychopathology, attitude towards law, socio-economic status, and parental attitudes/home atmosphere, included in the study.