The healthy and educationally progressive children are basic asset of a country. The future of every country is influenced by the quality of the children's health and education. Juvenile delinquency is a worldwide phenomenon, no society is free from this problem and even India is not exception to this. Moreover, India is facing the challenge of educating and rehabilitating the juvenile delinquents.

The percentage of juvenile delinquency is increasing drastically every year and which is posing a grave threat for the economy and growth of the country. Like any other country, India also has implemented developments in the Juvenile Justice System to curb the problem of juvenile delinquency, but it has resulted in lack of control on it. The rehabilitative measures undertaken by the courts and the correctional homes are not self-sufficient to check the problem.

In understanding the role of psychological factors in juvenile delinquency, the present research was undertaken to study the personality correlates of juvenile delinquency. The primary objective of the research was to analyze the personality traits of the juvenile delinquents in comparison with the normal children and to suggest techniques to develop resiliency against delinquency among the juvenile delinquents.

Therefore, the purpose of this research is to understand the personality traits - self-concept, emotional competence, frustration and aggression of the juvenile delinquents and to compare them with the normal children.

Initially, before conducting the original research, a pilot study was conducted on a sample of 50 subjects, including 25 juvenile delinquents and 25 school going normal children to ensure the feasibility of translated Kannada versions of tests for the original research. Based on the pilot study the test items were modified, made simple and suitable for the children.
For the purpose of original study initial sanctioning of permission was sought from Women and Child Welfare Department to visit State Observation Homes. The data were collected following purposive sampling technique from 150 juvenile delinquents from the Observation Homes located in Bangalore, Mysore, Shimoga and Dharwad. For the control group, 171 normal school children were selected using purposive sampling technique from schools and colleges – Karnataka Public School, Karnataka College, K.E. Board School and Basel Michel School located in Dharwad city. The data were collected from the children by the self-report method. The samples in both the groups were matched on the demographic variables like age, sex, caste, religion, paternal occupation status etc.

The obtained data were subjected to an adequate analyses required for verification of the hypotheses.

The findings of the present investigation revealed that the juvenile delinquents have significant variation in personality characteristics such as self-concept, emotional competence, frustration and aggression as compared to the normal children.

It has been found that the juvenile delinquents have lower level of self-concept on overall and also on different dimensions of the self-concept. The juvenile delinquents’ self-evaluation is impaired seriously compared to the normal children. But interestingly their self-concept has not been influenced by the demographic variables such as caste, religion, paternal occupation status and domicile. In spite of variations in these variables the juvenile delinquents have significantly lower self-concept. This supports the assumption that lower self-concept may be the main precursor for delinquency. In relation to their type and frequency of offense also the juvenile delinquents have lower level of self-concept. Even among the normal children also socio-demographic variables have no significant influence on self-concept.
The findings also revealed that the juvenile delinquents are emotionally incompetent. They lack in different emotional competencies and they are emotionally disturbed individuals as compared to the normal children. The socio-demographic variables have no significant influence on emotional competence of the juvenile delinquents, but it has significant influence for the normal children. In relation to the type and frequency of offense there is no significant difference in emotional competence among the juvenile delinquents and they have lower level of emotional competence irrespective of their type and frequency of offense.

Pertaining to the personality trait – frustration, the juvenile delinquents have a higher level of frustration. They have higher level of regression, fixation, resignation, aggression modes and overall frustration than the normal children. Their frustration is at the saturated level and they need psychological counseling and treatment. Interestingly, the demographic variables have no significant influence on frustration in the juvenile delinquents. But caste, religion and domicile has significant influence on frustration of the normal children. In relation to the type and frequency of offense there is no significant difference among the juvenile delinquents and they have higher level of frustration irrespective of their type and frequency of offense.

Further, the findings also revealed that the juvenile delinquents have a higher level of aggression than the normal children. Their proactive and reactive forms of aggression are higher. Their aggression is at the saturated level and they need psychological counseling and treatment. The findings also reveal that even the normal children have aggression at the average level. The socio-demographic variables – caste and paternal occupation status have no significant influence on aggression level of the juvenile delinquents and the normal children, the religion has a significant influence on aggression for the normal children, but not for the juvenile delinquents.
In relation to the type and frequency of offense there is no significant difference among the juvenile delinquents and they have higher level of aggression.

Thus, the following conclusions were drawn from the results obtained from the study:

1. The juvenile delinquents have lower level of self-concept on different dimensions and also on overall self-concept than the normal children.

2. The juvenile delinquents have lower emotional competence on different emotional competencies and also on overall emotional competence than the normal children.

3. The juvenile delinquents have higher level of frustration on its modes and also on total frustration than the normal children.

4. The juvenile delinquents have higher level of aggression than the normal children.

5. The socio-demographic variables – caste, religion, paternal occupation status and domicile have no significant influence on self-concept in the juvenile delinquents and also the normal children.

6. The socio-demographic variables – caste, religion, paternal occupation status and domicile have no significant influence on emotional competence of the juvenile delinquents and they have significant influence on emotional competencies of the normal children.

7. The socio-demographic variables – caste, religion, paternal occupation status and domicile have no significant influence on frustration of the juvenile delinquents, but caste, religion and domicile have significant influence on the frustration level of the normal children.

8. The socio-demographic variables – caste, paternal occupation status and domicile have no significant influence on aggression of the juvenile delinquents; also caste...
and paternal occupation status have no significant influence on aggression of the normal children; but, the religion has significant influence on aggression of both the groups and only domicile has significant influence on aggression of the normal children.

9. The type and frequency of offense are not significantly related to the levels of self-concept, emotional competence, frustration and aggression of the juvenile delinquents.

10. In the juvenile delinquents, self-concept has significant positive correlation with emotional competence. This suggests that the juvenile delinquents have lower level of self-concept and also lower level of emotional competence.

11. In the juvenile delinquents, self-concept has significant negative correlation with frustration and aggression. This suggests that the juvenile delinquents have lower level of self-concept and higher levels of frustration and aggression.

12. In the juvenile delinquents, emotional competence has significant negative correlation with frustration and aggression. This suggests that the juvenile delinquents have lower level of emotional competence and higher levels of frustration and aggression.

13. In the juvenile delinquents, frustration has significant positive correlation with aggression. This suggests that the juvenile delinquents have higher level of frustration and higher level of aggression.

14. In the normal children, self-concept has significant positive correlation with emotional competence. This suggests that the normal children have higher level of self-concept and higher level of emotional competence.
15. In the normal children, self-concept has significant negative correlation with frustration. This suggests that the normal children have higher level of self-concept and lower level of frustration.

16. In the normal children, the self-concept and aggression are not correlated each other and self-concept has no significant influence on aggression. They are independent of each other.

17. In the normal children, emotional competence has significant negative correlation with frustration and aggression. This suggests that the normal children have higher emotional competence and lower level of frustration and aggression.

18. In the normal children, frustration has significant positive correlation with aggression. This suggests that the juvenile delinquents have lower level of frustration and lower level of aggression.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended to implement psychological intervention for the juvenile delinquents in every correctional home to focus on their psychodynamic pattern of the personality.

2. In the psychological intervention of the juvenile delinquents much emphasise should be given primary to self-concept as it is very central in the personality and deviant acts of the juvenile delinquents.

3. Since most of the delinquent acts are related to emotionality, it is recommended to conduct intervention programme for effective emotional control and regulation skills among the juvenile delinquents.
4. Frustration is the root cause for aggression and for many of the juvenile delinquent activities and violation of the law. Therefore it is recommended to conduct skills training for frustration tolerance among the juvenile delinquents.

5. It is recommended to carry out sustained guidance for the parents of juvenile delinquents to reduce lack of control on their children, conflict at home and to maintain conducive environment for the delinquents for the further life achievements.

6. Post-rehabilitative placement of the juvenile delinquents in their earlier position as a student or a worker should be considered a dire necessity. Till a juvenile delinquent habituates for the education or work strong vigilance is required on the part of the parents to control the gang involvement. For this it is recommended to impart adequate counseling for the parents. In the absence of parents the court system, NGO or intimate others should take care of this.

7. Since many crimes by the juvenile delinquents are related to the fulfillment of their basic needs, it is recommended that after discharging the juvenile delinquents from the correctional homes they should be put in a State owned residential cum job training institute to earn a livelihood through a gainful employment. Otherwise they may revert to the earlier form of delinquent activities.

8. It is recommended to prepare proper modules for social skills training and implement them in the correctional homes for the juvenile delinquents.

9. It is recommended to give more emphasise for moral teaching in the school and college syllabi.

10. It is recommended to improve the standard of living of the juvenile delinquents in the correctional homes.