- Eliminating evil influences in society like gambling, drinking, robbery, pick-pocketing, prostitution, begging, production of sexual pictures, sex-appealing advertisements, slums, unemployment and poverty.
- Opening and strengthening reformative agencies like Juvenile Courts, Police services, Orphanages, Mental Hospitals, Guidance Clinics, Bal Niketan, Children's homes, District Jails etc. Police should be instituted to patrol areas infested with delinquents.

Role of the School and Teachers:

- The classroom and school environment should be made stimulating.
- The teacher's attitude must be sympathetic. He or she should appeciate the difficulties and help the delinquent to overcome those. He or she should develop wholesome human relationship.
- Guided group activities must be started, like group play, group games, scouting, social service, group therapy etc. This will strengthen their ego and super ago.
- Special classes must be started for the slow achievers.
- Crafts or skills have been found useful in engaging the less developed mind into proper action.
- The teachers should take the help of clinical services in understanding the specific problems.
- Punishments, corporal or otherwise, should be abolished as these only create reaction and revolt in the mind of the delinquents.
- Moral and religious teaching in the schools can go a long way in strengthening the supper ego of the children. Noble sentiments should be developed.



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JUVENILE DELINQUENCY-

- A minor below 18 years of age becoming the subject of official action is termed as a Juvenile Delinquent.
- The Indian Penal Code uses the term "Juvenile Offence" instead of 'Juvenile Delinquency'.
- Juvenile delinquency is a Social problem.
- It indicates mal-adjustment of children and their discordered activities in the country.
- It is a violative conduct of children which is prohibited by law.
- It is deviant and inappropriate conduct of children below 18 years.
- It implies behaviour patterns which are termed as violation of criminal code.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q.2. Write a few lines on juvenile delinquency.

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7.3.1 Characteristics of Juvenile Delinquency

Some general characteristics of Juvenile delinquency are given below:

- Delinquents are children who fall under the age group of 12/13 to 18 years.
- An outstanding trait of delinquents as a group is their educational-retardation and slight intellectual inferiority.

- Delinquents are generally inadequate where verbal symbols are concerned. Sometimes reading is difficult for them.
- Delinquents are generally restless and unstable by nature.
- They are generally unpopular with their teachers and other school officials.
- Delinquents are generally emotionally immature individuals. Very often they are sometimes, emotionally unstable individuals and they are abnormally sensitive to emotional tensions in their families or neighbourhood.
- Normally they are sociable by nature and can make contacts with others quite easily. Some delinquents even show distinct qualities of leadership.
- They usually show a capacity to develop a good relationship with their age-mates and are normally successful in forming and maintaining gangs.
- The delinquents never allow themselves to be threatened by the world rather they fight against it. As a result, they become aggressive, hostile, suspicious, jealous and quarrelsome.
- Generally the delinquents develop some negative personality traits, like- dependency, inability to obtain satisfaction from realistic gratification, frustration, lack of control over their drives etc.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q.3. Write 'True' or 'False'

(i) The age group of delinquents are 13 to 18 years.
(True/ False)

(ii) Delinquents are basically emotionally stable children.
(True/ False)

(iii) Delinquents are restless by nature.
(True/False)

(iv) Delinquents are accepted by Society.
(True/ False)

(b) _____

(ii) Environmental factor.

(a) _____

(b) _____

7.4 PREVENTIVE MEASURES

As we are familiar with the causes and factors of delinquency, let us now try to understand how the causes as well as the problems of delinquency can be minimised or prevented as early as possible, although it is a difficult task. A delinquent act is the outcome of a tendency of satisfying a thwarted or checked motive. So, the best way of preventing such acts is to satisfy the needs of the children in respect of their social, economic and hygienic conditions. Our attention should be directed to the betterment of their environments. Ethical training should be given from the very beginning. The parents, teachers and the society have to play an important role in this regard. Their roles may be as discussed below :-

Role of the Parent:

- Understanding their child's emotions, urges and mental traits
- Providing children with necessary requirements and facilities.
- Creating healthy environment-emotional, physical, and social.
- Developing proper discipline.
- Setting good examples.
- Contacting school from time to time.

Role of the Society:

- Strengthening cultural and religious institutions, Youth- serving agencies, educative agencies like libraries, recreative agencies like public tournaments, clubs etc.
- Helping the youth- serving organisations like Bharat Scouts and Guides, etc.

D) Existential Factors:

- Unemployment
- Illiteracy
- Poverty or economic insecurity
- Over-population
- Natural calamities
- Corruption and unnecessary political pressure.



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CAUSES OR FACTORS OF DELINQUENCY:

Delinquency is the result of a number of causes. Broadly speaking, these may be categorised under the following heads-

A) Heredity or Genetic factor

B) Environmental factor

C) Personal factor

D) Existential factor



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q.4. Who is a delinquent?

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Q.5. State two factors for each of the following category that lead to delinquency.

(i) Heredity or Genetic factor.

(a) _____

7.3.2 Factors or Causes of Juvenile Delinquency

It is necessary for us to understand the causative factors responsible for juvenile delinquency.There is no single cause or simple explanation for the development of delinquent behaviour. According to Ideal and Bronner, the causes of juvenile delinquency are- (1) Bad company, (2) adolescent instability and impulses. (3) early sex experiences, (4) mental conflicts, (5) school dissatisfaction and so on.

However, the causes of juvenile delinquency may be classified under the following four heads-

A) Heredity or Genetic Factors:

- Bad family stock
- Defective mentality of family members
- Specific inability:
  - Regarding physical traits
  - Regarding mental traits
  - Regarding emotional traits
- Unusual vitality, energy, restlessness and hyper activity etc.

B) Environmental Factors:

Under environmental factors, home, school, society and neighbourhood are included.

i) Home or Family:

- Broken home by death, separation, divorce, desertion or prison term etc.
- Negligence by the parents toward their children and their interests and activities.
- Partial attitude toward a particular child by the parents and rejection by other family members.
- Over- domination as well over- leniency by the parents toward the children.

– Lack of emotional security and high degree of tension at home.
– Lack of proper and uniform discipline and absence of any routine work.
– Poverty and over- crowding in home.
– Low socio-economic status of the family.
– Lack of love, affection and co-operation at home.
– Lack of recreation facilities as well as proper use of leisure at home.
– Absence of proper moral code of conduct at home etc.

ii) School:

– If the school is located in industrial areas, near cinema halls, undesirable markets etc. then children may be tempted to engage in delinquent acts.

– Lack of proper, uniform discipline as well as very strict discipline may lead to delinquency.

– Partial attitude and behaviour of the teacher toward some students may tend to develop delinquent attitudes in the mind of other students.

– The defective curriculum where theoretical and bookish knowledge is given importance. Even such faulty curriculum does not meet with the needs and interest of the children.

– Faulty examination system and unreliable evaluation tends to develop delinquent tendency.

– Teacher's unfriendly and hostile attitude restording to physical punishment may worsen the situation in school.

– Absence of proper attractive method of teaching and lack of self- activity and passive learning withdraws the child from school.

– Adolescence is the period when boys and girls are overwhelmed by new roles and development. Lack of proper

vocational and educational guidance and counselling wings may create delinquent situation.

– Adolescence is the stage of sexual maturity. But absense of proper sex education has developed a biased attitude toward it which in turn creates delinquent situation.

– There is absence of proper co-curricular activities and healthy recreational facility tends to develop delinquent tendency.

– Absence of provision of using leisure time and lack of proper leisure time education creates the delinquency problem.

– Degradation of moral values in society and neglecting moral and value education.

iii) Neighbourhood and Society:

– Uncongenial environment
– Quarrelsome neighbours
– Existence of many criminals and unexpectable role models in the neighbourhood.
– Exposure to minority conflicts.
– Class - caste conflict and favouritism to class or community.
– Tension in time of war, partition, and other natural calamities.
– Religious conflicts and political unrest, communal violence social injustice
– Apathy of the Government toward youth welfare and enforcement of the repressive black laws are responsible for causing delinquency

C) Personal Factors:

– Poor health.
– Feeling of inferiority, insecurity and rejection.
– Constant frustration and development of hostility.
– Emotional immaturity or instability**.**
– Identification with criminal models.
– Emotional satisfaction found in antisocial groups
– Strong impulses uninhibited by conscience
– Living in depression and tension.