



LP 02/14 Wk. 5 – Characteristics of Juvenile Offenders (READ Ch. 3)

DEV: 4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel. 5 For you have been my hope, Sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth. 6 From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb.

I will ever praise you. Psalm 71:4-6

- **EXAM 1 – Wk. 5 MON. (02/21) @ 11:00 am** – Ch.1-3; *Exam Study Guide posted tonight, will be in Lessons Section of E-360. Be on-time, use your phone (Zoom access) and a computer (E360 test questions).*
- **Careers in CJ Interview:** NYPD Chaplain Pastor Nelvern Samuel. THUR. March 3rd. @ 6:00 PM via Zoom
- **Nyack Scholars Symposium** THUR 4/07 – Participation will be given EXTRA CREDIT.

Lesson Goal: Ch. 3 Characteristics of Juvenile Offenders

DEF: Behavioral profiles – are descriptions of youth based on delinquent activities which are not necessarily recorded because *no arrest or judicial action took place*.

Why are behavioral profiles important? Behavioral profiles refer to records of youthful offenders that are formally processed within courts but were not processed as criminal offenses in the criminal justice system.

“Studies have established that the number of youthful offenders who *formally* enter the justice network is small in comparison with the total number of violations committed by juveniles” (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2009).

How is establishing that a crime has been committed by a juvenile delinquency complicated?

In juvenile delinquency, establishing youthful offending takes into consideration

- a. The *elements* of the crime (actus rea, mens rea, causal connection)
- b. The *factors* that influenced the crime (circumstances)

Elements of a Crime

An individual *commits a crime* if he or she acts in a way that fulfills *every element of an offense*.

The statute establishing the offense also establishes the elements of the offense. In general, every crime involves three elements: **first**, the act or conduct (“*actus reus*”); **second**, the individual’s mental state at the time of the act (“*mens rea*”); and **third**, the *causation* between the act and the effect (typically either “*proximate causation*” or “*but-for causation*”). **In a criminal prosecution**, the government has the *burden of proof* to establish every element of a crime beyond a *reasonable doubt*. (Legal Information Institute, 2021)

Reference

Legal Information Institute (2021). *Elements of a crime*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Law School. Retrieved from https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/criminal_law

What are factors? Factors are factual forces or circumstances that are **correlated** to an outcome(**not direct cause**).

Example of an APA format webpage reference

VIDEO: Adult Crime, Adult Time: The Jacob Ind Story - 4:00 min.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTzETHnv-vk>

How do the **risk factors** in the Jacob Ind story/his life influence your thinking about his *sentence*?

Do you see the tension in the analysis of behavior between the *impact of nature vs. nurture*?

DEF: Socialization Process: The collection of social influences found in family, friends, institutions and the media which shape the values and behavior of individuals and groups.

Social science concept: **Multiplying** factors that *together* affect negative outcomes is called **comorbidity**.

DEF: Comorbidity: is the presence of multiple diseases or disorders in a particular individual.

Examples: alcoholism/ drug addiction, alcoholism/depression, abuse/bipolar disorder

1. The idea of *comorbidity* raises the awareness that both factors are present and *together have a multiplying* effect and contribute to negative behavior, health and a SES diminished quality of life.
2. *Comorbidity does not mean one factor causes the other*; Alcoholism ➡ violent behavior = abuse

Risk Categories to juvenile delinquency (where to look)

1. Individual,
2. Family,
3. School,
4. Peers,
5. Community, (JJ, p. 41ff).

Factors found among the risk categories (p. 41ff).

Individual (youth) factors

Teen parenthood
Gun possession
Early onset of aggression/ violence
Poor refusal skills
Life Stressors
Early sexual involvement
Mental disorder/health problem

Family (parent) factors

Parental behavior/criminality
Poor parental supervision
Child victimization and maltreatment
Young motherhood
Family violence
Low parent education level
Maternal depression

VIDEO: Jake Evans Confession, Kills Mother and Sister – 2:58 min.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTzEThnv-vk>

“The Prevent Delinquency Project” – Organization to counter juvenile delinquency (JJ, p. 44).

<http://www.preventdelinquency.org> – View tabs: About us, Child Threat, links to other organizations.

What is the *target group*/ group expected to be impacted by this information?

VIDEO: 1993 Murder of James Bulger (2yo) in the UK – 30:59 min.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftlAXAqHCPI>

1. What factors can you identify are related to the Bulger murder, and the behaviors of the offending youth?
2. Should these factors impact the judge’s dispensations for the offenders?

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Data on School Violence

VIDEO: CDC explaining youth violence – 2:03 min.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kjj27IFU3DA>

CDC Webpage for youth violence data:

<https://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/youthviolence/index.html>

Example below of a *block quote* (40 or more words are totally *indented* and in-text citation follows quote)

Sexual minority teens are more likely to experience multiple forms of violence compared to their heterosexual peers. Youth violence disproportionately impacts Black or African American youth and young adults. Black or African American youth and young adults are at higher risk for the most physically harmful forms of violence (e.g., homicides, fights with injuries, aggravated assaults) compared with White youth and young adults. (Centers for Disease Control, 2021)

Reference

Centers for Disease Control (2021). *Preventing youth violence*. Washington, DC: Centers for Disease Control. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/fastfact.html>

GQ: Explore a category of youth violence in the left tab search column
What *patterns* to the data on violence does your group identify?

APA format for reference.
Example of website quote