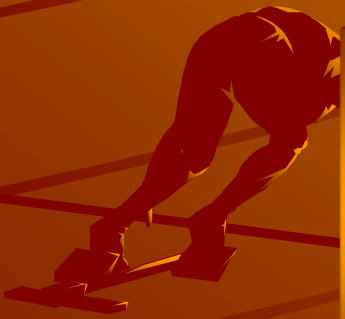


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Juvenile Delinquency

The term delinquency is derived from the word delinquere means anti social behaviour

Juvenile means small children

Juvenile delinquency means anti social behaviour by small children



Meaning and Definition

- ◆ It is a type of anti social behaviour by a juvenile who is below an age specified by statute
- ◆ It includes such offences as truancy, incorrigibility, running away from house, as well as some other trivial offences such as obscene language, visiting gambling places and smoking
- ◆ According to Juvenile Justice Act, 1986, juvenile delinquent is a person below the age of 18 who indulges in anti social activity
- ◆ Cyril Burt defines delinquency as occurring in a child when his anti social tendencies appear so grave that he becomes or ought to become the subject of official action

Acts of delinquency

- 1 Absenting oneself from the house with out parental permission
- 2 Habitual truancy , incorrigible beyond control of parents
- 3 Use of vulgar /abusive language



Nature and Incidence

- ◆ Of the total delinquencies committed only two percent comes to the notice of the police and the courts
- ◆ The highest number of delinquencies committed by the juveniles under IPC are against property that is theft ,burglary, robbery and
- ◆ The incidence of juvenile delinquency varies widely in different states . Four states like Maharashtra (22.9%) Madhya Pradesh(23.7%),Bihar (10.6%) and Gujarat (11.9%)

CHARACTERISTICS

- ◆ Delinquency rates are much higher among boys than among girls.
- ◆ Delinquency rates highest during early adolescence (12-16 years of age).
- ◆ Juvenile delinquency is more in urban area than in rural phenomena.
- ◆ Low educational background is prime attribute for delinquency.
- ◆ Poor economic background.
- ◆ More Juvenile delinquency are first offender

Types

◆ Howard Becker referred to four types of delinquencies



1 Individual delinquency

2 Group supported delinquency

3 Organized delinquency

4 Situational delinquency

Individual delinquency


- ◆ This refers to delinquency in which only one individual is involved in committing delinquent act. In the opinion of psychiatrists that delinquency is caused by the psychological problems and pathological family interaction patterns.

Group supported delinquency

In this type delinquencies are committed in companionship and cause is located not in the personality of individual or in the delinquent's family but in the culture of individual's home and neighborhood. The main findings was their association and companionship with others already delinquent.

Organized delinquency

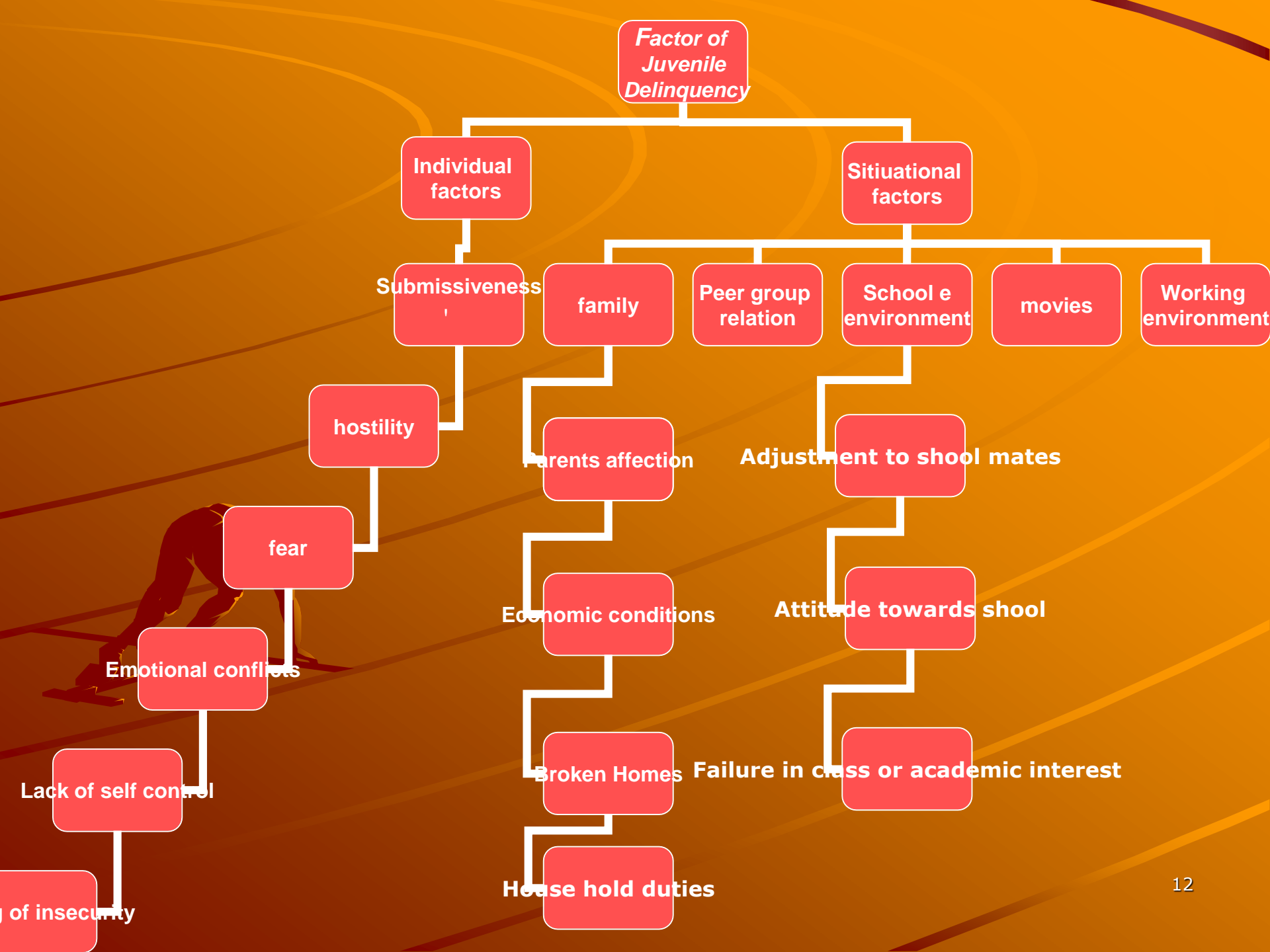
This refers to delinquencies that are committed by developing formally organized groups. It refers to the set of values and norms that guide the behaviour of group members ,encourage the commission of delinquencies .



Situational delinquency

It refers to delinquencies are caused because of less developed impulses control and\or because of lesser reinforcement of family restraints and because he has relatively less to lose even if caught .





REMEDIAL MEASURES

Two methods have been suggested to deal with the problems. They are

1) Preventive method

2) Rehabilitative method



PREVENTIVE MEASSURES

- 1) A team work of private and public agencies like YMCA , YWCA
- 2) Training of members and staff of all organizations concerned with delinquency control
- 3) Establishment of child guidance clinics and mental hygiene clinics.
- 4) Establishment of recreational agencies like sports ,play ground etc
- 5) Psychotherapy, reality therapy ,behaviour therapy activity therapy are some of the methods of treating delinquents .

Rehabilitation Measures

Two measures

1)Legislatives measures

2)Institustional measures



Legislative measures

Some of the important legislative measures are

- a) Apprentice act ,1850- this act is intended for the benefit of children especially orphans and poor children brought up by the public charity to train them for trades, crafts and employment by which they may gain a livelihood . The act also deal with the children who commit petty offences
- b) Reformatory school act - this act empowers to count to send youthful offenders sentenced to transportation or imprisonment for detention in a reformatory school for a period not less then 3 years and not more then 7 years
- c) Provision of Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) – under section 399 of CPC convicted young offenders below the age of 15 could be sent to reformatory schools. Section 562 of CPC also permitted discharge of certain convicted offenders on probation. Under section 82 of IPC children under 7 can not be held responsible for their criminal acts.
- d) Juvenile smoking act – it prohibits the sale of tobacco to children below the age of 16 and their smoking in public places
- e) Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act – provides protection to young girls and prohibit certain practices connected with prostitution
- f) Probation of Offenders Act-
- g) Brostal Schools Act for Adolescents .

Institutional measures

- 1) Juvenile courts - the first juvenile court was established in Calcutta in 1922, followed by Bombay in 1927 and Madras in 1930.
- 2) Remand Homes or Observation Homes – the homes are meant for children during the case are being investigated . The main characteristics of good remand homes are suggestion ,education , training ,recreation facilities ,health care and effective supervision .
- 3) Certified Schools – juveniles are kept in the school for a minimum period of 3 years and maximum period of 7 years. There are 2 types of schools
 - 1) junior certified schools for boys under 12
 - 2)senior certified schools for boys under 16.
- 4) Auxiliary Homes -are attached to certified schools. Juveniles are studied by social worker and sent to certified schools depending upon the behaviour and attitude of offender .
- 5) Foster Homes-
- 6)Reformatory School –In states where there are no Children act sent to reformatory schools. They are meant for education and vocational training of delinquent children.
- 7) Borstal School/ Institutions- are system of segregation of adolescent offenders These are correctional institution for the adolescent offenders. There are two types of Borstal Institutions
 1. Open Borstal Institutions
 - 2..Close Borstal Institutions
- 8) Uncared Children Institutions – The children who are mostly destitutes,neglected are cared for in various orphanages and children's institutions. Such children's are supervised by

conclusion

It may be concluded that the development of a sound public policy regarding all aspects of delinquency prevention and control requires both planning and evaluations. This requires coordination between the government agencies, universities, police, judiciary and social worker.