

A JOURNEY OF AN ADOLESCENCE IN 3DS (DECENCY TO DEVIANCY TO DELINQUENCY/ CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH LAW)

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Abstract- *Adolescence, is considered as a transitional phase of growth and development between childhood and Adulthood. The World Health Organisation (WHO) defined an adolescent as any person between ages 10 and 19. This is the age where number of Physical, Emotional, Intellectual and Psychological changes take place. It is a sensitive and crime prone age, where everything in and around the adolescence is changing so rapidly, from their Psychological changes to Physical to Emotional changes, where brain development still taking place, the risks taken and mistakes made by young offenders may be more outside of their control than we think, said Steinberg. G. Stanley Hall, the first president of the American Psychological Association, described this stage as “Storm and Stress” refers to the period of adolescence in which teenagers are in conflict with their parents, are moody and engage in risky behavior.*

Keywords: *Adolescence, 3DS, Child, Law*

I INTRODUCTION

This paper elaborates the phases through which an adolescent cross the 3 stages towards delinquency. From normalcy to deviancy to “child in conflict with law”. Child learns deviant behavior/ antisocial behavior in his/her early stage and gradually moves on towards “child in conflict with law” (delinquency).

The essential cause which contributes to the personality characteristic of these children is parental rearing and transfer of moral values. Changes are perceived when the adolescence refuses to listen, drop outs from schools and associate/ affiliate with peer groups who nurture wrong habits such as drug taking etc. Sometimes wrong habits inculcate in adolescence from the ideal they follow, ideal who take drugs and indulge in sexual behaviour. Adolescence out of curiosity follow those ideals and develop deviancy. Adolescence also develop a high sense of Jealousy and Insecurity at this particular period, where broken romantic relationship, broken trust can take a fatal turn in the life of an adolescence. Further they develop revengefulness; high aggression, they focus more on

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immediate gratification which also lead adolescence towards Deviancy. Therefore, intervention is required to combat developing deviant behaviour and commit crime to become children in conflict with law.

This Paper will focus on Deviant Behavior and its consequences, which move the child in conflict with law and thus we will also focus on the intervention plan that combat the crime at an early age and thus we are able to save hard earned tax payers money.

The term “Deviancy” refers to abnormal behavior which is against the societal norms but it is not always illegal. For Example: playing loud at night could be a deviant behaviour but not illegal, whereas “ Delinquency” refers to criminal offence committed by children and teenagers such as Murder, Rape, Vandalism, selling drugs is delinquency that move the child in “conflict with law” for which child could be sent to Juvenile home/observational home for Re-integration and Rehabilitation back into the society, and if the child did the heinous crime and they have sufficient knowledge about the act and its consequences For Example: before acting a crime, child searched on Google the method of crime, tempering of tools, and how to remove the clues from the crime scene.

Dr. Shubhra Sanyal, First Criminal Psychologist from India developed a scale, called **Criminal Propensity Questionnaire** or Anti-social Behavior Scale, she superannuated as a Senior Reader, NICFS (MHA), in 2006, and now a visiting faculty in Amity University. She has developed this scale to diagnose criminological tendency in adolescent and identify the vulnerable group/ risky group that can turn into an offender in Adulthood and do a heinous crime. This scale/ Questionnaire is based on **Eysenck’s Personality Questionnaire** on the assumption that criminals score significantly high on Psychoticism and Neuroticism scale and high on the Lie score. Eysenck’s theory also suggests that the criminal tendencies/anti- social behavior manifest in child and are detectable in adolescence age where loads of bodily, brain and personality changes are taking place. Early Intervention in high-risk individual is necessary so that they do not come under the category of “child in conflict with law”. Therefore, we can save the adolescent coming high on Criminal Propensity Scale from going into the criminal world by introducing Primary Intervention. Intervention such as Parental Counselling, parents need to understand that they are their children role model, if they exhibit violence or maladaptive behavior at home, child will follow the same in outside world. Therefore, parents need to be counselled. School/Teachers need to be counselled because sometimes school fail to identify child needs, they also fail to understand the reason behind child maladaptive behavior, school also need to understand every child have its own speed of learning, they should pay attention to each and every aspect of child behavior with caution because it is basically leading a child into a positive world as a healthy human being with all the coping strategies or may be it is leading child into a criminal world. Therefore, Early intervention not only save the society as a whole but the tax payers money, it will also help the economy of our country, and those who are already in Juvenile jail, this scale would help them in their Rehabilitation Programme.

The necessity of developing Criminal Propensity Scale in Indian setting is felt to assess the criminal propensity in normal population and identify the vulnerable group which can later be counselled. In the case of criminals, this scale can tell about the state of mind of the prisoner to be released from prison and his criminal propensity which can hinder his rehabilitation.

Paradigm of Criminal Propensity Scale (based on Eysenck personality Questionnaire) which states that if there is HIGH Psychoticism and HIGH Extroversion in an adolescent it indicates I AM OK and YOU ARE NOT OK, when these two dimensions score high on the scale there is an indication of criminal tendency seen as in terrorist, habitual criminals, protestors and also in Rapist, who openly commit the crime and repeated as a habitual offender without any regret. Secondly, when there is HIGH Neuroticism and High Introversion this is 2nd type of group who plans his crime in a cool minded and pre planned manner and their lifestyle is I AM NOT OK and YOU ARE NOT OK. The third dimension is when there is HIGH Psychoticism and HIGH Introversion, this dimension indicates that adolescent who are high on Psychoticism and equally high on Introversion, his belief is that HE IS OK, others are not accepting him, and he attempts to self-injury taking drugs and even committing suicide.

Now-a-days, everyone is hearing news which jolted us as a human being. For example, news of Theft, Murder, Rape, Robbery, a heinous crime done by Adolescent at a very young age.

II NEWS

NEWS -1: Nirbhaya Delhi Gang Rape case, on December 16th, 2012 a well-known case where the involvement of accused who was just 6-months short to attain the age of 18 years, the involvement of adolescent in such a heinous crime of rape forced the Indian legislation to introduce a new law which is known as “Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection), 2015 which states that child between the age of 7-12 years can be convicted, provided that they have sufficient knowledge about the act they are doing and its consequences.

NEWS-2: (Exceptional, not an adolescence), 8-year-old boy from Delhi Chattarpur, April 30th 2019 got up in the middle of the night, silently picked up his neighbour's 18th month old baby sleeping next to the mother on a common terrace and tilted the child into a cemented tank filled with water. The baby didn't cry. Boy then walked out of their big metal gate and stuffed the toddlers now-still body into a small drain opening in front of an abandoned building two houses away.

When the 8-year old boy drowns and dumps the body of an 18-month old baby in a drain and he feels absolutely right to do it. Then, we as a society needs to stop and think over it. In Juvenile home across the city, children walk in for various crime out. Child this young walk in for Murder is extremely rare. Why did this child feel it was normal to harm a baby so gravely?

NEWS-3: Pradyuman Murder Case, Ryan International Public School, Gurgaon, India, 2017 Juvenile from class XI arrested on the charge of killing 7-year old boy with the motive to postpone a schedule parent-teacher meeting and got the ongoing exams cancelled.

III LITERATURE REVIEW

As stated in the original study from **Kazdin and Kendall, 1998**, understanding the early emergence of problem behavior may help in the creation of earlier, effective interventions for prevention of child delinquency (**Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003**). So now it is important to point out the risk factor that is leading the child into delinquency for better understanding of their persistent problems in their adolescence.

Again, (Lober, Farrington, Petechuk, 2003) supported Social Control theory which states social bonds plays an important role in an early childhood and can prevent a child from committing criminal acts. It has been observed that child who have a strong social bond with family or have a positive family environment, or have a strong bond with social institutions such as religious places or if a child is closer to the mother, it has been observed that such child have a fewer chances to be at risk for delinquency.

Those family who exhibit anti-social behavior, show more violence or have more trust issues on their child, having substance abuse history, criminal parents, prevalence of physical abuse in the family, large family size , pressure from “peer” are all risk factors that lead adolescence into deviancy and later into delinquency (Child in conflict with law).

Marte (2008) concurs with other researchers that early childhood deviancy has the likelihood of persisting throughout adolescence and adulthood. He urges that the aetiology of antisocial behavior or delinquent behavior is crucial to understanding problematic behavior so that appropriate interventions can be developed.

Eysenck theory suggests that tendencies that manifest themselves as criminal behavior are detectable in childhood and it is possible to modify/change those maladaptive tendencies into adaptive ones so that they do not further develop into offenders. This could lead to the early intervention based on parenting or early treatment for delinquency and it could further lead in reducing criminal behaviour.

IV CONCLUSION

This paper will focus on the signs and symptoms that will help teachers, parents, counsellors, siblings, friends and family to notice the change in behavior in adolescent that is worry some and referring a counsellor, psychologist and intervention will help. Importantly, such adolescent look normal like any other children but sometimes the situations, some trauma or violence in the family lead them towards deviancy.

In the above-mentioned cases, If Criminal Propensity scale could have been used earlier or early intervention, could have saved the Innocent child from killing and could also help the vulnerable/ risky group by applying preventive measures.

In above mentioned cases, if school, parents are able to intervene before the crime happened, it could have saved the child from getting into the crime and the innocent boy who have killed. Intervention on the basis of observing child behavior, his sudden change of behavior, his poor academic achievement, his low interest in class activities, fewer friends, isolation are the things teachers, parents should pay attention to and dig into the underlying problem which is hampering the child growth and development. If a child is having any kind of anti- social behavior or maladaptive behavior should be counselled at the right time, before it's too late, it can manifest criminal tendencies in a child and turned him/her into a “child in conflict with law”.

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