Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was established by the President and Congress through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, Public Law 93–415, as amended. Located within the Office of Justice Programs of the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP’s goal is to provide national leadership in addressing the issues of juvenile delinquency and improving juvenile justice.

OJJDP sponsors a broad array of research, program, and training initiatives to improve the juvenile justice system as a whole, as well as to benefit individual youth-servicing agencies. These initiatives are carried out by seven components within OJJDP, described below.

**Research and Program Development Division** develops knowledge on national trends in juvenile delinquency; supports a program for data collection and information sharing that incorporates elements of statistical and systems development; identifies how delinquency develops and the best methods for its prevention, intervention, and treatment; and analyzes practices and trends in the juvenile justice system.

**Training and Technical Assistance Division** provides juvenile justice training and technical assistance to Federal, State, and local governments; law enforcement, judiciary, and corrections personnel; and private agencies, educational institutions, and community organizations.

**Special Emphasis Division** provides discretionary funds to public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals to replicate tested approaches to delinquency prevention, treatment, and control in such pertinent areas as chronic juvenile offenders, community-based sanctions, and the disproportionate representation of minorities in the juvenile justice system.

**State Relations and Assistance Division** supports collaborative efforts by States to carry out the mandates of the JJDP Act by providing formula grant funds to States; furnishing technical assistance to States, local governments, and private agencies; and monitoring State compliance with the JJDP Act.

**Information Dissemination Unit** informs individuals and organizations of OJJDP initiatives; disseminates information on juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and missing children; and coordinates program planning efforts within OJJDP. The unit’s activities include publishing research and statistical reports, bulletins, and other documents, as well as overseeing the operations of the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse.

**Concentration of Federal Efforts Program** promotes interagency cooperation and coordination among Federal agencies with responsibilities in the area of juvenile justice. The program primarily carries out this responsibility through the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, an independent body within the executive branch that was established by Congress through the JJDP Act.

**Missing and Exploited Children’s Program** seeks to promote effective policies and procedures for addressing the problem of missing and exploited children. Established by the Missing Children’s Assistance Act of 1984, the program provides funds for a variety of activities to support and coordinate a network of resources such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; training and technical assistance to a network of 47 State clearinghouses, nonprofit organizations, law enforcement personnel, and attorneys; and research and demonstration programs.

The mission of OJJDP is to provide national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent juvenile victimization and respond appropriately to juvenile delinquency. This is accomplished through developing and implementing prevention programs and a juvenile justice system that protects the public safety, holds juvenile offenders accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services based on the needs of each individual juvenile.
OJJDP Research: Making a Difference for Juveniles

Report

Shay Bilchik, Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

August 1999
The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office for Victims of Crime.
As a society that strives to raise productive, healthy, and safe children, how can we be certain that our responses to juvenile crime are effective? Do we know if our efforts at delinquency prevention and intervention are making real differences in the lives of youth and their families and in their communities? How can we strengthen and better target our delinquency and crime prevention strategies? Can we modify these strategies as needed to respond to the ever-changing needs of our Nation’s youth?

These primary questions drive our work at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). They also explain why we place such great value on research, evaluation, and statistics. To know where our Nation’s juveniles are headed, we need to be fully informed about where they are and where they have been. Most important, we need to know if our current efforts are working to keep youth from becoming involved in negative behavior. To achieve this goal, OJJDP’s Research and Program Development Division (Research Division) oversees a wide-ranging program of new research, comprehensive evaluations, and exacting statistical collection and analysis focusing on juvenile crime, delinquency, and victimization. Much of the information learned from these studies is summarized in Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report, which distills the most requested information about juvenile crime and victimization into a user-friendly format. This Report and its 1997 update are available by calling 800–638–8736. The 1999 National Report will be available in fall 1999.

Juvenile criminal and delinquent behaviors do not emerge randomly. We have learned over the past few decades that a number of factors—individual, family, peer, and community—affect whether a child will engage in delinquent or criminal activity. Research has clearly shown that the more risk factors experienced by youth, the greater their likelihood of involvement in criminal activity. Conversely, protective factors (such as developing close relationships with parents and teachers) can offset the negative effects of risk factors.

OJJDP Research: Making a Difference for Juveniles summarizes key initiatives undertaken by OJJDP’s Research Division in research, evaluation, and statistics from 1996 through 1998 and presents the major findings of these initiatives. Readers may have encountered some of this information previously—for example, the research on serious and violent juvenile offenders received widespread attention from policymakers and practitioners. However, this publication goes beyond simply reporting the facts. It puts the findings into context, highlighting their significance to policymakers, juvenile justice systems, schools, families, and juveniles themselves. The Report includes:

- A review of Critical Findings, summarizing some of the most far-reaching and rigorous research ever conducted on the root causes of juvenile delinquency and negative behavior, including several longitudinal and multisite studies.

- Highlights of some of OJJDP’s most innovative research efforts, including projects that focus on communitywide strategies and examine juveniles in confinement.

- Emerging Research in areas of special concern, including research on very young offenders, school violence, and girls in the juvenile justice system.
The work of the Research Division represents only part of the continuum of activity that occurs at OJJDP. Using what has been learned through our research, evaluation, and statistical efforts, other OJJDP divisions are implementing model demonstration programs, replicating successful programs, providing comprehensive and targeted training and technical assistance to States and local communities, and informing the public about the extent and nature of juvenile crime and what works to prevent and stop it.

Unfortunately, negative youth behavior gets so much attention that we often fail to recognize that the vast majority of juveniles, rather than headed down a path of crime and delinquency, are deeply and positively involved in their families, schools, and communities. They are focused on building the foundation of peaceful and productive lives.

Perhaps OJJDP's greatest challenge is providing all youth with an opportunity to build such lives. I believe that knowledge is our strongest tool in meeting that challenge. I thank the many researchers, evaluators, and statisticians involved in increasing our understanding of what will make a positive difference in the lives of juveniles, their families, and their communities.

Shay Bilchik
Administrator
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Introduction

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), through its Research and Program Development Division (hereinafter the Research Division), translates research into action. The Research Division also strives to promote science-based research, rigorous and informative evaluations of demonstration programs, and meaningful statistics. The Research Division’s overall mission is to generate credible and useful information for improved decisionmaking to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and victimization.

This Report summarizes the Research Division’s achievements in three areas:

- **Research.** The Research Division sponsors empirical studies on an array of topics related to juveniles and delinquency, from the roots of violence to the impact of victimization. Studies range from exploratory and descriptive to rigorously analytical.

- **Evaluation.** One of the Research Division’s important functions is to identify what works. Evaluations measure the impact of programs that are geared to preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency and victimization. Many OJJDP-sponsored projects are community-based initiatives with multiple components that present special challenges when measuring the impact of interventions and specific programs.

- **Statistics.** The Research Division sponsors the Nation’s primary efforts in gathering data and statistics on juveniles and crime, including studies on juvenile detention and corrections populations, probation caseloads, and court activities.

To identify solutions to juvenile crime and delinquency, it is necessary to rely on what has been learned. The Research Division collaborates with a number of other Federal agencies to carry out research and evaluation efforts from which the findings will be useful to an interdisciplinary audience. The work produced through OJJDP research, evaluation, and statistics programs is used by:

- Researchers in the field.
- Practitioners on the front lines.
- Policymakers at the Federal, State, and local levels.

In addition, the Research Division works with other OJJDP divisions to use research in enhancing training efforts; improving program activities; informing

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**Collaboration With Other Federal Agencies**

OJJDP collaborates with other Federal agencies to cofund and oversee research related to juveniles. This enables the Office to use its funds most effectively and to ensure that efforts are not duplicative across agencies. OJJDP is in high demand as a partner with other agencies; many of these partnerships involve research and evaluation efforts. The Research Division is currently working on interagency efforts with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Departments of Education, Commerce (Bureau of the Census), Labor, and Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families, National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and National Institute on Drug Abuse). Partners within the U.S. Department of Justice include the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Office for Victims of Crime, the Violence Against Women Office, the Executive Office for Weed and Seed, and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.
Developing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders

OJJDP has distilled what it has learned from research, statistics, and program evaluations, incorporating the principles and practices into the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, which identifies strategic responses for addressing juvenile crime at the community, city, State, and national levels.

The Comprehensive Strategy reflects the continuum of activity in OJJDP’s research, demonstration, technical assistance, evaluation, and dissemination efforts. Through initial surveys and research on risk-focused prevention, OJJDP’s Research Division works with the Special Emphasis Division to develop community-based demonstration programs that incorporate the major elements of an effective delinquency prevention and control program:

- Supporting the family as children’s first and primary teacher.
- Enhancing the role of core institutions (e.g., schools, businesses, religious institutions) in developing capable, mature, and responsible youth.
- Recognizing that delinquency prevention is the most cost-effective approach in combating youth crime.
- Intervening immediately and effectively when delinquent behavior first occurs.
- Establishing a system of graduated sanctions that responds to the needs of each juvenile offender while providing for community safety.
- Targeting the small segment of serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders who commit a disproportionately high percentage of violent juvenile crime; placing them in secure facilities if necessary; and providing intensive aftercare services.

The Research Division is evaluating the Comprehensive Strategy in several local communities, taking what is being learned to improve programs. Together with OJJDP’s Training and Technical Assistance Division, the Research Division is structuring effective training and technical supports for communities implementing the Comprehensive Strategy. The Research Division also works with the Information Dissemination Unit to inform the field and local communities about the principles underlying the Comprehensive Strategy, implementation strategies, and resources available for assistance.

The prevention component of the Comprehensive Strategy calls for coordinated efforts among the juvenile justice system and other service systems to establish a system of support that encourages positive youth development and provides alternatives to delinquent behavior. OJJDP’s Title V Program, Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs, embodies the key elements of what research has shown to be effective in prevention and provides critical resources to communities to implement a broad range of programs established in a local delinquency prevention plan.


the public; and crafting effective interventions and formulating policies that have a positive impact on individuals, families, and communities. One of the most successful examples of this continuum of activity has been OJJDP’s Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders.1


Programs that promote protective factors and help reduce the risk factors that lead to juvenile crime are some of the best investments a community can make to lower its rate of delinquency. Evaluation and testing must be used to identify the strategies that work to keep juveniles from being arrested and entering the juvenile justice system in the first place. At the same time, it is important to identify effective treatment and aftercare programs that will help reduce the likelihood of recidivism.
An area in which OJJDP’s research has made significant contributions is identifying risk and protective factors, that is, what puts a juvenile at risk for juvenile delinquency and what protects juveniles from becoming delinquent.

Decades of research have shown that the best prevention efforts are those that target risk and protective factors in five areas: individual, community, family, peer group, and school.

- **Risk factors** increase the chances that a juvenile will engage in behavior that can lead to delinquency. Risk factors include availability of drugs or firearms in the community, family conflict, a lack of commitment to school, and friends who engage in problem behavior.

- **Protective factors** either reduce the risks or change how a juvenile responds to these risks by enhancing positive behavior, health, and well-being. Protective factors include positive individual characteristics (e.g., having a resilient temperament); close relationships with family, teachers, and other supportive adults and peers; and beliefs and standards that promote school success and rejection of drugs and crime.

The Research Division is committed to disseminating research findings to inform the field and maximize program success. OJJDP strategically sponsors research that offers the greatest opportunities for understanding about preventing and intervening in juvenile delinquency and victimization and developing effective programs.

Space constraints make it impossible to cover fully the substantial number and scope of projects undertaken by the Research Division. Instead, this Report provides an overview of its efforts from 1996 to 1998, highlighting some of the most critical findings and emerging areas in which work has recently begun.
Critical Findings

OJJDP-sponsored research provides solid findings in a number of critical areas that affect how the Nation understands and responds to the problem of juvenile delinquency.

Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders

Serious and violent juvenile (SVJ) offenders constitute a small, yet dangerous, population in the United States. Although their numbers tend to be small, these juveniles account for a disproportionate amount of crime in the Nation’s communities. Recognizing the need to build a solid research foundation to develop effective policies and responses to this population, OJJDP assembled a study group of 22 distinguished researchers in 1995. The Study Group on Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders collaboratively examined the current research on risk and protective factors, the development of SVJ offending careers, and effective prevention and intervention programs for these offenders.2

What Have We Learned?
The Study Group found that most SVJ offenders are male and usually display early minor behavior problems that lead to more serious delinquent acts. The majority of SVJ offenders tend to have multiple problems such as substance abuse and mental health difficulties in addition to truancy, suspension, expulsion, and dropping out of school. Further, SVJ offenders are disproportionately victims of violence.

Definition of Serious and Violent Offenses

Serious violent offenses include homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, and kidnapping.

Serious nonviolent offenses include burglary, motor vehicle theft, theft of more than $100, arson, drug trafficking, and extortion.

◆ Actual delinquency careers of SVJ offenders are quite different from what is officially recorded. Although the average age of serious male offenders at their first contact with the juvenile justice system was 14.5 years, researchers found that the actual delinquency careers of these offenders (based on their own statements and those of their mothers) started much earlier. Those who ended up in court for serious offenses at age 14.5 typically began to have minor problems at age 7, progressed to moderately serious behavior problems at age 9.5, and committed serious delinquency offenses at age 11.9. On average, more than 7 years elapsed between the earliest minor problem behaviors and the first court appearance for an offense.

◆ Many SVJ offenders are never arrested, and the majority of violent juveniles have only one officially recorded violent crime as a juvenile. Juvenile courts do not routinely deal with offenders below the age of 12 because they are not detected or not referred to court. The potential SVJ offender is often not identified as such at his or her first appearance in court, in part because the first arrest is typically for a less serious offense.

◆ There are effective treatments for many delinquent juveniles, both in the community and in institutional settings. The Study Group looked at the circumstances and effectiveness of treatment.

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2. The full findings of the Study Group’s research can be found in Loeber and Farrington’s 1998 publication, Serious & Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors and Successful Interventions; the Study Group Report on which this publication is based is available from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (Loeber and Farrington, 1997). See the selective bibliography on page 7 for more information on both publications.
for two groups of serious juvenile offenders: those in noncustodial programs in the community (e.g., parole, probation) and those placed in custodial programs. The most successful programs for juveniles in the community were those that focused on enhancing interpersonal skills, provided individual counseling, and encouraged a commitment to changing behavior. Interpersonal skills training was also a focal point of the most effective programs in institutional settings. Other effective institutional models were small, family-style group homes administered by “teaching parents” who developed positive relationships with the juveniles, monitored their progress in school, and provided individual counseling and support as needed.

What Does This Mean?

◆ **Focusing on early intervention with children who may be at risk for delinquent behavior is crucial.** Researchers learned that opportunities for early intervention are often missed. By the time SVJ offenders come to the attention of the juvenile justice system, they may have spent several years committing minor offenses and developing serious behavior problems. This finding reinforces the importance of early intervention; it is never too early to intervene.

◆ **Comprehensive community intervention efforts are most effective.** Researchers also learned that the most effective early intervention efforts are those that address multiple problems and occur simultaneously in the home and at school. Community-based intervention, which uses a coordinated response from the juvenile justice and mental health systems, schools, and child welfare agencies, is needed to identify SVJ offenders and address the overall problem of violence in society.

◆ **Providing multiple services based on individual offender needs also promotes positive effects.** The researchers learned that there are

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effective treatments for SVJ offenders. When considering appropriate treatment and alternative sanctions, it is important to take into account the severity of the presenting offense, the risk of recidivism for serious offenses, and the individual needs of the juvenile offender. The most effective treatments (both custodial and noncustodial) incorporate interpersonal skills training and cognitive-behavioral programs.

Selective Bibliography on Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders


Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency

Since 1986, OJJDP has sponsored three longitudinal studies—collectively referred to as the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency—to improve understanding of serious delinquency, violence, and drug use by examining how individual juveniles develop within the context of family, school, peers, and community. Samples of inner-city youth were selected in three cities: Denver, CO; Pittsburgh, PA; and Rochester, NY. The studies involve repeated contacts with the same juveniles, including face-to-face private interviews every 6 to 12 months for a substantial portion of their developmental years. On average, 90 percent of the juveniles in the sample population have been retained in the studies.

The Causes and Correlates Studies

- A Longitudinal Multi-Disciplinary Study of Developmental Patterns (Denver Youth Survey), directed by Dr. David Huizinga at the University of Colorado.
- Progressions in Antisocial and Delinquent Child Behavior (Pittsburgh Youth Study), directed by Dr. Rolf Loeber at the University of Pittsburgh.
- A Panel Study of a Reciprocal Causal Model of Delinquency (Rochester Youth Development Study), directed by Dr. Terence P. Thornberry at The Research Foundation, University at Albany, State University of New York.
Researchers at all three sites use the same core measures to look at the following:

- Delinquent behavior.
- Drug use.
- Juvenile justice system involvement.
- Community characteristics.
- Family experiences.
- Peer relationships.
- Educational experiences.
- Attitudes and values.
- Demographic characteristics.

What Have We Learned?

Many findings of the Causes and Correlates studies reinforce earlier knowledge and beliefs about the roots of delinquency and violence. Knowledge is also being advanced in many important directions.

- **Childhood maltreatment is associated with later behavior problems.** A history of childhood maltreatment is associated with an increased risk of at least 25 percent for engaging in a host of adolescent problem behaviors. These include serious and violent delinquency, drug use, poor school performance, mental illness, and teenage pregnancy. In addition, a history of maltreatment nearly doubles the risk that teenagers will experience multiple problems during adolescence.

- **Less serious problem behaviors precede more serious delinquency.** The development of disruptive and delinquent behavior in boys generally progresses in an orderly fashion. Researchers identified three distinct developmental pathways: authority conflict (e.g., defiance and running away); covert actions (e.g., lying and stealing); and overt actions (e.g., aggressive and violent behavior). Individuals may proceed along single or multiple developmental pathways toward serious antisocial behavior.

- **Serious delinquents have many co-occurring problems.** Serious delinquents are likely to be involved in drug use, precocious sexual activity, school failure, juvenile gangs, unsupervised gun ownership, and related behaviors.

- **Very young children are involved in serious violent behavior.** Delinquency, drug use, and other problem behaviors begin at earlier ages than previously thought. A small, but substantial percentage of boys and girls is involved in serious violence even before becoming teenagers. At age 12, 19 percent of the boys and 15 percent of the girls in Denver reported involvement in these activities. In Pittsburgh, 7 percent of the 10-year-olds reported involvement in serious violent behavior.

- **Violence among girls has increased.** In general, a greater percentage of boys is involved in serious violence than girls. However, the rate of violence among girls appears to be growing. In Denver, researchers found that the prevalence of serious violence among girls ages 13 to 15 is more than half that of boys. In Rochester, more girls (18 percent) reported committing serious violence at age 13 than boys (16 percent).

What Does This Mean?

- **Early warning signs of disruptive behaviors must not be dismissed.** Rather than assuming that these behaviors will pass, teachers, parents, and mental health practitioners need to recognize that disruptive behavior should be taken seriously. Interventions will be more successful if the child has not already begun moving along pathways toward more serious delinquent activity.

- **Children who are victims of maltreatment must be identified early and receive treatment.** These studies reinforce what has already been known from previous studies—that children who are victims of abuse and/or neglect are more likely to have problems when they become older, including involvement in violent delinquency.

- **Parents, schools, mental health practitioners, and the juvenile justice community need to work together to comprehensively screen and treat children at risk of developing serious disruptive behaviors.** Teachers and parents must communicate regularly regarding problems the child is experiencing. Schools need to use mental health practitioners and coordinate with the juvenile justice system to ensure that disruptive children receive intervention as early as possible. A critical
link in service is needed (but often is lacking) between the fields of mental health and juvenile justice. Recognizing this need, OJJDP initiated the Mental Health/Juvenile Justice Initiative in 1997 to support several projects that enhance collaboration between the mental health and juvenile justice systems. Through this initiative, OJJDP is supporting the work of several other Federal agencies involved in enhancing mental health research and services to at-risk youth, particularly those in the juvenile justice system. Specific projects include:

- Providing funds to the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to support technical assistance for existing CMHS sites. This support is designed to strengthen the sites’ capacity to provide mental health services for youth in the juvenile justice system and to include these youth in the continuum of care being created in the sites.

- Supporting the development of Guidelines for Psychiatric Systems of Care for Adolescents in the Juvenile Justice System, which is being prepared by the American Academy of Child Psychiatry. This publication will include early identification protocols and models of diversion and will document the best principles for systems of care for youth with serious emotional disturbances who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

- Joining the National Institute of Corrections to provide technical assistance to a program for dually diagnosed juvenile offenders.

- Working with the National Institute of Mental Health to support the expansion of the Multisite, Multimodal Treatment Study of Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The expansion is enabling researchers to identify the contact that research participants have had with the juvenile justice system.

Selective Bibliography on the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency

contributes to delinquent behavior by comparing members with youth not involved with gangs. What proportion of offenses are attributable to gang members? How do gang members differ from other youth who are involved in law-violating youth groups? In what ways do gangs facilitate delinquent behavior? The study is examining both risk and protective factors associated with gang membership.

- **Developmental Dynamics of Gang Membership and Delinquency** (University of Washington, WA). Analyzing longitudinal research data on youth from ages 10 to 18, researchers are identifying risk and protective factors for gang membership and criminal activity. This study is also looking at the causes and impacts of early gang initiation, predictors of sustained versus short-term gang membership, and the impact of criminal justice involvement on gang members.

- **Youth Gangs in Juvenile Detention and Correction Facilities** (National Juvenile Detention Association, KY). This research assesses the nature and extent of youth gang problems in juvenile confinement facilities in order to improve juvenile justice system management and rehabilitation of gang-involved youth. The study includes a national survey, development of risk-needs assessment instruments, and development of model youth gang program concepts for juvenile confinement facilities. Plans include implementation and testing of the model in selected jurisdictions in the future.

- **Socialization to Gangs in an Emerging Gang City** (Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri at St. Louis, MO). Jointly sponsored by the National Institute of Justice and OJJDP, this program is a replication of the methodology used at the University of Chicago. Researchers are comparing the general applicability of measures of youth gang involvement in a chronic gang city to gang involvement in an emerging gang city. They are collecting baseline data on at-risk youth in a city with emerging gang problem and also identifying key risk factors for gang involvement and delinquency.

- **Delinquency and Criminal Street Gang Affiliation Among Southeast Asian Youth** (Westminster Police Department, CA). Researchers are examining the relationship between juvenile delinquency and gang and nongang group affiliation of Southeast Asian refugee youth. The project includes a series of qualitative focus groups of experts in Southeast Asian culture and experts in gang behavior to examine the social, historical, and environmental roots of criminal behavior in the context of this community. Law enforcement data and interviews with both delinquent and nondelinquent youth are also a part of the study. Findings are essential to develop effective community-based intervention strategies to reduce juvenile delinquency among Southeast Asian youth.

- **Finding and Knowing the Gang Naye’e in the Navajo Nation** (Navajo Nation Judicial Branch, AZ). This is the first comprehensive assessment of gang activity by a tribal government. Researchers are using a mixed research design of quantitative and qualitative assessment and have included close community involvement at all stages. Justice agency data and follow-up surveys were initially reviewed to assess the gang problem. Community members are actively involved in assisting researchers to understand the nature, extent, and causes of Navajo Nation gang violence. A goal of the project is to discover approaches to dealing with gangs that can be adapted by other Indian nations.

- **The National Youth Gang Center** (FL). The center managed by the Research Division, collects data (including the annual National Youth Gang Survey), analyzes State legislation related to gangs, conducts gang literature reviews, identifies promising gang program strategies, and provides programmatic support to a National Youth Gang Consortium (the consortium). The consortium comprises all Federal agency programs and enforcement offices engaged in antigang activities. Convened quarterly, its goal is to build partnerships and coordinate Federal resources at the local level as part of a comprehensive Federal gang prevention, suppression, and intervention initiative. Consortium objectives include coordination of
research and program development, data collection, information exchange and service delivery, and increased public awareness of and approaches to dealing with gangs and their victims.

The National Youth Gang Survey (Institute for Intergovernmental Research, FL), conducted annually since 1995, gathers basic data from police and sheriff’s departments across the Nation regarding the number of youth gangs and the number of youth gang members in local jurisdictions. For survey purposes, a youth gang is defined as “a group of youths in (the respondent’s) jurisdiction that (the respondent) or other responsible persons in (the respondent’s) agency are willing to identify or classify as a ‘gang.’” The survey does not include motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, or exclusively adult gangs.

What Have We Learned?
The Research Division’s gang-related research projects have produced a number of important findings for juvenile justice, law enforcement, schools, and community-based service providers.

- **The juvenile gang problem affects communities of all sizes and in all regions of the United States.** Of the more than 2,700 law enforcement agencies responding to the 1997 National Youth Gang Survey, 51 percent reported that gangs were active in their jurisdictions. This is a slight decrease (–2 percent) from 1996. Gang activity is most prevalent in jurisdictions in the West (74 percent). While there was an overall decline in gang prevalence and membership in 1997, the number of gang members rose in small cities and rural counties.

- **Risk factors for gang membership have been identified.** Research has identified risk factors for juvenile gang membership at a variety of levels: community, family, school, peer group, and individual. Presented in Youth Gangs: An Overview by James C. Howell (see the selective bibliography on page 12), these risk factors range from neighborhood drug availability to a lack of parental role models and academic failure.

- **Most juvenile gang problems are homegrown.** Gang member migration is widespread, but is not the main reason for the nationwide proliferation of gangs. Very few cities with emerging or chronic gang problems reported that their problem was due to migration. In fact, it appears that motivation for migration generally tends to be for social rather than criminal purposes. For example, 39 percent of gang members report that they moved with their families.

- **Gang members account for a disproportionate number of delinquent acts.** The studies conducted by the University of Washington and University at Albany, SUNY, found that gang members accounted for two to three times as many acts of delinquency as expected, given their share in the population. The University of Washington study found that gang members (15 percent of the sample) reported committing 58 percent of the delinquent acts overall and more than half of the minor assaults, minor thefts, drug trafficking, and property crimes. The University at Albany, SUNY, study found that 30 percent of the sample were gang members, who accounted for 65 percent of the reported delinquent acts overall.

- **Gang members account for a greater number of more serious crimes.** Gang members commit serious and violent offenses at a rate several times higher than nongang adolescents. The University of Washington study found that juveniles in gangs reported committing violent offenses (assault, fighting, and robbery) five times as often as nongang juveniles. The University at Albany, SUNY, study found gang members committed three times as many serious and violent offenses as nongang juveniles. Studies also showed that the influence of the gang on levels of juvenile violence is greater than the influence of other highly delinquent peers.

- **Substance abuse, drug trafficking, and gang membership appear to be related.** The University at Albany, SUNY, study found that the 30 percent who reported being gang members accounted for 70 percent of the drug sales. In addition, they reported 63 percent of the instances of alcohol use and 61 percent of the instances of other drug use in this sample. In Washington, researchers also found that drug use and trafficking rates remained nearly as high after members left the gang as when they were active in it.
What Does This Mean?

- **Gang activity is no longer just a big city problem.** Communities in rural areas need to be aware of indicators of gang activity and seriously assess their own gang problems. OJJDP is responding to this issue with the Rural Gang Initiative. Four rural sites have been selected to conduct a 1-year assessment of their gang problem and to develop a local strategy for application of OJJDP’s Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach to Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression (see page 25). The Research Division is funding a national evaluator to conduct case studies and assist with evaluation planning.

- **More programs must be established to reduce crime and target gangs and gang members.** Efforts to reduce the overall level of crime in society will not work unless those efforts include effective gang prevention, intervention, and suppression programs.

- **Communities need to take a localized, yet comprehensive approach in assessing their gang problem and developing strategies and solutions.** Every community has factors that make the youth gang problem unique to that jurisdiction. Learning about these factors requires involvement by all elements of the community. The Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach to Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression emphasizes five strategies that communities should focus on to address gang activity and membership: community mobilization, social intervention, opportunities provision, suppression, and organizational change and development. These five strategies, and the current evaluation being conducted in five cities, are detailed on page 25. Part of this comprehensive approach is understanding that “homegrown” risk factors are more likely sources of gang formation or expansion than is gang migration. Communities need to look at their local situation to understand the nature of the gang problem.

Selective Bibliography of OJJDP’s Research on Gangs


Youth Gang Series

Critical information on gangs is available to the public through OJJDP’s Youth Gang Series of Bulletins. To receive copies of past issues or request future issues, contact the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800–638–8736.

- **Youth Gangs: An Overview, by James C. Howell (August 1998).**
- **Gang Members on the Move, by Cheryl L. Maxson (October 1998).**
- **The Youth Gangs, Drugs, and Violence Connection, by James C. Howell and Scott H. Decker (January 1999).**

Other gang-related OJJDP publications include:

- **Youth Gang Programs and Strategies (in press).**
- **1996 National Youth Gang Survey (July 1999).**


National Statistics on Juvenile Offenders and Victims

OJJDP’s Research Division monitors trends regarding juvenile victims and offenders, including self-reported offending and official statistics on juvenile offenses, juvenile arrests, juvenile offenders, and juvenile victims. Working with other branches of the U.S. Department of Justice (e.g., Bureau of Justice Statistics, Federal Bureau of Investigation) and other government agencies (e.g., Bureau of the Census, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Bureau of Labor Statistics), the Research Division gathers information that offers the most complete look at the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency and victimization in the United States. The Research Division also produces Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report, which distills the most requested information about juvenile crime and victimization into a user-friendly format. This Report and its 1997 update are available by calling 800–638–8736. The 1999 National Report will be available in fall 1999. To help gather and manage this information, the Research Division supports the following:

- The National Juvenile Court Data Archive. The archive collects, stores, and analyzes data about youth referred to U.S. courts for delinquency and status offenses. OJJDP Fact Sheets and Bulletins about these data inform the field on a regular basis of trends and their implications for the juvenile justice system.

- Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJ RP). Conducted for the first time in fall 1997, CJ RP collects detailed information on youth in juvenile residential placement facilities as a result of contact with the juvenile justice system. Examples of the type of information CJ RP collects include characteristics of juveniles in the facilities (date of birth, race, sex, and most serious offense), court of jurisdiction (juvenile or criminal court), adjudicatory status (preadjudication or postadjudication), and the State or county that has jurisdiction over the juvenile. OJJDP and the Bureau of the Census developed CJ RP to more accurately represent the number of juveniles in placement and to describe the reasons for their placement. The new census is expected to result in more accurate, timely, and useful data on the juvenile population, with less reporting burden for facility respondents.

Projects currently in development include:

- The Survey of Youth in Residential Placement. This survey will examine the characteristics of juveniles placed out of the home because of contact with the justice system, including their demographic makeup and offense history. It will also examine risk and protective factors encountered by these individuals and their experiences in custody. OJJDP anticipates a 2-year development phase with the first full implementation of the survey in 2001. This will be the first time that researchers will collect individual-level data directly from a national sample of juveniles in placement.

- The Juvenile Residential Facility Census. OJJDP is creating a census of juvenile facilities that will provide important information on how these facilities function. Although still in development, the census is expected to cover security arrangements, health services, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, education opportunities and resources, and facility capacity. The Bureau of the Census initiated a feasibility test of this project in October 1998. The first full implementation will take place in October 2000.

- The Juvenile Probation Survey. OJJDP is developing a survey of juvenile probation that will complement the various censuses that deal with juvenile custody. Juvenile probation has rightly been described as the workhorse of the juvenile justice system. However, few data exist on the use of...
of this sanction, and no data exist on the number of juveniles under probation at any one time. This new survey will fill that gap. OJJDP has entered into an agreement with the Bureau of the Census to develop the survey, which will be field tested in 2001.

What Have We Learned?
Some recent findings from the statistical activities described above offer a snapshot of juvenile crime and delinquency in the United States.

- **More than 2.8 million juvenile arrests were made for all types of offenses in 1997.** Although this is a slight decrease from 1996 (– 1 percent), this number is still an increase of 14 percent since 1993 and 35 percent since 1988. Juveniles were involved in 17 percent of all Violent Crime Index arrests and 35 percent of Property Crime Index arrests in 1997.

- **Juvenile violent crime is decreasing.** After consistently increasing from 1985 to 1994, juvenile violent crime arrest rates (the number of juvenile arrests per 100,000 persons ages 10 to 17 in the population) declined 23 percent from 1994 to 1997. The decline between 1996 and 1997 was 13 percent.

- **Among all violent crimes, the juvenile arrest rate for murder has shown both the greatest increase and the greatest decline during the period of 1988 to 1997.** After more than doubling between 1987 and 1993, the juvenile arrest rate for murder dropped substantially (40 percent) between 1993 and 1997. Between 1996 and 1997 alone, it dropped 16 percent.

- **All growth in homicide offending between 1987 and 1994 was firearm related, as were the declines in 1995 and 1996.** Between 1987 and 1994, the number of juvenile homicide offenses involving a firearm grew nearly 200 percent. In contrast, the number of homicide offenses involving other weapon types increased 10 percent. After more than a decade of increases, juvenile homicide offenses dropped substantially (30 percent) between 1994 and 1996. Nearly all of this decline occurred in homicides committed with firearms.

- **In 1996, courts with juvenile jurisdiction disposed more than 1.8 million delinquency cases.** This is a 3-percent increase from 1995 and a 49-percent increase from 1987. In 1996, the majority of cases (86 percent) handled in juvenile court were referred by law enforcement.

- **Younger juveniles account for a substantial proportion of juvenile arrests and the juvenile court caseload.** About one-third of juveniles arrested in 1997 were under the age of 15. The proportion of juvenile arrests involving younger juveniles (under age 15) was highest for arson (67 percent), followed by sex offenses (51 percent), vandalism (45 percent), and larceny-theft (42 percent). Of all delinquency cases processed by the Nation’s juvenile courts in 1996, 59 percent involved juveniles younger than 16.

- **Female delinquency has grown substantially.** In 1997, 26 percent of juveniles arrested were girls. Between 1993 and 1997, arrests of juvenile females increased more than male arrests in most offense categories. The number of juvenile court delinquency cases involving females increased 76 percent between 1987 and 1996; cases involving males increased 42 percent during the same period.

- **The number of juveniles in public facilities has sharply increased since the early 1980’s.** The 1-day count of juveniles held in public facilities rose 47 percent between 1983 and 1995. During this time, the number of juveniles held for violent offenses doubled, as did the number of juveniles for person offenses. Preliminary data from the 1997 CJRP, which replaced the old Children in Custody series, counted 105,790 juvenile offenders in public and private facilities.

- **Crowding is a serious problem in juvenile facilities.** A study of the conditions of confinement between 1987 and 1991 in U.S. juvenile detention and correctional facilities found that institutional crowding was pervasive. More than 75 percent of juveniles were housed in facilities that violated one or more standards related to living space. The study also found that crowding was associated with higher rates of institutional violence, suicidal behavior, and greater reliance on the use of short-term isolation.
Minority juveniles are greatly overrepresented in the custody population. Of juveniles held in juvenile residential facilities in 1997, 37 percent were white, non-Hispanic, and 63 percent were from minority groups. This is quite different from the court population, in which whites accounted for 64 percent of delinquency referrals. The 1997 CJRP reported a similar breakdown in population: 37 percent white, 40 percent African-American, 19 percent Hispanic, and the remainder American Indian, Asian-American, or Pacific Islanders.

What Does This Mean?

Even with the recent declines, juvenile crime is still too high. Despite the decreases in recent years, the juvenile arrest rate in 1997 was still 35 percent higher than in 1988. The arrest rate for juvenile violent crime was 49 percent higher in 1997 than in 1988. Juvenile crime and delinquency continue to be serious problems in the United States.

Special focus must be placed on young and female offenders. These two groups are accounting for a greater proportion of the delinquency population than ever before. The unique factors that contribute to their increased involvement in crime need to be examined, and effective interventions need to be put in place and tested.

Although prior research has found that overcrowding and disproportionate minority confinement are serious issues, much is still unknown. To understand where to focus resources, it is important to learn about the characteristics and needs of juveniles in custody. To date, most information gathered about juveniles in residential facilities is gathered from the facilities themselves. OJJDP’s Survey of Youth in Residential Placement will gather individual-level data from juveniles themselves. In addition, the Juvenile Residential Facility Census will gather information about programs and services offered by residential facilities around the country.

Selective Bibliography of National Statistics on Juvenile Offenders and Victims


3. Easy Access is a family of software packages developed for OJJDP by the National Center for Juvenile Justice. The packages can be downloaded from OJJDP’s Web site at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/facts/ezaccess.html.

Highlights

Using Research To Address Community Needs and Support Communitywide Responses to Juvenile Crime

The major approach underlying most of OJJDP’s programs is a combination of community mobilization and community-based strategic planning. Community-based programs present unique challenges in conducting research and evaluation. Tracking the flexible and evolving nature of an intervention as it is implemented can be extremely difficult, as is tracking a program’s impact at all levels: individual, family, and community. In addition, many community-based projects lack an available comparison or control group, making an experimental design impossible. A rigorous evaluation, however, can provide important information. Learning about these programs is critical for identifying what works. The Research Division is promoting an array of research and evaluation in this area, thereby contributing to the base of knowledge available to communities throughout the country. Projects include:

- **National Evaluation of SafeFutures: Partnerships To Reduce Youth Violence and Delinquency.** SafeFutures projects are geared to using a combined approach of prevention, intervention, treatment, and sanctions to reduce youth violence and delinquency. The evaluation is documenting the process of implementation and the impact of these partnerships on youth violence in the targeted communities: Boston, MA; Contra Costa County, CA; Fort Belknap Indian Community, MT; Imperial County, CA; Seattle, WA; and St. Louis, MO.

- **Youth-Focused Community Policing Initiative.** A joint project of OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Justice’s Community Relations Services, and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, the Youth-Focused Community Policing (YFCP) initiative is designed to assist local jurisdictions in establishing partnerships and dialog between youth, police, the community, and other local government agencies. YFCP provides communities with the training and technical assistance needed to develop a self-assessment instrument and planning methodology. The initiative will also assist communities in implementing, maintaining, and evaluating delinquency prevention and control strategies. Eight communities received funding to implement YFCP programs: Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Houston, TX; Kansas City, KS; Los Angeles, CA; Mound Bayou, MS; Oakland, CA; and Rio Grande, TX.

- **Evaluation of the Intensive Community-Based Aftercare Demonstration and Technical Assistance Program.** This project is testing a model that provides for smooth and effective transitioning of juveniles from secure confinement back into the community. The model has three components: (1) prerelease and preparatory planning while the youth is still incarcerated, (2) structured transition with involvement of both the institution and aftercare staff, and (3) long-term reintegrative services after release. The projects being evaluated are located in Denver, CO; Las Vegas, NV; and Norfolk, VA.

- **Evaluation of Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence.** The “Gun Partnership” program is assisting four communities in reducing juveniles’ illegal access to guns and addressing why juveniles carry and use guns for violence. Focusing on

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4. Information on the grantees conducting evaluations is found in appendix A.
both individual and community factors, the evaluation will document the process of community mobilization, planning, and collaboration needed to develop a comprehensive approach to reducing gun violence involving juveniles in four sites: Baton Rouge, LA; Oakland, CA; Shreveport, LA; and Syracuse, NY.5

- **Evaluation of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program.** This project consists of a process and an outcome evaluation of community-based collaborative substance abuse prevention projects that include initiatives that target illegal drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco use by juveniles and implement comprehensive long-term plans to reduce substance abuse. The process evaluation will look at program implementation in more than 90 sites, with a more in-depth look at 12 sites to measure the impact and outcome of program activities.

- **Evaluation of the Combating Underage Drinking Program.** This evaluation is examining how States and local communities are using funds from the Combating Underage Drinking Program, a model program designed to curb underage drinking funded by the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration. Through OJJDP, individual grants of $360,000 have been made available to the States and the District of Columbia to develop and implement programs that prevent and combat underage drinking. Emphasis is placed on increasing law enforcement activity with regard to the sale of alcohol to minors. In addition, 10 States were awarded discretionary grants to develop and implement comprehensive community strategies targeting underage drinking. In all, 72 States and local communities are implementing programs to combat underage drinking. The evaluation of the Combating Underage Drinking Program will determine how States and local communities are using these funds and evaluate the impact of the first 2 years of the program in a sample of communities.

- **National Evaluation of the Safe Kids/Safe Streets Program.** This project (funded jointly with the Violence Against Women Office and the Executive Office for Weed and Seed) is promoting community collaboration to break the cycle of early childhood victimization and later juvenile or adult criminality. One of the project's goals is to develop effective data systems that track at-risk youth (including those who are victims of child abuse and neglect). The evaluation is looking at how communities are forming collaborations and which strategies are working to provide a comprehensive and proactive response to children, adolescents, and their families. The five sites are the National Children's Advocacy Center, Huntsville, AL; Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, MI; H eart of America United Way, Kansas City, MO; Toledo Hospital Children's Medical Center, OH; and Community Network for Children, Youth & Family Services, Chittenden County, VT.

- **Evaluating Restorative Justice Conferences.** This is an evaluation of a community-based restorative justice project for young offenders in Indianapolis, IN. Restorative justice conferences—which bring together the offender, victim, and supporters of each—provide an opportunity for fuller discussion of the offense; its affect on the victim, the offender's family, and greater community; and steps the offender can take to make amends. This project focuses on juveniles 14 years of age and younger. The evaluation is looking at the offense, the conferencing process, recidivism, and other participant outcomes.

- **Evaluation of Community Assessment Centers.** Community assessment centers provide a 24-hour centralized, single point of intake and assessment for juveniles who have or are likely to come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Their primary purpose is to provide earlier and more efficient prevention and intervention services at the front end of the juvenile justice system. The evaluation will look at how communities are planning and implementing these centers in four sites in Colorado and Florida and compare them with more traditional services.

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Evaluation of the Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP)

This national evaluation is looking at whether the goals of this one-to-one mentoring project—to reduce juvenile delinquency and gang participation by at-risk youth, improve their school performance, and reduce their dropout rate—are being achieved. This evaluation will be conducted in three cohorts of 41, 52, and 73 projects. The increasing number of projects reflects increases in appropriations from $4 million in fiscal year (FY) 1994 to $12 million in FY 1998 and FY 1999. To follow the FY 1999 cohort, the evaluation will continue through April 2001.

Juvenile Violence Research Studies

In 1992, Congress directed OJJDP to conduct a study of the incidence of violence committed by or against juveniles in urban and rural areas in the United States. The goals were to identify characteristics and patterns of at-risk juveniles and factors that contribute to violence committed by or against juveniles; to determine the accessibility of firearms and the use of firearms by or against juveniles; to determine the conditions associated with an increase in violence committed by or against juveniles; and to develop recommendations for prevention and control of juvenile violence.

Some preliminary findings of the evaluation of JUMP have been highlighted in Juvenile Mentoring Program: 1998 Report to Congress:¹

- JUMP projects have multiple goals, although delinquency prevention, improved school performance, and increased school attendance are most often listed.
- Community collaboration is a key feature of JUMP projects.
- In most cases (84 percent), activities in which the mentor and juvenile participate are selected and implemented individually by the pair. About half of the projects also include structured social/recreational activities.
- Many JUMP projects supplement their core mentoring activities with additional services, such as parent support and self-help groups.
- Training and supervision are key JUMP project components.
- The typical JUMP juvenile is 12 to 14 years old (although ages range from 5 to 18). Approximately 50 percent are girls. African-American juveniles make up the majority of those enrolled across all JUMP projects, with white and Hispanic juveniles making up most of the balance.

Juvenile Violence Research Studies

- JUMP projects address multiple risk factors. More than half of juveniles come from single-parent households, and only one-quarter live with their biological fathers. Other risk factors include school problems, social/family problems, delinquency (fighting, gangs), substance use, and pregnancy.
- Mentors represent a wide range of demographic characteristics. Approximately half are white (which differs from the juvenile population). Several projects report efforts to increase African-American and male recruitment. About 90 percent of mentors have some college experience, and more than half have college or graduate degrees.
- Waiting time for a match is relatively brief—an average of 2.7 months. Most projects use gender as a match criterion, and many consider race and ethnicity when making the match.
- Juveniles and mentors view their mentoring experience as positive. Overall, they believe that mentoring helped.

To accomplish this task, OJJDP funded four new violence studies:

- Studies of Violence Committed By or Against Juveniles in Washington, D.C. (Institute for Law and Justice, The Urban Institute, and LINC).
- Juvenile Violence in Los Angeles (Social Sciences Research Institute at the University of Southern California).
- Violence Among Rural Youth (Institute for Families in Society at the University of South Carolina).
- The Milwaukee Homicide Study (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee).

OJJDP also continued funding three coordinated longitudinal projects, known collectively as the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency (see pages 7-9 for more information about these studies). The findings of these seven studies are summarized in Report to Congress on Juvenile Violence Research.

### Juveniles in Detention and the Conditions of Confinement

The Research Division administers several projects that examine the number and characteristics of juveniles in residential facilities and prison and the conditions of that confinement, such as the programs

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**Report to Congress on Juvenile Violence Research**

Report highlights include the following:

- Although juvenile violence is committed primarily by males, females appear to be getting more involved in violent behavior.

- Many violent juvenile offenders live in impoverished neighborhoods, although the majority of youth who live in these communities are not involved in serious delinquency.

- Several studies found that patterns of juvenile violence are inconsistent across cities. Contrary to findings from other studies that most juvenile violent crime takes place after school, juvenile homicides in Los Angeles occurred more often late at night and in public places and frequently involved gang members.

- In Washington, D.C., victimization patterns differed throughout the year. During the summer, juveniles were most vulnerable to crime after 11 p.m., whereas during the school year, the most vulnerable period was between 3 and 5 p.m.

- Although the majority of youth in high-risk neighborhoods are not involved in gangs, the Los Angeles survey found that 36 percent reported pressure on neighborhood youth to join gangs. Those who had been gang members at some time reported becoming full members at age 13.

The overriding message from these studies is that a balanced and comprehensive approach is needed in addressing the problem of juvenile violence. Communities must work with the juvenile justice system to prevent the development of violent behavior and to intervene with violent youth in effective ways. Using precisely this concept, OJJDP’s Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders provides a framework for strategic responses at the community, city, State, and national levels designed to target the problem of juvenile violence.

For a copy of the *Report to Congress*, call the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736.

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and services available for rehabilitation. Several of these projects are already under way; others are in development. Projects focusing on these areas include the following:

- **Assessment of Space Needs in Juvenile Detention and Corrections.** In FY 1998, Congress directed OJJDP to report on the capacity of the Nation's juvenile detention and correction systems and to indicate the systems' ability to deal with projected populations of juveniles in the future. In its report to Congress, OJJDP noted the lack of data for such projections and the lack of adequate projection methods. To rectify this deficiency, the Research Division is funding the development of sophisticated methods of planning for future populations, including consensus committee planning and sophisticated statistical modeling. Various State efforts to plan for present and future needs are being examined, including administrative judgments and single population change models. Based on this information, the Research Division will inform other States and localities on ways that space needs assessments can be improved.

- **Detailed Analysis of Conditions of Confinement.** This study examined key issues in understanding conditions and correctional practices in secure juvenile facilities, including correctional educational practices, an update on overcrowding, and differences in perception of the conditions by staff and youth.

- **Performance-Based Standards for Juvenile Detention and Corrections (Demonstration Project and Evaluation).** The Research Division established working groups to identify basic standards for juvenile detention and correction facilities in six areas: safety, order, security, physical and mental health, justice, and programming (including education and treatment services). The project also developed outcome, expected practice, and process methods of measuring whether facilities are meeting standards. More than 30 selected sites agreed to participate in this important demonstration effort. The evaluation is examining the impact of performance-based standards on specific facilities.

- **Race, Overconfinement, and Crowding in Juvenile Corrections Facilities.** This project has brought together the body of research from across the Nation on State juvenile justice processing and minority overrepresentation in secure confinement. In the past, individual researchers and State organizations held these data, but this project is (1) identifying common variables across States and (2) conducting secondary data analysis and comparison to get a wider view of these issues. The project is considering questions such as: When in their juvenile court careers do delinquent youth receive their first secure confinement disposition? Does the type of disposition for an offense affect the probability of a subsequent offense? Do the factors affecting population flow into juvenile institutions vary by race and other personal, social, and legal characteristics?

- **Enhancing Personnel Training and Understanding of Minority Overrepresentation in the Juvenile Justice System.** This project is designed to enhance the training of inservice professionals—in particular those who work in community-based programs and with juveniles—and will investigate factors contributing to minority overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system. It is essential that program managers and professionals recognize the importance of keeping up with demographic trends and adapt programs so that they are responsive to the needs of the community. For example, it is estimated that the Hispanic juvenile population in Texas will increase dramatically during the next decade. Juvenile justice agencies, courts, and youth-serving programs need to be alerted to this trend and respond accordingly. This project will result in development of a master's degree program in Forensic Psychology at Prairie View University, Prairie View, TX, and a manual for use in managing community-based programs.

- **Cost-Benefit Analysis of Juvenile Justice Programs (University of Texas at Dallas, TX).** In FY 1998, OJJDP awarded a grant to the University of Texas at Dallas to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of juvenile probation, detention, and corrections.
programs. This project is providing an indepth study of the costs associated with each disposition and the expected benefits. By putting costs and benefits into monetary terms, policymakers can more easily discern which disposition provides the greatest benefit for the lowest cost and for whom. However, this particular type of analysis is subject to differing values placed on distinct intangible outcomes. As in the Assessment of Space Needs project described above, the use of cost-benefit analysis makes explicit the assumptions of policymakers so that a more reasoned policy can be implemented.
Emerging Research

Another goal of OJJDP’s Research Division is to identify and strategically support emerging research in areas of primary interest. OJJDP has identified the following fields in which research is unfolding. These are new projects sponsored by OJJDP.

Research on Very Young Offenders

Major findings of OJJDP-sponsored work on serious and violent juvenile offenders—namely, that most chronic juvenile offenders begin their criminal careers prior to age 12, some as early as 10 years of age—led the Research Division to support the development of the Study Group on Very Young Offenders in 1998. This Study Group is exploring what is known about the prevalence and frequency of very young offending under the age of 13. Specific areas being examined include whether such offending predicts future delinquent or criminal careers, how these juveniles are handled by various systems (juvenile justice, mental health, social services), and what the best methods are for preventing very young offending and persistence of offending. A report will be issued in 2000.

Juvenile Transfers to Adult Criminal Court

All States allow juveniles under certain conditions to be tried in criminal courts through one or more transfer mechanisms (e.g., judicial waiver, prosecutorial direct file, statutory exclusion). By 1996,
School Violence

School violence, truancy, drugs, and gangs are problems confronting many communities. OJJDP is helping to address these issues through a variety of Research Division activities. In 1997, OJJDP funded the creation of the Hamilton Fish National Institute on School and Community Violence at The George Washington University to test the effectiveness of violence prevention methods and to develop more effective school-based strategies. As part of the Institute, a consortium of seven universities was formed. Each university in the consortium works directly with a local school system to implement and test schoolwide interventions that promote safety by reducing fighting, bullying, truancy, and drug use and enhancing positive student interaction. Through this effort, the Institute is identifying programs that can be replicated to reduce violence in America's schools and communities.

Universities in the Consortium of the Hamilton Fish National Institute on School and Community Violence

Center for Health Promotion and Public Health Practice
Department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine
Morehouse School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA

Center for Prevention Research
Department of Sociology
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY

Department of Criminal Justice
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI

Institute for Violence and Destructive Behavior
College of Education
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR

Office of Sponsored Research
The George Washington University
Washington, DC

School of Criminology and Center for Policy Studies in Education
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL

School of Education
Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY
OJJDP is also working with other offices within the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to initiate a coordinated effort focused on school and community safety. This project, Safe Schools/Healthy Students, will streamline the application process for school districts and communities to develop and implement comprehensive, community-wide strategies that create safe environments for learning. The Research Division is contributing to this effort by providing direction and oversight for a national evaluation of the program.

In addition to these school safety efforts, the Research Division will administer the National Evaluation of the Truancy Reduction Demonstration Program, a joint effort of OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Executive Office for Weed and Seed. The evaluation will assess the effect of a variety of truancy reduction projects in the country, determine how community collaboration can affect truancy and lead to systemic reform, and assist in developing a truancy reduction program model for community use.

**Comprehensive Gang Strategy Research**

The Research Division is currently evaluating OJJDP’s demonstration initiative, the Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach to Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Program, which is being implemented in five jurisdictions: Bloomington, IL; Mesa, AZ; Riverside, CA; San Antonio, TX; and Tucson, AZ.

This evaluation is testing a community-based model that coordinates services (social, academic, vocational, law enforcement) to prevent youth involvement in gangs, intervene with gang-involved juveniles, and suppress the criminal impact of gangs.

**Research on Girls**

Female involvement in the juvenile justice system continues to rise at the same time that male juvenile involvement declines. One in four juvenile arrests in 1996 was of a female, with violent crime arrests increasing 25 percent between 1992 and 1996. Overall, increases in arrests between 1992 and 1996 were greater for juvenile females than juvenile males in most offense categories. It is important to learn more about why and how girls commit crime and how to intervene effectively to prevent and treat female juvenile delinquency. OJJDP has responded by launching a multilevel approach that includes reviewing how States are dealing with female juvenile offenders, developing an inventory of best practices, producing a prototype training curriculum, and

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### Evaluation of the Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach to Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression: The Five Strategies

**Community Mobilization:** Organizing and maintaining an interactive group of citywide and local agencies, community organizations, groups, and residents, including former gang members, to develop a coordinated policy and program approach to the juvenile gang problem.

**Social Intervention:** Reaching out and contacting gang youth, those at high risk of gang involvement, and their families to deliver social services. This is accomplished with the collaboration of local citizens, schools, and agencies including criminal justice, employment, and social services.

**Opportunities Provision:** Providing employment, training, and educational opportunities and cultural enrichment programs directed to gang youth and youth at high risk of gang membership.

**Suppression:** Holding juveniles accountable for their crimes and misbehavior in accordance with law, social policy, and the interests of the community.

**Organizational Change and Development:** Modifying and developing agency and community policies and practices that facilitate effective implementation of the first four strategies and that enhance the community's capacity specifically to prevent and reduce the juvenile gang problem.
implementing a variety of program development activities. Several projects supported by the Research Division have components that focus on girls, including the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency. The Research Division anticipates supporting additional research on female juvenile delinquency and evaluations of effective programs for girls.

Research on American Indian Juveniles

Although violent crime rates are declining throughout the Nation, they continue to rise in Indian Country. Children in Indian Country are especially vulnerable. More than one-third are at risk of becoming victims of abuse and/or neglect. In addition, the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs found an estimated 375 gangs with 4,652 gang members in Indian Country in 1997. However, there is a critical need to learn more about the extent, nature, and roots of delinquency among tribal youth.

In FY 1999, OJJDP will implement a new Tribal Youth Program. This $10 million effort will focus on comprehensive delinquency prevention and control and on juvenile justice system improvement for American Indian youth. The Research Division will oversee the research, evaluation, and statistics components of this project and expects to support several research efforts nationwide. The Tribal Youth Program has four focus areas:

- Reduction, control, and prevention of crime both by and against tribal youth.
- Interventions for court-involved tribal youth.
- Improvements to tribal juvenile justice systems.
- Prevention programs focusing on alcohol and drugs.

This program will be closely coordinated with other bureaus within the U.S. Department of Justice, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Indian Health Service.
Conclusion

This Report summarizing recent research sponsored by OJJDP's Research and Program Development Division emphasizes the importance of investing in research as a way of responding to the needs of children at risk of delinquency. During the past several years, much has been learned about the factors that put youth at greater risk for delinquency, their patterns of offending, strategies that work in responding to their needs and behavior, and community responses needed to ensure the safety of children and their families. Despite the knowledge gained, however, there is still much to learn.

The ultimate goal of the Research Division's work is to prevent youth at risk of pursuing a delinquent career from doing so and to assist youth already in the juvenile justice system in turning away from future delinquency and criminal behavior and becoming productive citizens. One of the most important points that this Report demonstrates is the need to use what has been learned to craft solutions and interventions to the problems of juvenile crime and violence. OJJDP is committed to using the knowledge gained through research to inform program initiatives. Together, OJJDP divisions and program units provide a continuum of activity that fully supports the efforts of researchers, policymakers, courts, schools, juvenile justice facilities, practitioners, parents, and juveniles.

Recognizing the critical needs of policymakers and practitioners, OJJDP will continue to partner with the many highly skilled researchers in the field conducting research studies, performing evaluations, and collecting and analyzing statistics on juvenile crime. OJJDP, with the help of these researchers, will use what is learned to develop programs and solutions that make a difference to juveniles, their families, and their communities.
Appendix A: 1998 Active Grants, Interagency and Intra-Agency Agreements, Contract, and Purchase Orders

Grants

Adjudicative Competence and Maturity of Juvenile Offenders
University of Virginia
Department of Psychology
102 Gilmer Hall
Charlottesville, VA 22903–2477
OJJDP Grant 97–JN–FX–0018

Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: Gang-Related Variables
Northwestern University
633 Clark Street
Evanston, IL 60208
OJJDP Grant 98–JD–FX–0002

Assessment of Psychiatric Risk in Incarcerated Youth
Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc.
44 Holland Avenue
New York, NY 10229
OJJDP Grant 98–JB–VX–0115

Assessment of Space Needs in Juvenile Detention and Corrections
The Urban Institute
2100 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
OJJDP Grant 98–JB–VX–0114

Center for Research on Crime Against Children
University of New Hampshire
Office of Sponsored Research
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824–3585
OJJDP Grant 98–JN–FX–0012

Chicago Project for Violence Prevention
University of Illinois-Chicago
School of Public Health
Office of Research Services
Chicago, IL 60612
OJJDP Grant 96–MU–FX–0013

Comparative Impact of Juvenile Versus Criminal Court Sanctions on Recidivism Among Adolescent Felony Offenders: A Replication and Extension
Columbia School of Public Health
Trustees of Columbia University-City of New York
Health Science Division
630 West 168th Street
New York, NY 10032
OJJDP Grant 97–JN–FX–0016

Consortium on Children, Families, and the Law
University of South Carolina
Institute for Families in Society
Carolina Plaza, 12th Floor
Osborne Administration Building
Columbia, SC 29208
Cost-Benefit Analysis of Juvenile Justice Programs
University of Texas-Dallas
P.O. Box 830688
Richardson, TX 75083
OJJDP Grant 98-J-N-FX-0001

Criminal Justice Response to Parental Abduction Cases
American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education
ABA Center on Children and the Law
740 15th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
OJJDP Grant 93-M-C-CX-0010

Delinquency and Criminal Street Gang Affiliation Among Southeast Asian Youth
Westminster Police Department
City of Westminster-Civic Center
8200 Westminster Boulevard
Westminster, CA 92683
OJJDP Grant 95-J-D-FX-0014

Detailed Analysis of Conditions of Confinement (formerly called Marketing Conditions of Confinement Study)
Abt Associates Inc.
55 Wheeler Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-1168
OJJDP Grant 95-J-N-CX-K-006

Developmental Dynamics of Gang Membership and Delinquency
University of Washington
Social Development Research Group
9725 Third Avenue N.E., Suite 401
Seattle, WA 98115-2024
OJJDP Grant 95-J-D-FX-0017

Effective Screening of Child Care and Youth Service Workers
American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education
ABA Center on Children and the Law
740 15th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
OJJDP Grant 92-M-C-CX-0013

Enhancing Personnel Training and Understanding Minority Overrepresentation in the Juvenile Justice System
Prairie View A&M University
Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center
P.O. Box 4017
Prairie View, TX 77446
OJJDP Grant 98-J-N-FX-0014

Evaluation/Enhancement of Juvenile Dispositional Guidelines System
Delaware Council on Crime and Justice, Inc.
501 Shipley Street, Unit 3A
Wilmington, DE 19801
OJJDP Grant 91-J-N-CX-0007

Evaluation of a Childhood Violence Prevention Program
Cornell University
Family Life Development Center
Day Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-2791
OJJDP Grants 95-J-N-CX-0021, 96-J-N-FX-0006

Evaluation of Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence Program
COSMOS Corporation
3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 950
Bethesda, MD 20814
OJJDP Grant 97-M-U-FX-0004
Evaluation of Teen Courts
The Urban Institute
2100 M Street N.W.
Washington, D C 20037

Evaluation of the “Act Now” Truancy Diversion Program
American Prosecutors Research Institute
99 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 510
Alexandria, VA 22314
O J J D P Grant 96–J N –FX –0010

Evaluation of the Combating Underage Drinking Program
Wake Forest University
1834 Wake Forest Road
School of Medicine
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
O J J D P Grant 98–AH–F8–0101

Evaluation of the Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach to Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Program
University of Chicago
School of Social Services
5801 South Ellis
Chicago, IL 60637

Evaluation of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program
Caliber Associates, Inc.
10530 Rosehaven Street, Suite 400
Fairfax, VA 22030
O J J D P Grant 98–J N –FX –0016

Evaluation of the Intensive Community-Based Aftercare Demonstration and Technical Assistance Program
National Council on Crime and Delinquency
685 Market Street, Suite 620
San Francisco, CA 94105

Evaluation of the Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP)
Information Technology International
6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 700
Bethesda, M D 20817–1572

Evaluation of the Youth Led Substance Abuse Prevention Program (PCPC)
University of New Hampshire
Department of Health and Human Services
Durham, N H 03824–3585
O J J D P Grant 97–J N–FX–0019

Finding and Knowing the Gang Naye’e in the Navajo Nation
Navajo Nation Judicial Branch
P.O. Box 520
Window Rock, AZ 86515
O J J D P Grant 95–J D–FX–0013

Gang Membership and Involvement in Serious and Violent Delinquency
University at Albany, State University of New York
Research Foundation of the State University of New York
Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center
135 Western Avenue
Albany, N Y 12222
O J J D P Grant 95–J D–FX–0015
Hamilton Fish National Institute on School and Community Violence
The George Washington University
Office of Sponsored Research
2121 Eye Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20052
OJJDP Grant 97-M U-FX-K012

Integration of Pregnancy and Early Childhood Home Visitation Into Operation Weed and Seed
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
Department of Pediatrics
1825 Marion Street
Denver, CO 80218

Interagency Coordination and Information Sharing Early Intervention Model
Mayor's Anti-Gang Office
City of Houston
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, TX 77251
OJJDP Grant 98-J N-FX-0010

Issues in Resolving Cases of International Parental Abductions of Children
American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education
ABA Center on Children and the Law
740 15th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
OJJDP Grant 93-M C-CX-0007

Juvenile Crime, Prevention, Treatment, and Control
National Academy of Sciences
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20418
OJJDP Grant 97-J N-FX-0020

Juvenile Justice Evaluation Research Center
Justice Research and Statistics Association, Inc. (JRSA)
777 North Capitol Street N.E., Suite 801
Washington, D.C. 20002
OJJDP Grant 98-J N-FX-0112

Juvenile Justice Statistics and Systems Development Program
National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ)
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)
P.O. Box 8970
Reno, NV 89507
OJJDP Grant 95-J N-FX-K008

Juvenile Transfers to Criminal Court Studies
Juvenile Justice Advisory Board
Joint Legislative Management Committee
308 Holland Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399
OJJDP Grant 95-J N-FX-0030

Juvenile Violence in Los Angeles: Collecting Juvenile Violence Data for Juvenile Violence Reduction
University of Southern California
University Park Campus
Los Angeles, CA 90089-1111
OJJDP Grants 95-J N-CX-0015, 96-J N-FX-0004, 97-J D-FX-0002

A Longitudinal Multi-Disciplinary Study of Developmental Patterns (Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency)
University of Colorado at Boulder
Institute of Behavioral Science
Campus Box 483
Boulder, CO 80309-0483
OJJDP Grant 96-M U-FX-0017
Milwaukee Homicide Project
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin Graduate School
Board of Regents
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201
OJJDP Grant 95-J N-FX-0028

National Evaluation of SafeFutures Program: Phase I Study of Program Development and Implementation
The Urban Institute
2100 M Street NW.
Washington, D.C. 20031
OJJDP Grant 95-J N-FX-K012

National Evaluation of the Safe Kids/Safe Streets Program
Westat, Inc.
1650 Research Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850
OJJDP Grant 97-M U-M U-0005

National Juvenile Court Data Archive
National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ)
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)
P.O. Box 8970
Reno, NV 89507
OJJDP Grant 95-J N-FX-0008

National Youth Gang Center
Institute for Intergovernmental Research
P.O. Box 12729
Tallahassee, FL 32317
OJJDP Grant 95-J D-M U-K001

A Panel Study of Reciprocal Causal Model of Delinquency (Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency)
University at Albany, State University of New York
Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center
135 Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
OJJDP Grant 96-M U-FX-0014

Pathways to Incarceration
School of Social Welfare
Regents of University of California
Sponsored Projects Office
336 Sproul Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720
OJJDP Grant 96-J N-FX-0008

Performance-Based Standards for Juvenile Detention and Corrections
Stonehill College
Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators
16 Belmont Street
South Easton, MA 02375
OJJDP Grants 95-J N-FX-K011, 98-J B-VX-K003

Planning for the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement
Westat, Inc.
1650 Research Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850
OJJDP Grant 98-J B-VX-K002

Preventing Juvenile Crime: Evaluating Restorative Justice Conferences as an Innovative Response to Juvenile Crime
Hudson Institute
Crime Control Policy Center
P.O. Box 26919
Indianapolis, IN 46226
OJJDP Grant 96-J N-FX-0007
Prevention of Parent or Family Abduction of Children Through Early Identification of Risk Factors
American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education
ABA Center on Children and the Law
740 15th Street NW.
Washington, D.C. 20005
OJJDP Grant 92-M-C-CX-0007

Program To Increase Understanding of Child Sexual Exploitation
Education Development Center, Inc.
55 Chapel Street
Newton, MA 02160
OJJDP Grant 92-M-C-CX-0008

Progressions in Antisocial and Delinquent Child Behavior (Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency)
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Western Psychiatric Institute
3811 O’Hara Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2593
OJJDP Grant 96-M-U-FX-0012

Project To Study the Outcome of Juvenile Transfer to Criminal Court
National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ)
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)
P.O. Box 8970
Reno, NV 89507
OJJDP Grant 95-J-N-FX-0029

Proposal To Evaluate Community Assessment Centers
National Council on Crime and Delinquency
685 Market Street, Suite 620
San Francisco, CA 94105
OJJDP Grants 95-J-N-FX-0002, 98-J-B-VX-0013

Proposed Scientific Panel To Report to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Serious Violent Juvenile Offender Study)
University of Pittsburgh
Office of Research
139 University Place
350 Thackeray Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15260-2605
OJJDP Grant 95-J-D-FX-0018

Psychological Consequences and Promising Interventions: A Study To Resurvey the Respondents in the Original Study
University of California at San Francisco
Center for the Study of Trauma
655 Redwood Highway, #251
Mill Valley, CA 94941-3011
OJJDP Grant 93-M-C-CX-0006

Race, Overconfinement and Crowding in Juvenile Correctional Facilities
Institute for Social Research
Regents of the University of Michigan
3003 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1274
OJJDP Grant 96-J-N-FX-0011

Research Program on Juveniles Taken Into Custody
National Council on Crime and Delinquency
685 Market Street, Suite 620
San Francisco, CA 94105
OJJDP Grant 95-J-N-FX-K002

Second National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Thrownaway Children (NISMART 2)
Temple University
Institute for Survey Research
1601 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122
OJJDP Grant 95-M-C-CX-K004
Secondary Analysis of Childhood Victimization Data
University at Albany, State University of New York
Research Foundation of the State University of New York
Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center
135 Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
OJJDP Grant 97-J N -FX-0015

Sex Offender Typology
Health Related Research
825 Crawford Parkway
Portsmouth, VA 23704
OJJDP Grant 98-J N -FX-0008

Sex Offender Typology: Feasibility Study of Data Collection
University of Illinois-Springfield
Center for Legal Studies
P.O. Box 19243
Springfield, IL 62794–9243
OJJDP Grant 98-J N -FX-0006

Socialization to Gangs in an Emerging Gang City
University of Missouri at St. Louis
Curators of the University of Missouri
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
8001 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121–4499
OJJDP Grant 97-IJ -CX-0010

Studies of Violence Committed By or Against Juveniles
Institute for Law and Justice
1018 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
OJJDP Grants 95-J N -CX-0010, 96-J N -FX-0005

Survey of School-Based Gang Prevention and Intervention Programs
Gottfredson Associates, Inc.
3239B Corporate Court
Ellicott City, MD 21042
OJJDP Grant 98-J N -FX-0004

Translating Research on Safe and Violence-Free Schools Into Effective Practices
University of Oregon-Eugene
Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior
13th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97403
OJJDP Grant 97-J N -FX-0022

Violence Among Rural Youth
University of South Carolina
Institute for Families in Society
937 Assembly Street
Carolina Plaza, Room 1220
Columbia, SC 29208
OJJDP Grants 94-JN-CX-0005, 95-J N -FX-0025, 96-MU-FX-0016

Youth-Focused Community Policing
Chicago Police Department
City of Chicago
1121 South State
Chicago, IL 60605
OJJDP Grant 98-J N -FX-0106

Youth-Focused Community Policing
Kansas City Police Department
Unified Government of Wyandotte County
701 North Seventh Street, Room G-2
Kansas City, KS 66101-3065
OJJDP Grant 98-J N -FX-0013
Youth-Focused Community Policing
Commission for Children, Youth, and Their Families
City of Los Angeles
333 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
OJJDP Grant 98–J N–FX–0009

Youth-Focused Community Policing
Rio Grande Valley Empowerment Zone
301 South Texas
Mercedes, TX 78570
OJJDP Grant 98–J N–FX–0056

Youth-Focused Community Policing
Office of the Mayor
City of Mound Bayou
106 South Green Avenue
Mound Bayou, MS 38762
OJJDP Grant 98–J N–FX–0089

Youth-Focused Community Policing
Office of the City Manager
City of Oakland
One City Hall Plaza, Third Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
OJJDP Grant 98–J N–FX–0011

Youth-Focused Community Policing
Fox Valley Technical College
1825 North Bluemound Drive
P. O. Box 2217
Oshkosh, WI 54903–2217
OJJDP Grant 96–J N–FX–001

Youth Gangs in Juvenile Detention and Corrections Facilities
National Juvenile Detention Association
301 Perkins Building
Richmond, KY 40475–3127
OJJDP Grant 96–J D–FX–0004

Interagency and Intra-Agency Agreements

Data Collection Programs for OJJDP
U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census
Government Division
Washington Plaza, Building 2
Washington, D.C. 20233
OJJDP IAA 98–J N–R–034

Development of the Survey of Juvenile Probation
U.S. Department of Commerce
Center for Survey Methods Research
Bureau of the Census
Building 4, Room 3133
Washington, D.C. 20233
OJJDP IAA 96–J N–R–054

Diffusion of State Risk/Protective-Focused Prevention
National Institute on Drug Abuse
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
OJJDP IAA 97–J N–R–072

Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics
National Institutes of Health
National Institute for Child Health and Human Development
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892–7510
OJJDP IAA 98–J N–R–047
Intergenerational Transmission of Antisocial Behavior
National Institute of Mental Health
6001 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20892–9663

Multi-Site, Multimodal Treatment Study of Children With ADHD
National Institute of Mental Health
Division of Service and Intervention Research
6001 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20892–9663

National Evaluation of Performance Based Standards Program for Juvenile Confinement Facilities
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW.
Washington, DC 20230
OJJDP IAA 98–JB–R–061

National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997
U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics
Bureau of Labor Statistics
2 Massachusetts Avenue NE.
Washington, DC 20212
OJJDP IAA 97–JN–R–045

Quantum Opportunity Program
U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Policy and Research
Employment and Training Administration
200 Constitution Avenue NW.
Washington, DC 20210
OJJDP IAA 98–J N–R–093

Risk Reduction Via Promotion of Youth Development
National Institute of Mental Health
Mental Health Prevention Research Branch
6001 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20892–9063
OJJDP IAA 97–J N–R–031

Contract
Contract To Evaluate OJJDP Programs
Caliber Associates, Inc.
10530 Rosehaven Street, Suite 400
Fairfax, VA 22030
OJP–95–C–006

Purchase Orders
Institute for Legislative Practices
McGeorge School of Law
3200 Fifth Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95817
OJP–99–007–M

International Classification of Preventive Trials
University of South Florida
College of Public Health
13201 Bruce B. Drive Boulevard, MDC 56
Tampa, FL 33612–3805
OJP–99–061–M

Replication of the South Carolina Study in Utah
Jan Rivers Solomon
4903 Forest Lake Place
Columbia, SC 29206
OJP–98–084–M
Appendix B: OJJDP Publications and Products From the Research Division 1994–Present

Publications


Presents findings of the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey, conducted by the National Youth Gang Center. The 1996 survey was the largest of its type—results are based on a sample of more than 3,000 law enforcement agencies and are nationally representative. Survey results indicate that the youth gang problem is substantial and affects communities of all types. The Summary provides analysis and statistics on number, types, and locations of gangs; member demographics; and gang involvement in crime and drugs. Copies of the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey also are available.


Provides parents, schools, and the community with an overview of the scope of school crime, and describes actions schools and communities can take to address this critical issue. This Report includes data that indicate a substantial amount of crime, including violent crime, against both students and teachers. It also supplies profiles of schools that have put in place programs that include school security, education in violence prevention, counseling, and specialized student services. Steps for developing and implementing a comprehensive school safety plan are described.


Presents the activities and accomplishments of the Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs. With this program, OJJDP provides communities with the framework, tools, and funding necessary to initiate comprehensive and sustainable strategies that address juvenile delinquency and other problem behaviors. This Report begins with a review of current trends in juvenile justice and the role Title V plays in the prevention and control of juvenile problem behaviors. Subsequent chapters review the allocation of resources provided to date; examine the experiences of participating States and local communities; and discuss how State and Federal efforts coordinate to support local delinquency prevention. Reports for previous years also are available.


Provides tools that juvenile justice advocates and professionals can use to enhance conditions of confinement for detained and incarcerated youth. Discusses six approaches for improving conditions of confinement for youth in custody.

Boot Camps for Juvenile Offenders (Summary). 1997. 53 pp. NCJ 164258. FREE

Explores diverse sources of information to address the questions, obstacles, and pitfalls that are likely to arise in planning and operating a boot camp for juvenile offenders. Provides a conceptual framework and practical guide for policymakers, corrections officials, and service providers who are weighing
decisions about implementing or expanding juvenile boot camp programs.

Causes and Correlates of Delinquency Program (Fact Sheet). 1999. 2 pp. FS–99100. FREE.

Presents a brief overview of the research design used by the Causes and Correlates projects, which are designed to improve the understanding of serious delinquency, violence, and drug use by examining how youth develop within the context of family, school, peers, and community. The program comprises three longitudinal projects: the Denver Youth Survey, the Pittsburgh Youth Study, and the Rochester Youth Development Study. The Causes and Correlates Program represents a milestone in criminological research because it constitutes the largest shared-measurement approach ever achieved in delinquency research.


Reports the findings on conditions in juvenile confinement facilities, including overcrowding, violence, suicidal behavior, and escapes. Also examines institutional security, treatment programming, education, healthcare, and protection of juveniles’ rights.


Describes the differences between the Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Shelter, and Correctional Facilities (also known as the Children in Custody or CIC series) and its successor, the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) and the enhanced capabilities the new series provides. OJJDP inaugurated CJRP in 1997. The new census meets a pressing need for information that can answer a wide variety of questions on juvenile detention, corrections, and placement.


Presents statistics on delinquency cases processed in juvenile courts in 1996. Juvenile courts in the United States processed an estimated 1.8 million delinquency cases in 1996. The number of delinquency cases handled by juvenile courts increased 49 percent between 1987 and 1996. Since 1987, drug law violation cases have increased 144 percent, person offense cases have increased 100 percent, public order offense cases have increased 58 percent, and property offense cases have increased 23 percent. These estimates are based on data from nearly 1,800 courts that had jurisdiction over 67 percent of the U.S. juvenile population. This Fact Sheet is based on the OJJDP Report, Juvenile Court Statistics 1996.


Presents data from the National Juvenile Court Data Archive on cases transferred from juvenile court to criminal court via judicial waiver between 1987 and 1996. The profile of cases waived to criminal court changed considerably between 1987 and 1996. Prior to 1992, more property offense cases than person offense cases were waived. In 1996, although waived person offense cases (43 percent) still outnumbered property offense cases (37 percent), the gap had closed somewhat. From 1989 through 1992, the types of cases most likely to be waived were drug offense cases, whereas in 1996 the types of cases most likely to be waived were person offense cases.


Summarizes longitudinal research from the Pittsburgh Youth Study, which shows that the development of disruptive and delinquent behavior in boys generally takes place in an orderly, progressive fashion, with less serious problem behaviors preceding more serious problem behaviors. The researchers documented three developmental pathways that display progressively more serious problem behavior among boys in three conceptually different domains: authority conflict, covert actions, and overt actions.

Epidemiology of Serious Violence (Bulletin). 1997. 12 pp. NCJ 165152. FREE.

Presents notable findings from OJJDP’s Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency three coordinated, longitudinal research
projects that constitute the largest shared-measurement approach ever achieved in delinquency research. At study sites in Rochester, NY, Denver, CO, and Pittsburgh, PA, the three research teams interviewed 4,000 participants at regular intervals for nearly a decade, recording their lives in detail.


Gang Members on the Move (Bulletin). 1998. 12 pp. NCJ 171153. FREE. Examines whether gang migration has been a major influence in the proliferation of gangs. The emergence and growth of gangs in cities once thought to be free from the violence and crime of larger cities has led some to believe that migrating gangs or gang members are the cause. This Bulletin defines “gang,” “gang proliferation,” and “gang migration”; explores how and whether gang migration affects proliferation; and reviews trends reported in research literature. Gang migration patterns in different regions of the country are examined and the findings from a national survey are explored.

Gang Membership, Delinquent Peers, and Delinquent Behavior (Bulletin). 1998. 12 pp. NCJ 171119. FREE. Describes the findings of OJJDP-funded longitudinal research involving juveniles in Seattle, WA, and Rochester, NY. This research addressed a fundamental question: “Does gang membership contribute to delinquency above and beyond the influence of associating with delinquent peers?” The answer was yes in both cities, despite significant differences in demographics. One implication of these findings is that communities developing comprehensive approaches to reducing juvenile violence and victimization must consider the role of youth gangs and the necessity of including youth gang prevention, intervention, and suppression components.

Gang Suppression and Intervention: Community Models (Summary). 1994. 34 pp. NCJ 148202. FREE. Presents a framework for creating promising approaches to reducing the problem of youth gangs. Applies to both chronic and emerging gang problems. Looks at the roles of the family, community, schools, police, courts, and corrections in addressing the gang problem.


Guidelines for Screening Care Providers (Fact Sheet). 1999. 2 pp. FS–9992. FREE. Describes the need to implement screening policies in organizations and programs that care for children, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities. Basic screening, which includes requiring potential employees or volunteers to fill out a comprehensive application, conducting thorough interviews, and performing reference checks, is the first step. Additional screening could involve examining criminal records and abuse and sex offender registries and performing alcohol, drug, and psychological tests. Any screening process must be tailored to meet the needs of the organization using the process.

Highlights of Findings From the Denver Youth Study (Fact Sheet). 1999. 2 pp. FS–99106. FREE. Presents findings from the Denver Youth Study, a longitudinal study of urban youth. The study, one of three coordinated projects supported by OJJDP since 1986 through its Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency, explored changes in the nature of delinquency and drug use from the 1970’s to the 1990’s. Overall, there was
little change in the prevalence rates of delinquency although the level of injury from violent offenses increased substantially. The relationship between drug use and delinquency has changed; the prevalence of drug use decreased substantially, and a smaller percentage of serious delinquents is using hard drugs.

Highlights of Findings From the Pittsburgh Youth Study (Fact Sheet). 1999. 2 pp. FS–9995. FREE.

Presents findings from the Pittsburgh Youth Study, a longitudinal study of 1,517 inner-city boys from Pittsburgh, PA. This study has been following three samples of boys for more than a decade to advance knowledge about how and why boys become involved in delinquent and other problem behaviors. One of the important findings to emerge from the study was that the boys generally developed disruptive and delinquent behavior in an orderly, progressive fashion, with less serious problem behaviors preceding more serious problem behaviors.

Highlights of Findings From the Rochester Youth Development Study (Fact Sheet). 1999. 2 pp. FS–99103. FREE.

Presents selected findings from the Rochester Youth Development Study, a longitudinal study of 1,000 urban adolescents and 1 of 3 coordinated projects supported by OJJDP through its Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency. The Rochester study is investigating the causes and consequences of adolescent delinquency and drug use by following a sample of high-risk urban adolescents from their early teenage years through their early adult years. The study examined family influences on delinquency, school factors, peer influence on behavior, gang membership and delinquency, structural position, youth involvement with guns, and consequences of delinquent behavior.


Presents statistics on the prevalence of youth gangs throughout the country. Gang activity continued to affect a large number of cities and counties in 1997. However, there was a slight reduction in the number of jurisdictions reporting active youth gangs compared with 1996. While the estimated number of gangs and gang members in the Nation decreased slightly, the number of gang members in small cities and rural counties increased. In 1997, most respondents perceived their gang problem was “staying about the same,” while in 1995 they felt that it was “getting worse.” The degree of gang member involvement in criminal activity also fell compared with 1996.

How Juveniles Get to Criminal Court (Bulletin). 1994. 6 pp. NCJ 150309. FREE.

Presents statistics on the number of juveniles transferred to adult criminal court through judicial waiver, prosecutorial discretion, and statutory exclusion.

In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment (Bulletin). 1997. 16 pp. NCJ 165257. FREE.

Explores the connections between child maltreatment and problem behavior as a teen, drawing on the Rochester Youth Development Study. The National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse estimates that 1 million children suffered maltreatment in the United States in 1995 alone. Research indicates that childhood maltreatment raises victims’ risk of juvenile delinquency, teenage pregnancy, drug abuse, and emotional and mental health disorders during adolescence.


Describes strategies employed by Dade County, FL, Lansing, MI, and Norfolk, VA, designed to improve the quality of life for families and communities through the integration of community policing and human service initiatives.


Reports the interim findings of OJJDP’s initiative to assess intensive juvenile aftercare program models for serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders. Describes the framework for the prototype proposed for field testing.

Presents a review of programs and literature concerning juvenile prerelease, transition, reintegration, and aftercare. Includes information on assessment and classification for risk and need, descriptions of community- and institution-based programs, and an overview of theory-driven interventions.


Explains the underlying principles and program elements of the intensive aftercare program model, which can be applied in a variety of settings. Addresses organizational factors, case management, and program evaluation.


Provides a summary and a preliminary analysis of national and State juvenile arrest data reported in the FBI's November 1998 report, Crime in the United States—1997. The data show decreases in juvenile violent crime, despite continuing growth in the juvenile population. In 1997, for the third year in a row, the total number of juvenile arrests for Violent Crime Index offenses—murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault—declined. Between 1994 and 1997, juvenile arrests for violent crime declined 23 percent. The percentage of violent crimes cleared by juvenile arrests also has declined. Copies of Juvenile Arrests for previous years also are available.


Presents statistics on juvenile arrests for arson. The overall arson rate in 1997 was highest in large cities and lowest in rural areas. In 1997, 20,000 arrests were made for which the most serious offense was arson. In 50 percent of these arrests, the person involved was under age 18. Arson was the criminal offense with the greatest portion of juveniles in the arrestee population. More than half (53 percent) of juvenile arson cases disposed by the courts in 1996 were formally processed.


Presents national data on delinquency cases processed by juvenile courts from 1986 through 1995. Between 1986 and 1995, the delinquency caseload of U.S. juvenile courts increased 45 percent. The number of cases formally processed by juvenile courts rose from 554,000 to 938,400 during this time period, while the number of cases handled informally (without a petition or court hearing) increased 24 percent. The largest relative changes were in formal processing of liquor law violation cases and weapons offense cases. Despite increases in the use of formal processing, the proportion of delinquency cases that result in adjudication or waiver did not change substantially.


Presents national data on delinquency cases processed by juvenile courts from 1987 through 1996. National estimates were generated using information from the National J udvenile Court D ata Archive, which gathered data from 1,800 jurisdictions containing 67 percent of the U.S. juvenile population. Analysis of data found that more than half of delinquency cases handled by juvenile courts in 1996 were formally processed, and the number of formally processed delinquency cases increased 78 percent between 1987 and 1996. In nearly one-third of all delinquency cases referred to juvenile courts, the youth was adjudicated delinquent or waived to criminal court.

Juvenile Court Property Cases (Bulletin). 1990. 6 pp. NCJ 125625. FREE.

Analyzes property offense referrals to juvenile courts by nature of offense, disposition, and offender characteristics.


Describes delinquency cases and status offense cases handled by U.S. juvenile courts during 1996. Serves as a reference guide to help policymakers, researchers, and the public to better understand the juvenile justice system. Includes detailed tables and figures. Copies of
Juvenile Court Statistics for previous years also are available.


Describes this intermediate sanction program as an alternative to secure detention. Provides program components and implementation information for model programs.


Identifies and analyzes issues and trends associated with State juvenile reform initiatives. Provides information to policymakers on the mechanisms that States are using to respond to increased youth violence and delinquency. The report explores the more punitive measures, such as new criminal court transfer authority and expanded juvenile court sentencing options.


Provides an overview of the principles guiding OJJDP’s approach to juvenile crime prevention and the community environment affecting that approach. Describes individual JUMP grants and intervention models implemented in communities, and provides descriptions of the youth being served, their volunteer mentors, and the nature of their mentoring relationship. Examines initial evaluation findings and some promising indicators of success, and presents anticipated directions for future mentoring and mentoring-related activities. Positive outcomes include reports from mentors and youth that mentoring was a positive experience and that youth benefited from the experience, specifically in staying away from alcohol and drugs, avoiding fights and friends who are starting trouble, keeping away from gangs, and not using guns or knives.


Presents initial analyses from the 1997 CJ R.P. This census collected information on each offender in residential placement including age, race, sex, and offense. Information from this Fact Sheet shows that of the young offenders in residential facilities, the most were minority males who had committed serious personal or property offenses. Two statistical tables are included.


Provides updated information and statistics on juvenile crime, violence, and victimization, extrapolating 1995 data from various reports. Presents complex information on juvenile crime using clear, nontechnical writing and easy-to-understand graphics and tables. This Summary is an addendum to the 1995 Report Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report. Copies of Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1996 Update on Violence also are available.


Provides information and statistics on crime, violence, and victimization committed by and against juveniles, extrapolating 1992 data from various reports. Presents complex information on juvenile crime using clear, nontechnical writing and easy-to-understand graphics and tables. This Summary is an addendum to the 1995 Report Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report.


Synthesizes the most comprehensive information available on juvenile crime, violence, and victimization and the juvenile justice system. Provides the baseline for analyzing trends in the growth of the juvenile population, the rates of juvenile arrests, homicides, suicides, maltreatment, and violent crime victimizations, and the justice system's response to juvenile crime.


Summarizes the workload problems, agency initiatives, and special issues of juvenile probation professionals as reported in the 1992 Juvenile Probation Officer Initiative Survey. Describes the probation profession, the youth it serves, and the issues it faces, including on-the-job safety, insufficient resources, understaffing, and overcrowded caseloads.

Examines juvenile vandalism arrest data for 1996. Forty-four percent of all arrests for vandalism in 1996 were of persons under age 18. The Fact Sheet also includes data on the formal court processing of juvenile vandalism cases.


Summarizes data on the number of juveniles taken into custody in the United States and presents the latest developments in creating a new National Juvenile Corrections Reporting System. Reports for previous years are also available.


Offers a comprehensive assessment of research-based knowledge about serious and violent juvenile offenders. The Report tells professionals across the criminal and juvenile justice systems what is known, what programs have been tried, how well they have performed, and what lessons policymakers and practitioners can draw from them. The full findings of the Study Group’s research can be found in Serious & Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors and Successful Interventions, edited by R. Loeber and D. P. Farrington, 1998, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.


Presents findings from Juvenile Court Statistics 1996, the latest in a series of annual reports on cases handled by U.S. courts with juvenile jurisdiction. Although courts with juvenile jurisdiction handle a variety of cases, including abuse, neglect, adoption, and traffic violations, Juvenile Court Statistics reports focus on the disposition of delinquency cases and formally processed status offense cases. Juvenile courts in the United States processed nearly 1.8 million delinquency cases in 1996. This number represented a 3-percent increase over the 1995 caseload and a 49-percent increase over the number of cases handled in 1987. Copies of Offenders in Juvenile Court for previous years also are available.


Provides basic information on juvenile crime and victimization and on youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Data in several content areas, such as population characteristics and juvenile arrests, provide timely, reliable, statistical answers to the most frequently asked questions of policymakers, the media, and the general public.


Describes the nurse home visitation program and explains how it successfully reduces the risks for early development of antisocial behavior and maternal and juvenile offending. Presents evidence detailing the program’s effectiveness in reducing the risk for early antisocial behavior and preventing problems associated with youth crime and delinquency such as child abuse, maternal substance abuse, and maternal criminal involvement. Three of the risk factors associated with early development of antisocial behavior can be modified: adverse health-related behaviors during pregnancy that are associated with children’s neuropsychological deficits, child abuse and neglect, and troubled maternal life course.


Presents profiles of 60 demonstrated or promising programs and strategies that address the problem of gun violence; examines the nature of the problem from a national perspective, including current trends; and discusses the process of developing a solution. The profiles briefly describe the type of program, its goals, and the target group and target area and give contact information. They are grouped according to whether they are comprehensive, interrupt sources of illegal guns, deter possession and carrying, respond to illegal use, or provide for education initiatives and alternative prevention. This OJJDP Report also includes a section on resources for research, technical assistance, and education; geographical and alphabetical program indexes; and a matrix of participating agencies.

Provides a brief overview of the findings of four new violence studies examining the causes and correlates of serious and violent juvenile offending in urban and rural settings, and three existing studies. The four new studies funded by OJJDP include (1) Studies of Violence Committed By or Against Juveniles in Washington, D.C.; (2) Juvenile Violence in Los Angeles; (3) Violence Among Rural Youth; and (4) The Milwaukee Homicide Study. The existing studies OJJDP continued funding include three coordinated longitudinal projects, known collectively as the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency.

Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders (Bulletin). 1998. 8 pp. NCJ 170027. FREE.

Summarizes a Report by the Study Group on Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders. The Report provides valuable insights into the pathways to serious and violent juvenile offending and offers empirical evidence that the key to its reduction lies in early prevention efforts aimed at high-risk youth and interventions with these offenders.

State Legislative Responses to Serious and Violent Juvenile Crime (Report). 1996. 78 pp. NCJ 161565. FREE.

Documents and analyzes national changes in the handling of serious and violent juvenile offenders from 1992 to 1995. Implications for policy and practice are offered as considerations for lawmakers and policymakers.


Analyzes State laws enacted in 1996 and 1997 to target serious and violent juvenile crime. This Bulletin highlights trends concerning jurisdictional authority, judicial disposition/sentencing authority, corrections programming, confidentiality, and victims of juvenile crime. Seven tables are included.

Strategies To Reduce Gun Violence (Fact Sheet). 1999. 2 pp. FS–9993. FREE.

Presents an overview of the findings from the OJJDP Report, Promising Strategies To Reduce Gun Violence. Drawn from a national survey of more than 400 local programs, the Report describes 60 strategies and programs designed to address gun violence. This Fact Sheet describes common intervention points used by promising or innovative programs and lists the communities that are implementing comprehensive gun violence reduction strategies across the United States.


Highlights evaluations of several programs that have implemented the multisystemic therapy (MST) approach to the treatment of serious antisocial behavior in youth. MST is a home-based service approach that was developed in response to the lack of scientifically proven, cost-effective treatment. MST focuses on improving psychosocial functioning for youth and their families so that the need for out-of-home child placements is reduced or eliminated.


Analyzes the principal statutory mechanisms and criteria by which juveniles are placed in the criminal justice system at the State level for serious and violent crimes. The Report describes waiver, direct file, statutory exclusion, once an adult/always an adult, and reverse waiver provisions. Written by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the Report is based on State statutes as amended through 1997. Ten tables and an appendix that summarizes transfer provisions in all 50 States and the District of Columbia are included.

Urban Delinquency and Substance Abuse Initial Findings (Summary). 1994. 36 pp. NCJ 143454. FREE.

Summarizes preliminary findings of longitudinal research on the causes and correlates of juvenile delinquency. Examines the age of onset and prevalence of delinquency, drug use, and other problem behaviors and youth’s relationships to peers and family. Characteristics of effective intervention programs also are described.

Provides a comprehensive description of the findings from the first 3 years of OJJDP’s Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency. Discusses the research methodology and findings and offers relevant policy-related observations.


Contains descriptions of more than 400 juvenile delinquency prevention and treatment programs throughout the United States. Also includes contact persons for programs characterized as successful by professionals in the field.


Presents the findings of a study that examined recent data on juvenile arrests and the delinquency cases processed by U.S. juvenile courts. The data presented in this Bulletin will enable policymakers and the public to better understand the role that younger delinquents play in the overall problem of juvenile crime and violence.


Describes the relationships among youth gangs, drugs, and violence. This OJJDP Bulletin, part of the Youth Gang Series, provides a historical overview of gang drug use and trafficking, the current image of youth gangs, and policy and program implications. Also discussed are connections between youth gangs and adult criminal organizations and the role of firearms in gang violence.


Gives an overview of the proliferation of youth gangs across the United States, the problems associated with these gangs, and suggestions for program options. This Bulletin, the first in OJJDP’s Youth Gang Series, addresses the mounting public concern about the increase in youth gangs. It describes the changing composition of these gangs, the scope of the problem, and the risk factors for youth gang membership in community, family, school, peer group, and individual settings.

Products

Easy Access Series

Easy Access is a family of software packages developed for OJJDP by the National Center for Juvenile Justice to give a larger audience access to recent, detailed information on juvenile crime and the juvenile justice system.


Presents national, State, and county estimates of juvenile and adult arrests, rates, and trends for the FBI’s Crime Index offenses; 27 different tables for every State and county in the United States are provided. Results can be saved to a print file for easy insertion in other documents.


Explores variations and trends in State and national homicide victim and offender profiles. Immediate answers to questions about age, sex, race, weapon use, and victim-offender relationship are given. Results are presented in tabular and graphic formats and can be stored in output files that are easily read by spreadsheet or word processing packages.


Enables researchers, students, and juvenile justice professionals to analyze the large database that underlies the annual Juvenile Court Statistics reports. Demographic, offense, and case processing variables are included, allowing users to develop detailed descriptions of the delinquency cases processed in the Nation’s juvenile courts. Data are presented in tabular and graphic formats that can be saved to output files for use in word processing and spreadsheet applications.
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• Juvenile Justice Facts & Figures. Secure the latest facts and figures on juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and violence and victimization.
• Highlights. Discover time-sensitive opportunities, new features to the Web site, and new sources of information.
• Grants & Funding. Explore funding opportunities from OJJDP and other agencies.
• Resources. Share with and build on the experiences of individuals, agencies, and organizations in your community.
• Programs. Learn about the design and implementation of OJJDP programs.
• Publications. Access youth-focused publications and other resources.
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For additional information, call the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse 800–638–8736

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OJJDP produces a variety of publications—Fact Sheets, Bulletins, Summaries, Reports, and the Juvenile Justice journal—along with videotapes, including broadcasts from the juvenile justice telecommunications initiative. Through OJJDP’s Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (JJC), these publications and other resources are as close as your phone, fax, computer, or mailbox.

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The following list highlights popular and recently published OJJDP documents and videotapes, grouped by topical areas. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) produces a variety of publications—Fact Sheets, Bulletins, Summaries, Reports, and the Juvenile Justice journal—along with videotapes, including broadcasts from the juvenile justice telecommunications initiative. Through OJJDP’s Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (JJC), these publications and other resources are as close as your phone, fax, computer, or mailbox.

Courts
Offenders in Juvenile Court, 1995, 1997, NCJ 167885 (12 pp.).
Youth Courts: A National Movement Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 171149 (120 min.), $17.00.

Delinquency Prevention
Allegheny County, PA: Mobilizing To Reduce Juvenile Crime. 1997, NCJ 165693 (12 pp.).
Mentoring—A Proven Delinquency Prevention Strategy. 1997, NCJ 164384 (8 pp.).
Mentoring for Youth in Schools and Communities Teleconference (Video). 1997, NCJ 166376 (120 min.), $17.00.
Mobilizing Communities To Prevent Juvenile Crime. 1997, NCJ 159528 (8 pp.).
Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream. 1997, NCJ 163920 (12 pp.).
Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders. 1998, NCJ 170027 (8 pp.).
Treating Serious Anti-Social Behavior in Youth: The MST Approach. 1997, NCJ 165151 (8 pp.).
The Youngest Delinquents: Offenders Under Age 15. 1997, NCJ 165256 (12 pp.).

Gangs
Gang Members and Delinquent Behavior. 1997, NCJ 165154 (6 pp.).
Youth Gangs: An Overview. 1998, NCJ 167249 (20 pp.).
Youth Gangs in America Teleconference (Video). 1997, NCJ 164937 (120 min.), $17.00.

General Juvenile Justice
Developmental Pathways in Boys’ Disruptive and Delinquent Behavior. 1997, NCJ 165952 (20 pp.).
Guidelines for the Screening of Persons Working With Children, the Elderly, and Individuals With Disabilities in Need of Support. 1998, NCJ 167248 (52 pp.).
Juvenile Justice, Volume III, Number 2. 1997, NCJ 165925 (32 pp.).
Juvenile Justice, Volume IV, Number 2. 1997, NCJ 166823 (28 pp.).
Juvenile Justice, Volume V, Number 1. 1998, NCJ 170025 (32 pp.).
Youth Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence. 1997, NCJ 165703 (32 pp.).

Keeping Young People in School: Community Programs That Work. 1997, NCJ 162783 (12 pp.).

Missing and Exploited Children
Court Appointed Special Advocates: A Voice for Abused and Neglected Children in Court. 1997, NCJ 164512 (4 pp.).
In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment. 1997, NCJ 165257 (16 pp.).
Portable Guides to Investigating Child Abuse: An Overview. 1997, NCJ 165153 (8 pp.).
Protecting Children Online Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 170023 (120 min.), $17.00.

Substance Abuse
Capacity Building for Juvenile Substance Abuse Treatment. 1997, NCJ 167251 (12 pp.).
The Coach’s Playbook Against Drugs. 1998, NCJ 173933 (20 pp.).
Drug Identification and Testing in the Juvenile Justice System. 1998, NCJ 167898 (92 pp.).
Juvenile Offenders and Drug Treatment: Promising Approaches Teleconference (Video). 1997, NCJ 168617 (120 min.), $17.00.

Violence and Victimization
Child Development—Community Policing: Partnership in a Climate of Violence. 1997, NCJ 164380 (8 pp.).
Combating Fear and Restoring Safety in Schools. 1998, NCJ 167888 (16 pp.).
Epidemiology of Serious Violence. 1997, NCJ 165152 (12 pp.).
Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors and Successful Interventions Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 171286 (120 min.), $17.00.

Youth in Action
Planning a Successful Crime Prevention Project. 1998, NCJ 170024 (28 pp.).