The Juvenile Firesetter: Selected References

Revised October 1987

NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL


3. The Firesetter: a Psychological Profile, by Anthony Olen Rider, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC, 1980 (193p.) (This work is on the psychology of firesetting in general, but contains several chapters relating to juveniles/adolescents.)

4. Pathological Firesetting (Pyromania) by Nolan D. C. Lewis and Helen Yarnell, Nervous and Mental Disease Monographs #82, Coolidge Foundation, NY, 1951. (Approx. 300p.) (Although old and no longer available for sale, this landmark study of firesetting is widely referred to in recent studies. It is available for loan from the NY State Library and the Academy of Fire Science, and contains substantial research on juveniles.)


PSYCHOLOGY OF JUVENILE FIRESETTING


14. "Children See Fires as Exciting," Fire & Arson Investigator, 37:19, #3, March 1987. (Summary of presentation by a clinical burn specialist at a seminar held by the Iowa Chapter of IAAI.)


28. "The Diagnosis of Child Arsonist," by L.F. Lowenstein, Acta Paedopsychiatria, 47:151-154, October 1981. (On the Lowenstein Fire Raising Diagnostic Test, which is used to determine which subjects are actually fire raisers.)


30. "Early Warning Signs of Violence: Is a Triad Enough?" by Blair Justice, et al, American Journal of Psychiatry, 131:457-459, April 1974. (Suggests that other symptoms besides the three most commonly recognized ones of enuresis, firesetting and cruelty to animals, may indicate violent tendencies in juveniles.)


PSYCHOLOGY OF JUVENILE FIRESETTING, continued

(Survey of 139 childrens' firesetting experiences and patterns which emerged.)

(Case studies of 4 adolescent firesetters.)

(Compares 27 firesetting delinquents with 70 incarcerated delinquents with no history of firesetting.)


42. "Firesetting in Children," by Helen Yarnell, American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 10:272-286, April 1940.


(On psychological counseling and therapy program in Houston, TX.)

(On program used in Houston, TX.)

(On program used in Houston, TX.)


(Psychological roots of firesetting in juveniles and adolescents, and suggested methods of handling firesetters.)

(On counseling program instituted by Dr. Eugene Bumpass of the University of Texas at Dallas.)

53. Mentally Disturbed Female Arsonist, by Jean B. Moore.  
[Cited in Dissertation Abstracts International, 34(2-A) 641, August 1973, as number 01589 55-1. This is a study of elementary through junior-high girls with histories of firesetting.]

(On counseling of children and adolescents by Dr. Eugene Bumpass of the University of Texas.)


[Cited in Dissertation Abstracts International, 37:(8-B) 4154-4155, February 1977, number 01284 59-1.]


(On counseling of children and adolescents by Dr. Eugene Bumpass of the University of Texas.)


(On program run by Dr. Eugene Bumpass of the University of Texas.)

PSYCHOLOGY OF JUVENILE FIRESETTING, continued


70. Youthful Firesetters: an Exploratory Study in Personality and Background by E.Y. Siegelman and W.S. Folkman, USDA Forest Service, Washington, DC, 1971. (6p.) (Study of personality traits and backgrounds, and relation of firesetting to other behavioral problems.)

LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT COUNSELING/REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

71. "Antiarson Program Targets Children." Rekindle, 14:14, #5, May 1985. (On program used in Montgomery Co., MD, in which children age 7 and older suspected of starting fires are arrested and forced to participate in a 3-month rehabilitation program.)

72. "Arsonists Get 'Treatment.'" Minnesota Fire Chief, 19:14, #1, September/October 1982. (On a program used in Cottage Grove, MN, in which firesetters are counseled, and sometimes given work assignments around the firehouse.)

73. "Baltimore Counseling Program Keeps Juveniles from Getting Twice Burned." Target Arson: Update, 5:1, #2, June 1985. (An estimated 60% of Baltimore's fires are started by juveniles.)

74. "Bradlees Donates Interviewer Kits to Hampden County Intervention Program," [Fall River Firefighters' Memorial] Museum Dispatch, p.5, December 1986. (On Bradlees Department Stores' gift of juvenile firesetter interview kits to many Massachusetts fire departments.)


76. Children and Fire: Rochester Fire Related Youth Project. Progress Report: Volume II, Rochester Fire Department, Rochester, NY, 1986. (Approx. 60p.) (Second phase of a project funded in part by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control. See also other volume, citations #83 and #102.)


LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT COUNSELING/REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, continued

79. "The Development of a Program for Juvenile Fire Offenders," by W. Carroll, et al, Journal of Burn Care & Rehabilitation, 7:253-256, #3, May-June 1986. (Describes a program used in Colorado which attempts to rehabilitate juvenile fire offenders. It combines the resources and personnel of a local fire district, a regional burn unit, and the county social services department's juvenile division. Of 220 participants, there were no repeat offenders.)


82. "Fire Related Youth Program," Rochester Fire Department, Rochester, NY, 1981(?). (4-page pamphlet)

83. Fire Related Youth Program: Final Report of the 1983 Fire Related Youth Program Developmental Project, Rochester Fire Department, Rochester, NY, 1984 (Approx. 150p.). (See also other edition, citation #102, and report of 2nd phase of program, citation #76.)


86. The Firehawk Children's Program. National Firehawk Foundation, San Francisco, CA. (A 10-minute color videotape describing the Program and the now defunct Foundation. Includes interviews with children, officials, parents and firefighters.)


88. "Firehawk Programs Beginning in Two New Jersey Counties," Fire Control Digest, 10:5-6, #4, April 1984.


LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT COUNSELING/REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, continued

92. [Folder of information on the National Firehawk Foundation's juvenile firesetter counseling program, which is now defunct. Includes clippings, guidelines, etc.] (Approx. 50p.)


94. Good Fire/Bad Fire: Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program, Fresno (CA) Fire Prevention Bureau. (Approx. 20p.)


98. Intervention With Juvenile Firesetters by Anne Croskey and Daniel Davis, Upper Arlington Fire Dept., Upper Arlington, OH, 1979. (Designed for use by Department personnel.)

99. "Is This Program for Your Department?" Volunteer Fireman, 45:13, #12, December 1983. (On National Firehawk Program.)


101. Juvenile Firesetter/Firehawk Starter Pack, National Firehawk Foundation, San Francisco. (Approx. 50p.)


LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT COUNSELING/REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, continued


110. "Organizing the Juvenile Firesetter Program in the Volunteer Fire Department," Arson Resource Exchange Bulletin, February 1982, p.12-13. (On a program being used in the Burke, VA, Voi. Fire Dept. Counseling and referral techniques used are those supported by the US Fire Administration)


112. "Playing With Fire: Programs to Deter Juvenile Firesetters," by Peter A. Micheels, Firehouse, 12:69-71, #8, August 1987. (On juvenile firesetter programs in New York State, and interrelationship between such efforts as the Rochester FRY program and the NYS Burn Reporting Program.)


118. "Setting Young Firesetter Straight," by Robert Burns, Firehouse, 11:31, #7, July 1986. (On a program in Camden Co., NJ patterned after the National Firehawk Program.)

119. "Six Die in Elgin Street Fire," by Leonard J. Huethner, Fire Command, 52:22-24, #2, February 1987. (On a Rochester, NY house fire started by a 2½-year-old boy, and fire safety and psychological counseling measures which could have prevented the tragedy.)
120. Upper Arlington Fire Division's Approach to Juvenile Firesetting by John C. Haney, City of Upper Arlington Fire Division, Upper Arlington, OH, 1978. (Paper discussing fire prevention program instituted at local schools, 360 juveniles were treated, with a 3% recidivism rate for 1963-1967.)

121. "What Can You Do About Kids With Matches?" by Lisa Stricker, Fire Command, 44:16-19, March 1977. (Describes two award-winning programs.)

JUVENILE FIRESETING IN GENERAL


126. An Arsonist Talks About Juvenile Fire Setters. Film Communicators, N. Hollywood, CA. (23-minute color film or videotape presentation.)


129. Dimensions of Juvenile Arson and False Fire Alarms for the Urban Areas of San Diego. US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, Washington, DC, 1972. (64p.) (200 cases were analyzed to find similarities between false alarms and fire offenses. Conclusions on the most frequent type of offender are made. A 4-part program for fire prevention education is proposed.)

JUVENILE FIRESETTING IN GENERAL, continued

131. "Drawing Interviews: an Alternative Technique," by Robert Hugh Farley, Police Chief, 54:37-38, #4, April 1987. (On use of drawings made by children during police interviews. Although article is primarily concerned with child abuse/molestation cases, one of the examples used is of a firesetting incident.)


133. "Fire at Their Fingertips," GEICO (Government Employees Insurance Company), Washington, DC, 1984. (29-minute color videotape available in a variety of formats.)


136. "The Flames of Youth," by Wayne S. Wooden, Psychology Today, January 1985, p.22-26+. (Also reprinted in Fire & Arson Investigator, 36:46-47+, #1, September 1985. See also book this article is based on, citation #127.)


140. Interviewing and Counseling Juvenile Fire Setters, Film Communicators, N. Hollywood, CA, circa 1983. (21-minute color program. Available in 16mm film or any video format.)

141. Interviewing and Counseling Juvenile Fire Setters: the Child Under 7 Years of Age, US Fire Administration, Washington, DC, 1979. (50p.) (This guide has now been replaced by the publication listed in citation #153.)


143. Juvenile Arson, by Jan Schueller, University of Washington, Center for Law and Justice, Seattle, WA, 1979. (Review of research conducted in the last decade.)
JUVENTILE FIRESETTING IN GENERAL, continued


(A review of statistics and successful programs around the country.)

(The author, an investigator with the Los Angeles Fire Dept., briefly outlines techniques for investigation, interviewing and counseling.)

(Includes a section on arson and arson prevention, learning activities, presentations, resources, etc.)

(On development of program outlined in item #104 of this list.)

(Discusses aspects of juvenile firesetting including motives, interrogation and disposition of offenders.)

(The focus of this article is on malicious firesetting, methods used in setting fires, and pyromania in juveniles.)


152. Juvenile Firesetter and School Arson Prevention Programs, by Clifford L. Karchmer, Aetna Life & Casualty/Battelle Memorial Institute, Washington, DC (17p.)


(On statistics for Lancaster Co., PA.)


(The author, a special agent with the National Board of Fire Underwriters, discusses firesetting and its relationship to delinquency.)
JUVENILE FIRESETTING IN GENERAL, continued

157. Kids Playing With Fire: the Clarke Family Tragedy, Film Communicators, N. Hollywood, CA. (23-minute color film or videotape on the true story of two young boys who accidentally set the family home on fire.)


161. "Playing With Fire: a Prelude to Tragedy?" by Joseph F. Benyo, Rekindle, 14:12-13, #7, July 1985. (On a program aired by NBC starring Gary Coleman, and complaints about manner in which interviews and follow-up information were deleted from the end of the program.)

162. A Profile of the Juvenile Arsonist, by Scott R. Coplan, Center for Law and Justice, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 1979. (Approx. 30p.) (Identifies factors for classification of juvenile arsonists in the criminal justice/corrections system.)


166. "Return to Detroit: City's Offensive Helps Curb Arsonist' Tricks," by Harvey Eisner, Firehouse, 11:43-46, #2, February 1986. (On measures taken to prevent another rash of "Devil's Night" fires on Halloween. A 40% reduction was achieved.)


**JUVENILE FIRESETTING IN GENERAL, continued**


(Nationwide workshops and pilot programs to train professionals in interviewing, counseling, educating and referring firesetters.)


**LOSS PREVENTION/SECURITY**


(Prevention of arson in schools.)


(Students volunteer their time to help clean up school, patrol it, and catch arsonists. The article does not mention whether juveniles are under suspicion for the fire.)


(Guidelines for guarding against arson and minimizing fire damages. Includes statistics and two case studies.)


(Brief overview with statistics.)


(Use of student involvement to combat crime.)


(Eight ways to prevent or limit the spread of incendiary fires are outlined.)


(Results of a survey, with list of countermeasures being undertaken by the schools. Statistics are broken down by size of school.)
LOSS PREVENTION/SECURITY, continued

   (On an arson fire at the Belleview, WA, high school learning center, and plans to install alarms in other schools.)


   (A statistical analysis of school fires and losses in terms of dollars and inconvenience. Also included are recommendations on protective equipment and cases of school fires from the Washington, DC area.)

   (On Soquel, CA, fire department's planned burning of wildland around schools that had been repeatedly set on fire by high school students.)

   (Brief descriptions of school fires, not all of which were incendiary in origin. Included are summaries of 155 fires from 1971-72, and a list of large loss of life fires since 1900.)

   (This paper was presented at the American Association of School Administrator's 1973 Convention. It details security and public relations measures taken by the Toledo public schools to minimize damages resulting from student unrest.)
3. FBI Academy  
   Behavioral Science Unit  
   Quantico, VA 22135

5. Report number GCR-80-194  
   Fire Research Information Services  
   National Bureau of Standards  
   Bldg. 224, Rm. A252  
   Gaithersburg, MD 20899  
   National Technical Information Service (NTIS)  
   5285 Port Royal Rd.  
   Springfield, VA 22161  
   (703)487-4650 for price information

6. NCJ #538889 for free microfiche or document loan  
   NCJRS Microfiche Program  
   National Criminal Justice Reference Service  
   Box 6000  
   Rockville, MD 20850  
   (301)251-5500 for general information; lending through interlibrary loan system only

7. NBS report #GCR-79-157  
   (same address for NBS or NTIS as in #5)

13. Fall River Firefighters' Memorial Museum  
    P.O. Box 2888  
    Fall River, MA 02722

25. Order dissertations by number. Rates are available by calling University Microfilms at (800)521-3042, but in general will range from $23.00 for microfiche to $37.00 and $43.00 for softcover paper and hardcover paper, respectively.  
    University Microfilms  
    300 N. Zeeb Rd.  
    Ann Arbor, MI 48106

28. Resources in Education (RIE) January 1980, ED#175199  
    Request from your local library or library system. Free microfiche copies are available from:  
    Education Reference Service Point  
    New York State Library  
    Cultural Education Center  
    Albany, NY 12230
29. Copies may be available from the University. Write for further information.
   Health Science Center
   University of Texas at Dallas
   5323 Harry Hines
   Dallas, TX 75235

37. Resources in Education, ED# 196524
   (see number 28)

53. (same address as #25)

62. For sale for $21.95 (hardcover) from
   Brunner/Mazel Publishers, Inc.
   19 Union Square
   New York, NY 10003

70. NCJ #54899
   (same address as #6)
   NTIS PB# 207831
   (same address as #6)

76. Office of the Fire Chief
    Fire Department, Room 306
    Public Safety Building
    Civic Center Plaza
    Rochester, NY 14614

82. (same address as #76)

83. (same address as #76)

94. Fresno Fire Prevention Bureau
    450 M St.
    Fresno, CA 93721-3083
    (209)488-1542

98. Fire Division
    City of Upper Arlington
    3600 Tremont Rd.
    Upper Arlington, OH 43221

102. New York State Office of Fire Prevention & Control
    162 Washington Ave.
    Albany, NY 12231
    (518)474-6746
120. (same address as #98)

123. Arson Control Assistance Program
Department of Law Enforcement
602 Armory Building
Springfield, IL 62706

126. Rental (80 per week) or sale ($310 for film, $280 for video) from:
Film Communicators
11136 Weddington St.
North Hollywood, CA 91601
(800) 423-2400

127. For sale for $16.95 from:
Plenum Press
233 Spring Street
New York, NY 10013

129. NCJ #54430 for document loan or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)
NTIS PB# 214-910/2
(same address as #5)

HUD USER
P.O. Box 280
Germantown, MD 20874
(301) 251-5154 for price information

133. Available for free loan/duplication from:
GEICO (Government Employees Insurance Co.)
Attn: Communications Department
GEICO Plaza
Washington, DC 20076

137. NTIS #PB 82-137878
(same address as #5)

140. (Same address as #126) Rental ($50) and sale ($175 for film; $155 for video)

141. Superintendent of Documents #064-000-00001-2
(continued on next page)
Superintendent of Documents
US Government Printing Office
Washington, DC 20402
(202) 783-3238 for price information

US Fire Administration
Federal Emergency Management Agency
P.O. Box 8181
Washington, DC 20024

143. Center for Law & Justice
University of Washington, JD-45
Seattle, WA 98195

385 Washington Street
St. Paul, MN 55102

152. Aetna Life & Casualty Co.
Arson/Fraud Unit
151 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06156

153. US Fire Administration.
(same address as #141)

157. (same address as #126) Rental ($85) and sale ($375 for video; $415 for film)

162. (same address as #143)

167. State Fire Marshal's Office
Division of Fire Safety
12 Humbert Street
North Providence, RI 02911

175. NCJ #51426 for document load or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)

178. NCJ #42741 for document loan or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)
179. NCJ #36791 for document loan or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)

182. NCJ #13324 for document loan or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)

184. NCJ #38077 for document loan or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)

185. NCJ #36589 for document loan or free micro-fiche
(same address as #6)

ED #077111, Resources in Education (RIE) October 1973
(see #19)

COMPiled By:

LIBRARY
NYS Academy of Fire Science
P.O. Box 817, 600 College Ave.
Montour Falls, NY 14865
(607) 535-7136