

CHAPTER VI

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Understanding the Child

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General Health of the Child

Nature of Child's Relationship
with the Family Members

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Education of the Child

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UNDERSTANDING THE CHILD

The psychological study of factors associated with delinquency requires the investigator to examine the delinquent individual and his environment, since those factors may be traced to the working of his mental endowment against his family background and his physical and social environment. As noted earlier, conduct may be said to consist of the result of interplay between individual and environmental forces. It is the individual child who reacts to the situation or environment. Hence it is important first to understand the child and know how he interprets the situation and not we for him. Attempts have been made to explain the delinquency in light of the circumstances and surroundings of the delinquent. But this alone cannot explain the fact. Children having no better or worse backgrounds have not turned out as delinquents. On the other hand, there are a number of children having most favourable background and means where the least possibility for anti-social behaviour is suspected

and yet it is found that they are caught in the toils of delinquency. Similarly, we find that there are delinquent children who have got non-delinquent siblings, though they are from the same environments. The response to a situation is not so simple; it depends on the situation to the reacting child. It is in fitness of observed facts when Professor Merrill Maud says :(30)6

" The meaning of life situations in terms of emotional reactions and the development of the whole personality differs for different children in the same home. To one, the life situation may involve deep feelings of being rejected, unloved and insecure; to another in the same home inspite of the frustrating experiences growing out of extreme poverty, there is the security of parental approval, warmth of acceptance".

As the meaning of the same life situations for two children is different, whenever search is to be made, we have to centre it on the individual and his surroundings. The White House Conference on Child Health and Protection (47)⁶a is also of the same opinion when it pronounces :

" No two individuals in their total situation are alike and none remains static".

In continuation it can be added in the words of Professor J. C. Marfatia (29)_a:

" Attempts to understand any child's behaviour are complicated by the fact that no two children resemble one another. There are constitutional differences in children, not only in physical make up and intellectual capacities, characteristics which are measurable, but also in personality characteristics for which available measurements are crude and open to error".

All this means that a study of a delinquent child needs first the study of the child with reference to various influences under which he grows and acts. The child's legal status, physical health, his aversions, his attitudes and inclinations, his indulgences and use of leisure time, etc. all these ^g ~~are~~ ^{important influences} contributing to his ways of living and the growth of delinquency, if it at all takes a turn. The child's healthy growth always keeps him in line with the society's demands and away from being naughty or nuisance. Professor Bowley A. H. (4)_a in the 'Problems of Family Life' expresses the same opinion in the following words :

" The happy, busy and successful child is seldom a naughty child".

In short, an exhaustive study of the child in all aspects is essential for having the full understanding of the child's behaviour, social or anti-social. In view of this, a detailed list of particulars regarding all possible sorts of information about children was prepared in order to investigate the factors associated with delinquent behaviour of children under study.

The present study covers information on child's legal status, physical health, height and weight, physical defects and deformity, his rank in the family, his preferences and aversions, his ambitions and dreams, his attitudes towards other persons, especially parents, his inclinations and interests particularly for reading and cinema going etc., his addictions and indulgences, his education, his occupations and employments, and his use of leisure time, etc. all of which are to some extent likely factors contributing to the growth of delinquent behaviour of children, if not adequately guided and guarded. The other outstanding variables such as age, intelligence and socio-economic status, which are studied by most investigators have been kept constant or controlled in this investigation, by having delinquent and non-delinquent children matched on these variables, as noted earlier.

The lines that follow now discuss the data gathered on the factors mentioned above. It should be clear at this stage that the investigation studies the factors associated with juvenile delinquency; these factors may or may not be necessarily the causes of delinquency; more often they are contributing to or aggravating delinquency where it exists. Moreover, they are not the only factors; perhaps they may be working in conjunction with or interacting with others. Any way, the factors studied are some way contributing to or associated with growth of delinquency and in this sense, these should be understood as factors of delinquency throughout the investigation.

LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHILD

It is generally agreed by the research scholars in the field, like Mullin^s Claud in 'Why crime?', Ceasare Lombrosso in 'Crimes - Its Causes and Remedies', Mannheim Hermann in 'Juvenile Delinquency', Neumeyer Martin H. in 'Juvenile Delinquency in the Modern World' and Bullenger^s Thomas Earl in 'Social Determinants of Juvenile Delinquency', that delinquency is highly associated with legal status of the child. The investigator also observed the same in his present research. In India, working of the Marriage Act of 1955, prohibiting the second marriage, in case where first legal marriage is subsisting or not dissolved by the court of proper jurisdiction, has intensified the problem of illegitimacy of the children in the coming years. Before the enforcement of the Act, the individual was allowed to marry more than one women inspite of the existence of first legal marriage. During that period problem of illegitimacy was complicating all the more the problem of delinquency.

But the proper execution of the Act in the coming years has clarified the situation. In India widow remarriage is not appreciated or encouraged socially though it is sanctioned by the Act. In such cases prohibition of widow remarriage sometimes leads to illicit intercourse (18). Thus, from such curious situations also the problem of illegitimacy develops.

The present investigator in his survey studied the legal status of each of the delinquent as well as matched non-delinquent children. In few cases the legal status of the children could not be traced. All these figures are presented in Table No. 2. To find out whether the difference in number of illegality in each group was a matter of sheer chance or a statistically reliable fact, the data of Table No. 2 were subjected to the analysis by Chi-Square Test, and it was observed beyond .01 level of confidence that statistically, highly significant number of delinquent children were found illegitimate (6.7 %) or with their legal status unknown or untraced (3.3 %) in comparison to non-delinquent children, almost all of whom were legitimate (99.3 %). The same was observed by Mannheim Hermann among the delinquent group studied (27).

TABLE NO. 2

Legal Status of the Child

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	Per	No.	Per
1. Legitimate	135	90.0	149	99.3
2. Illegitimate	10	6.7	-	-
3. Unknown	5	3.3	1	00.7
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 13.36$$

$$P < .01$$

NUMERICAL RANK IN THE FAMILY

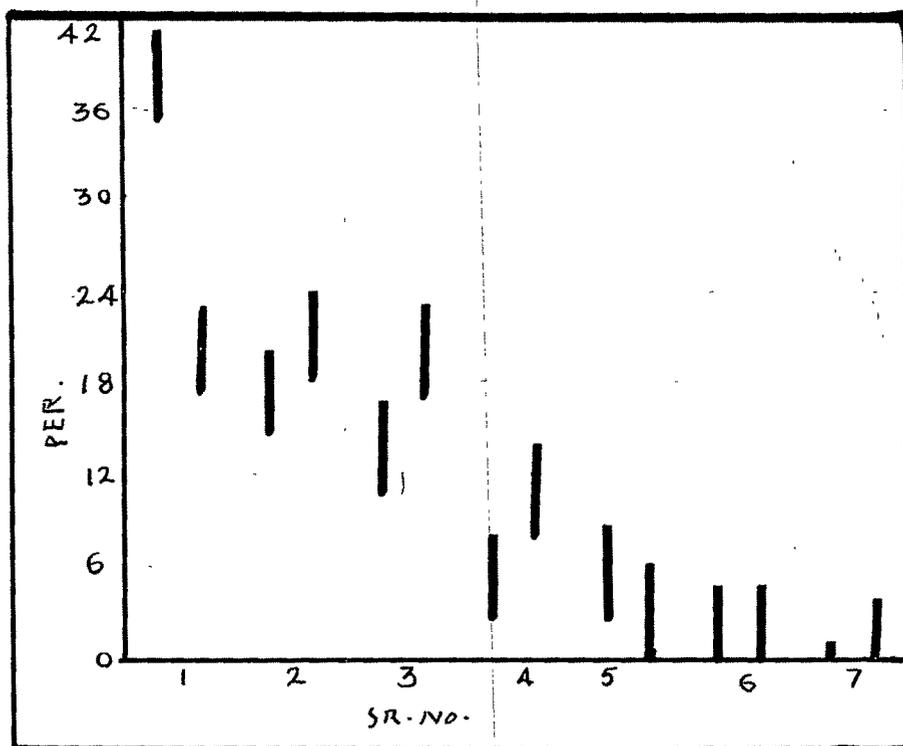


FIG. 9

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHILD

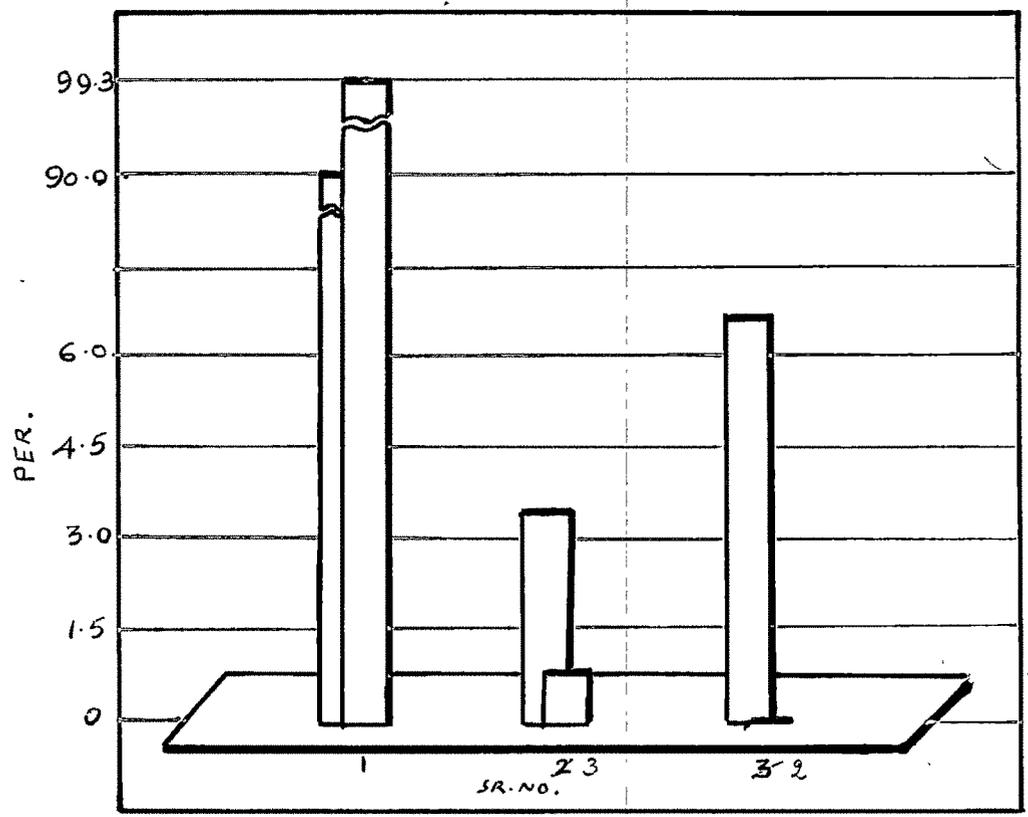


FIG. 1

— DEL.
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Illegitimate children start their life with a number of handicaps in comparison to those legitimate children. They are looked upon as fruits of sin. So, the society instead of making their path easier as for children, makes it difficult than ever. No other children mix with them. No one sympathises with them. Social opportunities and facilities are not available to them. The opportunities of self expression and self-satisfaction are denied and at each deal they are made conscious of their unwantedness, which develops in them a sense of social insecurity, frustration, mental conflict and much of inferiority complex. Naturally, they are led to express themselves in ways later termed as delinquent. To have been born illegitimate is by itself not a cause of delinquency, but the fact about illegitimacy creates an awkward situation for them. The reaction of the society against them and treatment given to them are highly responsible for delinquency. They are the product of the components of the society, the outcome against whom the society is resenting. An illegitimate child may according to circumstances be better or worse off than a legitimate child (31). The same environment and reactions may teach him less one

of tolerance and he may meet the life with hardered zeal, developing into a well adjusted child surviving by force of circumstances or on the other hand, he may suffer a nervous breakdown under hard failures and desertations, thus turning into a delinquent child.

Illegitimate children are sometimes discarded or neglected physically and psychologically even by the mother and the father. Consequently, they always lack parental love and acceptance as well as training and especially training by a father - real or substitute. As a result, they frequently become unconventional, perhaps rebellious and aggressive in their behaviour and attitude against everything that comes in their way. They develop hostility against the moral code or norms of society. Naturally, then, the higher proportion of delinquency is found in those children who have born out of unlawful wedlock. In some cases, because of the attitude of society towards such a product, the knowledge about an illegitimate origin can itself be an urge to act in an anti-social way. This is both a commonsense view as well as a sound principle of psychology. Psychological truma produced by such knowledge leads children to delinquency. With them there are no standards,

no helpful friends, no good record of work to their credit, no parental prestige to help, no one to love, All around they breathe the air of disgust, neglect and of unfavourable attitude. Doors of higher moral, social, religious and political opportunities are closed for them. An atmosphere is created such that even if they want to be good, they cannot. Mullins Claud (31) explains it thus :

" When adolescents feel doubts about the 'respectability' of their birth, there is no easy way out for them, for probably the mother has been one lodestor in their lives, and to question about her virtue seems torture. Such conflicts destroy all feelings of security and can easily result in conducts which lead to criminal courts. "

Further he says :

".....that illegitimate children are regarded as a product of sin. A bastard child had no legal rights and owed no legal obligations; he was regarded as a stranger to both his parents; he did not even possess a name by legal right; neither his father nor his mother was under legal obligation to maintain him."

The Italian criminologist Ceasare Lombroso (25) holds the same view when he says :

" Most of these children are the fruit of sin; they have no name to uphold, no mother who, by her assiduous care, affection and sacrifices, aid them in developing the noble instincts and suppressing tendencies to evil; they find an honest living hard to get, and are inevitably drawn toward evil. If they have no perverse tendencies they acquire by imitation."

no rein to stop them when spurred by passion

Illegitimate children are resented by the society and the growing sense of it coupled with personality handicaps often drives a child to anti-social conduct. A large number of illegitimates make start in life with handicaps of abnormal birth, heritage of mental subnormality, the records of parental immorality and crime, and lack of normal home environment. And when mothers try to keep such children, they have to assume the role of both parents (42). The illegitimate children with a break in family face a number of difficulties and under tension they crack and suffer nervous breakdown.

The problem of illegitimacy is the product of breakdown of the primary basic group, viz. the family. In turn, illegitimacy is a problem associated with delinquency generally accompanying the children born ^{of} unmarried mothers.

Sullenger Thomas Earl (42)_a says :

" Research tends to show that children not born out of wedlock have a much higher expectancy of delinquency than other children. The child is socially handicapped from the very beginning. The nature of his birth places him in a social stratum, ostracized by society. His chances of having been born of mentally normal parents are few. He is misfit, unadjusted individual. Frequently conditions in the family in which he lives are antagonistic."

Professor Neumeyer Martin (32)_c also gives a supporting statement when he says :

" The designation 'illegitimate child' is an unfortunate one, for it stigmatizes and handicaps a child rather than the parents. The community attitude toward illegitimate children makes it very difficult for him to live a normal life and to receive proper treatment."

Further

" Besides being classed as illegitimate children, many are further handicapped in that mothers may be too young to rear children, or may be characterized by any one or several of the following have low intelligence, lack training, belong to low income and occupation groups, come from broken homes, have low moral standards and lack means of livelihood."

Generally, in case of illegitimate children there is no mother's hand to guide them properly, no father's arms to protect them from hazards of life, no home to get shelter and security with a mother's welcoming voice. Even in case where there is loving mother, there is neither training nor means to raise the child; there is only fear for children. They have no friends to help them because they have no answer for the legality of their birth. They are psychologically perturbed by questions 'Who are they?', 'Where do they come from?'etc. The search for answer to such questions leads them slowly and gradually towards delinquency. The present data confirm that illicit birth is one accompaniment to delinquency.

GENERAL HEALTH OF THE CHILD

It is said that the child mostly enters delinquency during the period of ill-health or transitory weakness and fatigue when the inhibitory control is at its anticlimax. In view of this general health record of the children in both the groups was examined from their school record at the time of admission. All children have been categorized - as very healthy, normal (mediocre) and weak. This information is given in Table No. 3. These data were also subjected to statistical analysis of χ^2 Test to observe the significance. Analysis revealed that a higher number of non-delinquent children were observed in very healthy conditions (52.00 %) and in normal health condition (38.00 %) and very few were found to be weak (10.00 %) in comparison to the figures of the delinquent children in each category of health.

It is likely that during delinquency period, delinquent children are more used to wander here and

TABLE NO. 3

General Health of the Child

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. Healthy	30	20.0	78	52.0
2. Normal	63	42.0	57	38.0
3. Weak	57	38.0	15	10.0
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 46.12$$

$$P < .01$$

GENERAL HEALTH OF THE CHILD.

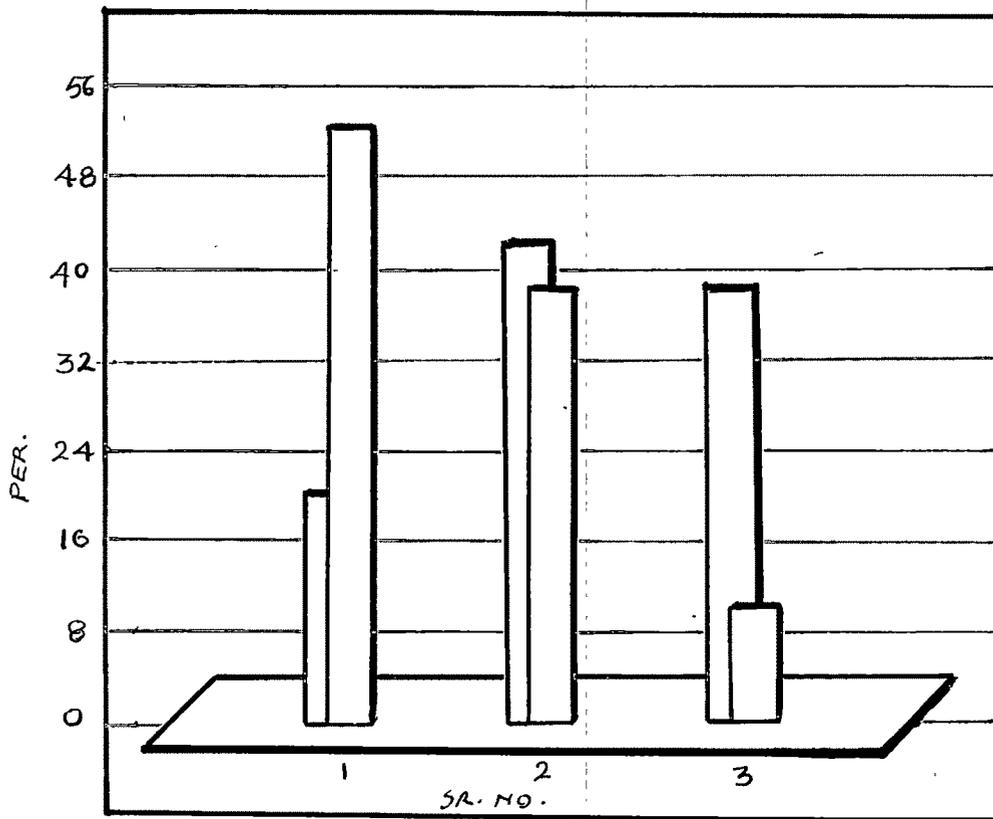


FIG. 2

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

there and are mostly living irregular life, taking cheap and unnutritive food available in the market; this is most likely to influence their general health record. Before the child actually takes the course of delinquency, he mentally lives a life of delinquency. During that mental life he suffers from emotional conflicts and grave insecurity which consume his greater psychic energy and this also ^ucases him to be poor in health. Or, it may be that physically weak children are more likely to take recourse to easy and often unhealthy means of self-expression and self-satisfaction; soon they are led to acts of delinquency. Thus, poor health may be either precursor or a follower of delinquency, but definitely is its associate. A healthy child in the normal course of development is full of activities and enthusiasm. But a child whose health is retarded is devoid of normal life full of activities. If the health of the child makes his physically unfit to participate in the programmes of activity and jocosity, which are daily enjoyed by his school fellows, neighbours and playmates, the child falls back upon any activity at hand to hide his inability, and in order to materialize his ends he tries short cuts of life.

During acute illness the child indulges in phantasies and day-dreamings. After practising this way of living during illness, the child becomes so habituated to this that when he recovers, it becomes difficult to come out of it and he remains persistent in phantasies and day-dreaming. Phantasies and day-dreaming cause laziness in the child and also induce him to enter into reckless activities. It is also a universal truth that the child who suffers from any acute illness becomes often an apple of the eye in the family. He gets preferences over all other children in the home during illness, a state which he wants to continue even after recovery. But later on such practices become his habits, so in reality he becomes unable to cope with the hazards of life. And whatever he cannot get his demands in a normal fashion he would try to get it crookedly and cruelly (40). This is also confirmed by Dr. Cyril Burt (5) when he says :

" When health deserts us, courage is diminished; laziness increased; and the heated temper simmers over in perpetual peevishness, or bursts out in some sharp blast of violence."

Further,

"Feebleness begets timidity; and timidity is the parent of deceit. The sly child is often the shy child. What he loses from want of health and strength, he is prone to make up by strategem and guile."

Even Professor Stott D. H. (41) says :

"Wickedness is a form of mal-development and stunted growth, and brings its own pains."

Since ill health usually prevents the afflicted person from carrying out many goal responses which seem important to him, it is unquestionably a source of serious frustration in the lives of many individuals (10). Hence, it is more likely that ill health and delinquency either breed each other or are bred together.

Diseases and Disorders
prevalent in the Child :

Along with general weakness in health go a number of diseases and disorders. These were also studied in both cases comparatively. It is found from the Table No. 4 that a higher number of delinquent

TABLE NO. 44

Disease Prevalent in the Child

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. T. B.	4	2.7	2	1.3
2. Tonsils	3	2.0	3	3.0
3. Skin	7	4.6	1	0.7
4. Recket	4	2.7	-	-
5. No.	132	88.0	144	96.0
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 9.86$$

$$) P < 0.05$$

DISEASE PREVALENT IN THE CHILD.

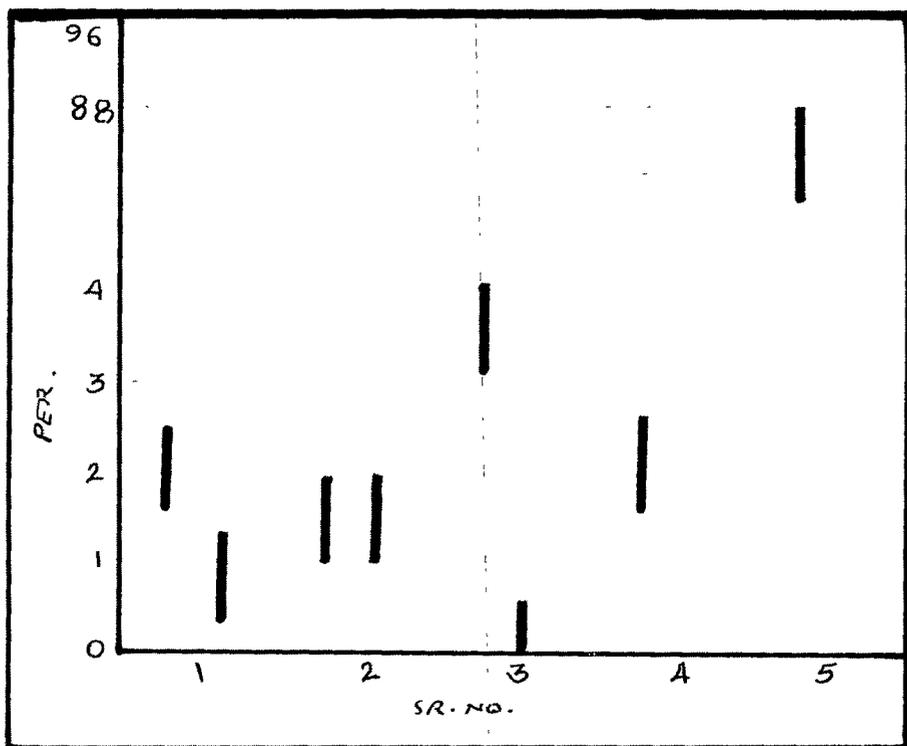


FIG. 3

— DEL.

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children were suffering from diseases like T.B., skin diseases, *and ricket.*

As children in both the groups were selected from the same economic status of the family, incidence of diseases or poor physique need not be attributed chiefly to poverty as usual. In this case, it follows that mostly the parents of the delinquent group, were comparatively careless about the health of the children. These children were more easily victimised by any disease, which in turn used to make them weaker to withstand the attacks of mental conflict.

The White House Conference on Child Health and Protection (46) observes :

"the result of diseases render some individuals unable to stand the stresses and strains of normal social living in an ordinary environment."

It is a significant observation that delinquency is not far from disease.

Physical Defect or Deformity in the Child :

It is also observed (Table No. 5) that one-half in ten (6.7 %) were found suffering from defective

TABLE NO. 5

Physical Defect

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. Vision	10	6.7	8	5.3
2. Hearing	14	9.3	4	2.7
3. Speech	33	22.0	3	2.0
4. Vision and Speech Disorders	6	4.0	1	0.7
5. No	87	58.0	134	89.3
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 19.62$$

$$P < .01$$

PHYSICAL DEFECT

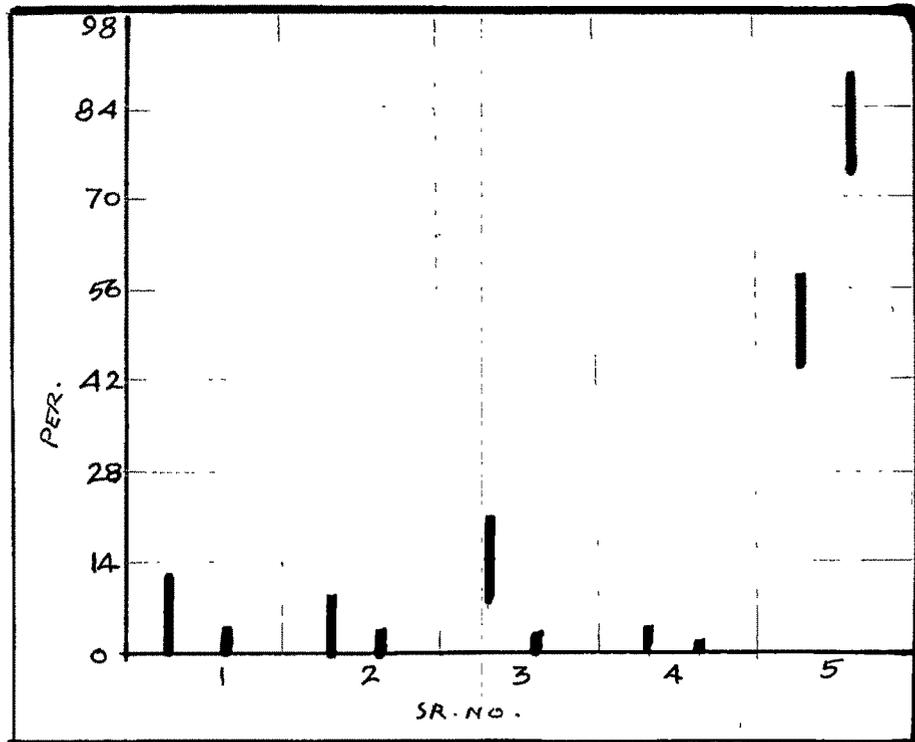


FIG. 1

— DEF.

— NON-DEF.

vision in case of delinquent group, nearly one in ten (9.3 %) suffering from defective hearing, slightly more than two in ten (22.0 %) suffering from speech disorder, slightly less than onehalf in ten (4.0 %) suffering from vision and speech disorders; in other words, about half of the total group were suffering from one or the other physical defect, while roughly nine in ten (89.3 %) were physically normal without any defect or disorder among the non-delinquent group.

As far as deformities were concerned it was found (Table No. 6) that equal number of children in both the groups were found having deformity of hand (0.7 %) and deformity of leg (0.7 %); comparatively higher number of children in the delinquent group were having disfigurement caused by small-pox (7.3 %). Only two (1.3 %) of the whole of delinquent children were having deformity in ear and nose. There was no significant difference between the two groups in physical deformity, though both differed with respect to general health and physical defects.

By the by, it should be noted that though delinquents are sometimes defectives, all physically defective or deformed children are not delinquents

TABLE NO. 6

Physical Deformity

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. Lung	1	0.7	1	0.7
2. Hand	1	0.7	1	0.7
3. Disfigured	11	7.3	5	3.3
4. Any other	2	1.3	-	-
5. No	135	90.0	143	95.3
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 4.50$$

$$P < 0.50$$

PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

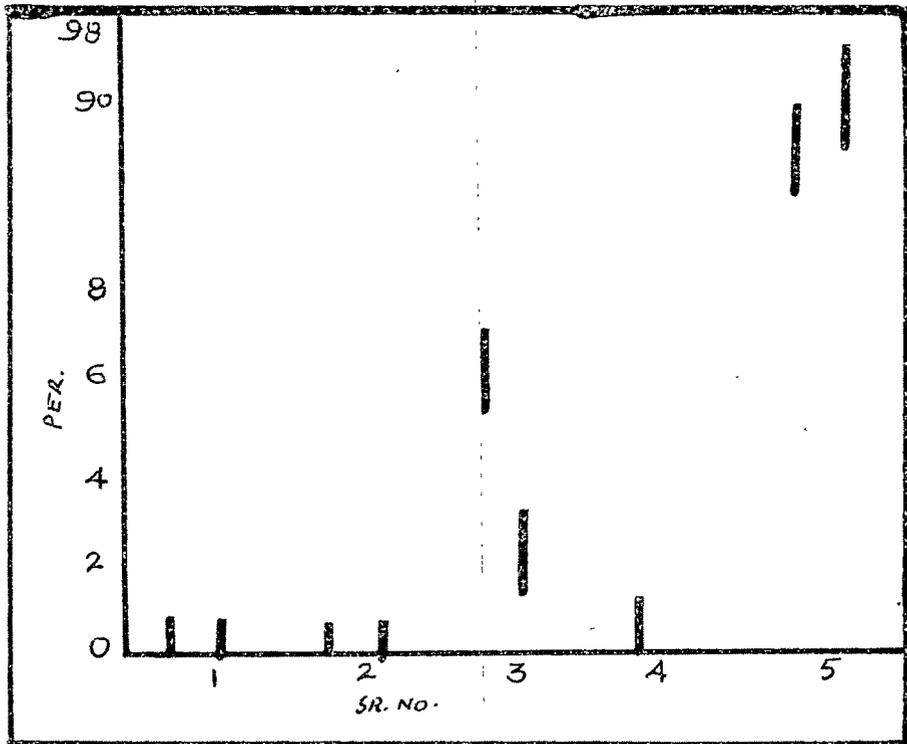


FIG. 5

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

nor they are emotionally uncontrollable. On the other hand, some are even examples of cheerfulness and sources of inspiration for the persons around them. But the defect or deformity puts a heavy load on the individual who possesses it. Physically handicapped children are sometimes neglected or over-protected by their parents. Both the cases - neglected and over-protected - invite worse results for the children. Physical handicaps are the barriers to happy normal development and might be a contributing cause of delinquency in some cases. The children suffering from physical defect or deformity are met with resentment and disgust. They develop inferiority. In such cases children are in grip of tremendous, driving necessity to prove their superiority to themselves and to people around them, because they feel inferior. Their ego remains in constant demands of artificial build-up to keep themselves on an even keel with others (3). Such inferiority often leads to frustration and hence delinquency. On the other hand, sometimes, the physically handicapped children being true to themselves accept the reality and work hard to compensate for the loss, which in turns saves them from being delinquent. But such a latter case is rare and the former often prevails in absence of adequate guidance.

CHILD'S RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE FAMILY MEMBERS

Out of all the factors, perhaps child's relationship with different members in the family is the most potent determinant of the nature and direction of growth and behaviour of the child. Generally, the attitude of the child towards his father and mother is an indication of the feelings of home security or insecurity which play a major role in bringing out the social or the delinquent behaviour. A warm attitude towards them helps the child to develop a wholesome set of ideals through emotional identification with them. And if the child shows a rejective attitude towards them, it is natural that the child seeks substitute satisfaction in pursuing anti-social behaviour or may suffer grave insecurity and frustration which may develop in him psychoneurotic symptoms. Hence an attempt was made during the interview of the children to find out the nature of child's attitude towards parents. Those who resisted answering the

questions regarding their attitude towards the father or mother or those who were missing either of parents were placed under the category 'unknown'. The answers of all others were classified as either 'warm', 'indifferent' or 'rejective'. The frequency of children of both the groups under each category is shown in Table Nos. 7 and 8 representing the nature of attitude towards the father and the mother respectively.

It is observed from the Table No. 7 that round about only one in ten (9.3 %) children among the delinquent group had warm attitude towards the father, meaning that the expressed affection for father, actively sought his advice and enjoyed his presence in the family; about two in ten (18.7 %) had indifferent attitude towards the father i.e. there was absence of either affection for or hostilities against him; nearing three in ten (28.7 %) had rejective attitude towards the father indicative of active avoidance coupled with hatred or no regard for him; the remaining about four in ten (43.3 %) cases expressed no attitude whatsoever. In case of the non-delinquent group, more than three and one half in ten (36.7 %) children had warm attitude towards the father, about four in ten (42

TABLE NO.7

Child's Attitude Towards Father

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. Warm	14	9.3	55	36.7
2. Indifferent	28	18.7	63	42.0
3. Rejection	43	28.7	14	9.3
4. U. K.	65	43.3	18	12.0
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 79.2 \quad P < .01$$

CHILD'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS FATHER

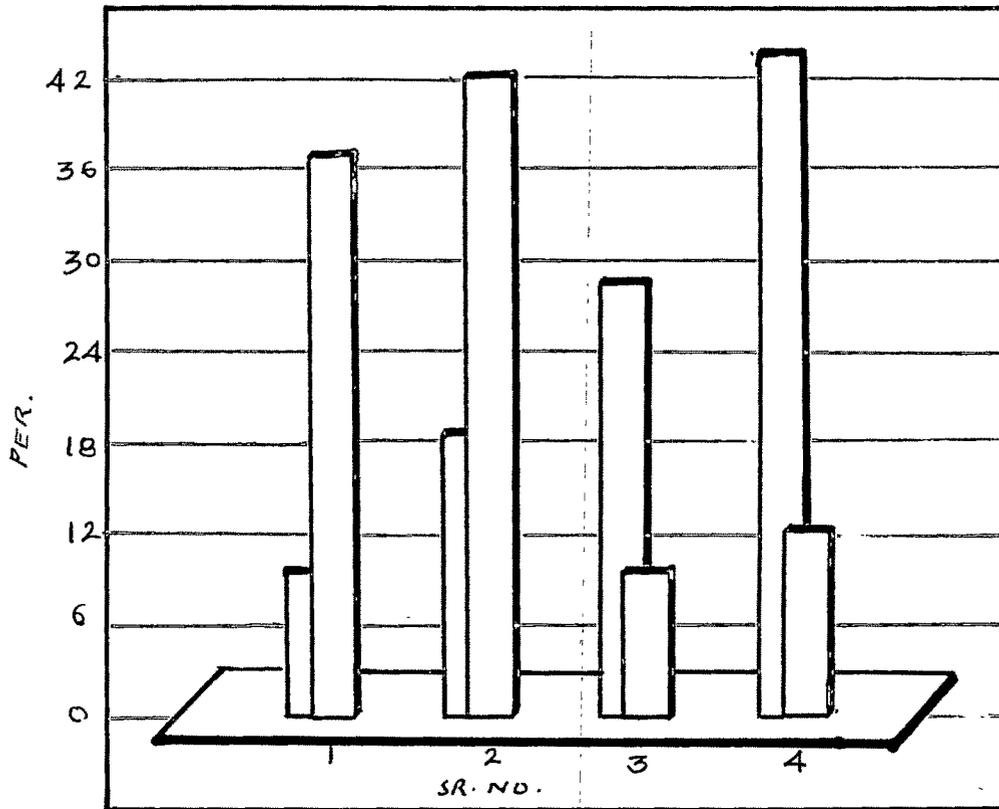


FIG. 6

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

(42.0 %) had indifferent attitude and only less than one in ten (9.3 %) had rejective attitude towards the father; while about one in ten (12.0 %) cases expressed no attitude whatsoever.

These differences between the two groups were statistically significant i.e. more of the delinquent children rejected the father and more of the non-delinquent children had warm affection for the father.

Similarly, it can be observed from the Table No. 8 that only about one in ten (12.7 %) children among the delinquent group had warm attitude towards the mother; about three in ten (28.0 %) had indifferent attitude towards the mother; more than two in ten (22.0 %) had hostile attitude towards the mother and in more than three and one half cases in ten (37.3 %), no attitude whatsoever was expressed; while among the non-delinquent children more than six in ten (61.4 %) had warm attitude towards the mother, more than two and one half in ten (27.3 %) had indifferent attitude towards the mother; only about one half in ten (6.0 %) had hostile attitude towards the mother and one half in ten (5.3 %) cases expressed no attitude whatsoever. These differences were also statistically significant.

TABLE NO. 9

Child's Attitude Towards Mother

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. Warm	19	12.7	92	61.4
2. Indifferent	42	28.0	41	27.3
3. Rejection	33	22.0	9	6.0
4. U. K.	56	37.3	8	5.3
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 97.84 \quad P < .01$$

CHILD'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS MOTHER.

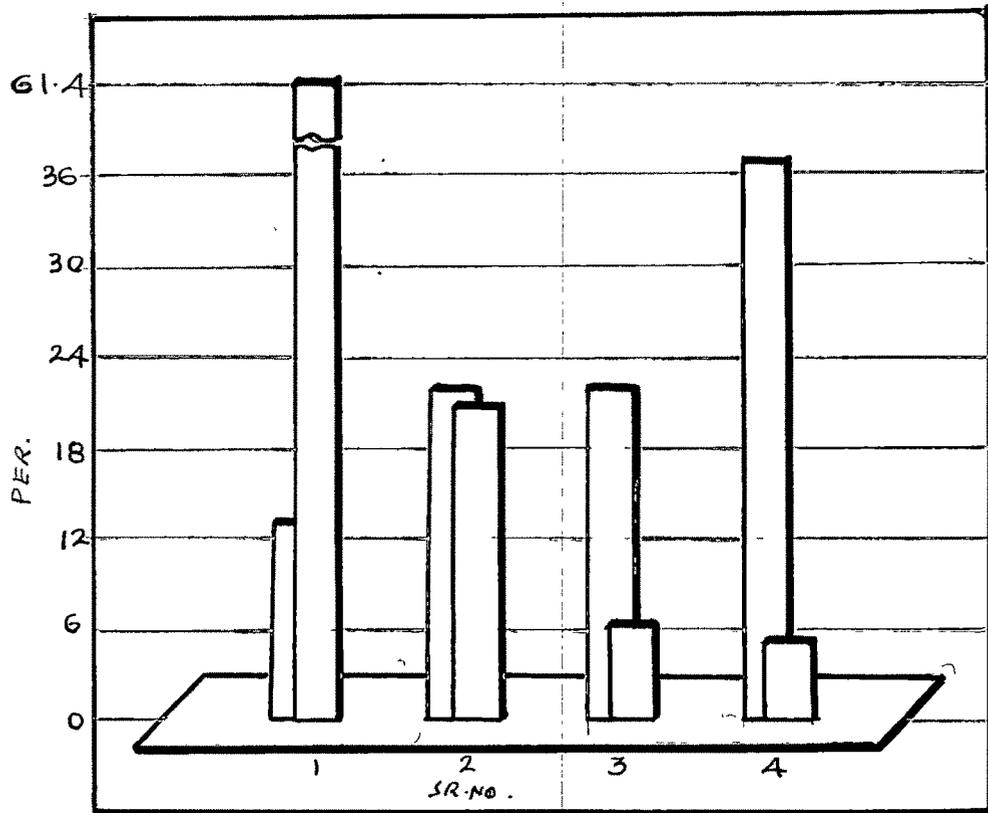


FIG 7

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

From comparison of data in Tables 7 and 8 it will be seen that more children in neither group were having warm attitude towards the mother than towards the father. (delinquent 12.7 % and non-delinquent 61.4 % for the mother while delinquent 7.3 % and non-delinquent 36.7 % for the father). So also less were showing hostile attitude towards the mother than towards the father. (delinquent 22.0 % and non-delinquent 6.0 % for the mother, while delinquent 28.7 % and non-delinquent 9.3 % for the father). All these differences were also found significant statistically, meaning that any child was more affiliated and less hostile to the mother than to the father.

In short, it can be summarised that the nature of attitude of the child is significantly related to delinquency; the more strained the attitude, the greater is the possibility of the child to turn out a delinquent. Secondly, the child whether delinquent or non-delinquent is more pro-mother.

On finding from the interview this substantial difference between the two groups in their attitude towards parents, it was thought to study independently

and more scientifically the nature of the family relationships which the child had with all members in the family, as manifested in different situations and dealings. In view of this, a Family Adjustment Inventory (Copy as in Appendix E), prepared in Gujarati by Dr. A. S. Patel in the Department of Psychology, Baroda, as well as the Adjustment Inventory of Shri H. S. Asthana in Hindi were administered later to children of both the groups. The items in the inventory aim at finding out how the testee views or looks at different members in the family during his living with them, in his dealings with them and in situations in which he has to respond to the demands of other members. Appendix shows the scores of both the groups on both the inventories. These scores were subjected to statistical analysis by a 't' test. Table No. 9 shows the mean and standard deviation as well as the critical ratio for difference between the two groups, with respect to both Inventories. It is very evident that both the groups significantly differed from each other in their family relationships or family adjustment as well as personal adjustment. The delinquents had on an average a lesser score for family as well as personal adjust-

ment and the non-delinquents were more adjusted personally and with the family members.

When the child is not well adjusted at home or has no favourable attitude towards the father or mother or siblings or has an indifferent attitude towards them, the child is more prone to have a dislike for home and he becomes truant. During truancy he comes into contact with many anti-social elements, which influence his behaviour. The child will have little or no respect for parents and their wards. He tries to defy their advice. His defying attitude constantly brings him in clash with his parents. The clash in turn creates a sense of insecurity and emotional conflict. All these are the breeding grounds for anti-social, deviate behaviour.

TABLE NO. 9

Test	Mean	Standard Deviation	Critical Ratio ('t')
Family Relationship Inventory :			
Delinquent	11.53	3.622	23.10
Non-delinquent	20.64	3.206	
Adjustment Inventory :			
Delinquent	116.8	10.92	15.64
Non-delinquent	142.8	17.24	

CHILD'S RANK IN THE FAMILY

It has been often said that child's rank among the siblings, i.e. whether he is the only child, the first child or the last child is a significant factor, like 'the most wanted' or 'unwanted' child, a factor on which the nature of the treatment and the relations highly depend. Research workers like Mullins Claud (31), Kuaraceus (24), Banoy Ralph S.(3), Sullenger Thomas Earl (42) and Marfatia J.C. (29) are also of the opinion that the rank of a child in the family is significant in determining the child's behaviour. It is widely accepted that the only child, the youngest child and the eldest child are somehow more prone to delinquency than children both^r otherwise. In view of this, the child's rank was also studied in the present study.

Table No. 10 shows the position of the child in both the groups. Statistical analysis shows that the child's rank is significantly related to the

TABLE NO. 10

Rank in the Family

Status	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	Per	No.	Per
1. Only	30	20.0	3	2.0
2. Eldest	33	22.0	31	20.7
3. Intermediate	55	36.7	97	64.7
4. Youngest	32	21.3	19	12.6

$$\chi^2 = 37.16 \quad P < .01$$

RANK IN THE FAMILY

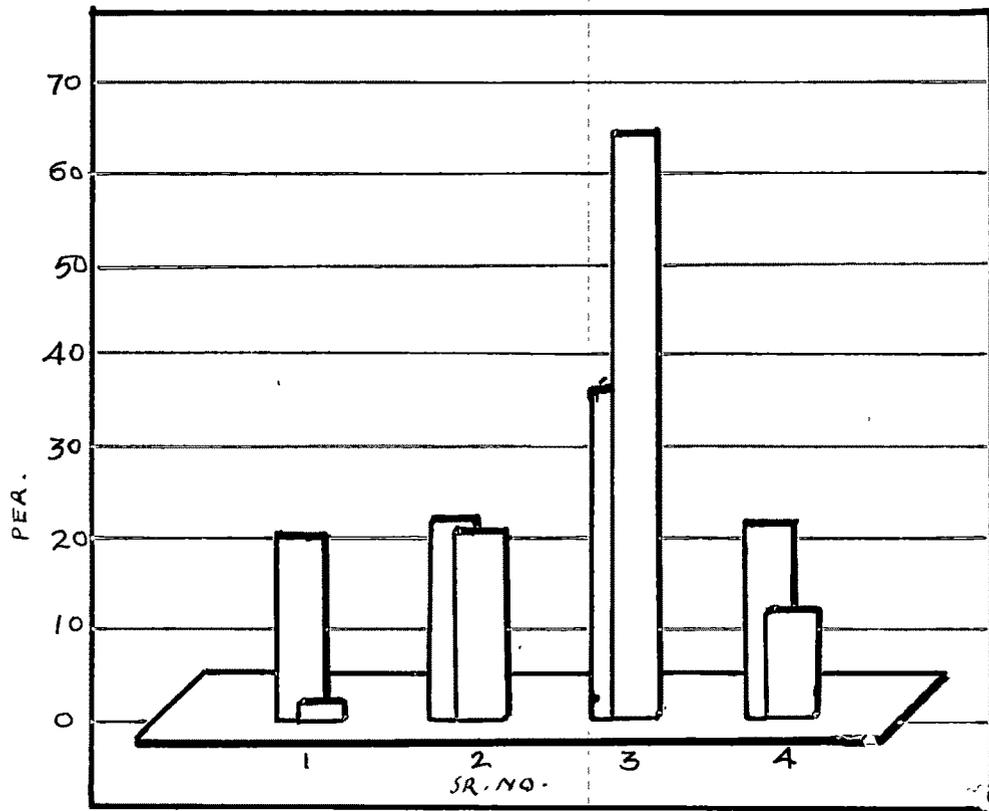


FIG. 8

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

incidence of delinquency. Data in the Table No. 10 shows that 20.0 % of children of the delinquent group were found to be the only child in the family, 22.0 % were found to be the eldest, 36.7 % were found to be intermediate and 21.3 % were found to be youngest; in contrast to this 2.0 % children of the non-delinquent were found to be the only child in the family, 20.7 % were found to be eldest, 64.7 % were found to be intermediate and 12.6 % were found to be the youngest children in the family. Thus, highest susceptibility to become a delinquent was observed in the only and the youngest children in the family. Somehow there was no much difference in number of eldest children in both the groups, possibly because the eldest is a continuity in rank, like the intermediate child in the family who has less possibility of becoming a deviate. More intermediates were found non-delinquents.

Much favouritism accompanies usually the only child as well as the youngest after whom there is none. The only child in the family is mostly over-protected by the parents. He is never allowed by his parents to think about his own necessities. He is looked upon as an apple of the eye. He is always

helped by his parents in every affair of his life or activities concerning him. For the only child, there are all chances to develop either into much dependent and submissive or even arrogant and careless if his every need is supplied. In such a case, his normal personality development is retarded in the sense that the child is not allowed to grow at his normal pace. As Professor Marfatia J.C. (29) remarks :

" An oversheltered childhood may lead to the development of an over-dependent, timid, infantile and an immature personality".

Further :

" The child may become over-dependent, obedient, authority-accepting and effeminate. He finds the over-sheltered life so pleasing and satisfactory that he is not inclined to make social contacts in the outside world which he does not find as sympathetic and kind as his parents who form his immediate world. He finds adjustment outside his home extremely difficult. He may fail to adjust at school and later on at work".

The only child is frequently thought to possess "a spoiled" personality in view of too much attention showered upon him. It is also felt that over-

protection may often result in immaturity and continued 'babying' (24). Ultimately such a spoon-fed cannot face the world alone. It is also observed that in comparison to control over a child born in any other position, parent's control has more breakdown over the only child (41), or parents yield too much to the whims and fancies, thus indirectly nourishing the deviate growth of the only child.

Similarly, the youngest children capture and monopolise the love and affection of one and all in the home like the only child. They become the centre of attention in the family. They get whatever they want. Their shortcomings are overlooked and honoured and consequently as they grow older in age, they become uncontrollable and go unchecked and uncorrected. As their necessities are always thought of and planned by the parents, they get little experience of reality and when they alone have to face the outside world, they feel great frustration. Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) are also of the same opinion when they say :

" Only children, first children and youngest children are thought to be specially vulnerable to the development

of behaviour difficulties, because they receive preferential treatment. It is of interest, therefore, to see how the delinquents and non-delinquents compare in rank order among their brothers and sisters".

By virtue of being the only, the eldest or the youngest child, they have different experiences during growth and different relationships with parents. They are over-protected, but the results of over-protection are despairing. Professor Banay Ralph S. (3) expresses his own views regarding over-protection in the following words :

" When the over-protection by the parent is exercised in a dominating way, the child frequently loses his self-esteem and independence, becomes submissive to an exaggerated degree. When the over-protection is manifested in too much indulgence, the child is likely to become exaggeratedly selfish, bullying and self-asserting to the point of aggressiveness. The aggressive actions of the child will show themselves first in resistance to the authority of the other parent. And this may lead to resistance to the authority and society, in other words, to delinquent acts".

It is readily seen that the child born in any other position is less prone to behaviour disorders.

A

Numerical Rank in the Family :

Besides comparing the only or the youngest, it is also worthwhile to compare the numerical position of each and every child in the family in both groups. Table No. // gives such data. It is observed from Table No. // that four in ten (41.3 %) children were born chronologically first in the family among delinquent group, two in ten (20.0 %) were born second, more than one and one-half in ten were born fourth (8.0 %) and fifth (8.7 %), less than one-half in ten (4.7 %) were born sixth, and only one child (0.7 %) in the whole group was born seventh in the family. In contrast to this, more than two in ten (23.3 %) children were chronologically born first in the family of the non-delinquent children, more than two in ten (24.7 %) were born second as well as third (23.3 %), more than one in ten (14.0 %) were born fourth, more than one-half in ten (6.0 %) were born fifth, less than one-half in ten were born sixth (4.7 %) as well as seventh (4.0 %). These differences in positions between the two groups are statistically significant. It is also seen that chronologically first born child is more likely to become delinquent child than that born otherwise. Moreover, there are significant differences in positions in case of delinquent group, earlier position being more prone to delinquency than the later; in case of non-delinquent group there is not much difference between various positions particularly upto third in earlier part and so also in later part.

Total Siblings in the Family :

Equally important is the total number of children in the family. Table No. /2 reveals such

TABLE NO. 11

Numerical Rank in the Family

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	Per	No.	Per
1. 1st born	62	41.3	35	23.3
2. 2nd born	30	20.0	37	24.7
3. 3rd born	25	16.6	35	23.3
4. 4th born	12	8.0	21	14.0
5. 5th born	13	8.7	9	6.0
6. 6th born	7	4.7	7	4.7
7. 7th born	1	0.7	6	4.0
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 16.06$$

$$P < .01$$

TABLE NO. 12

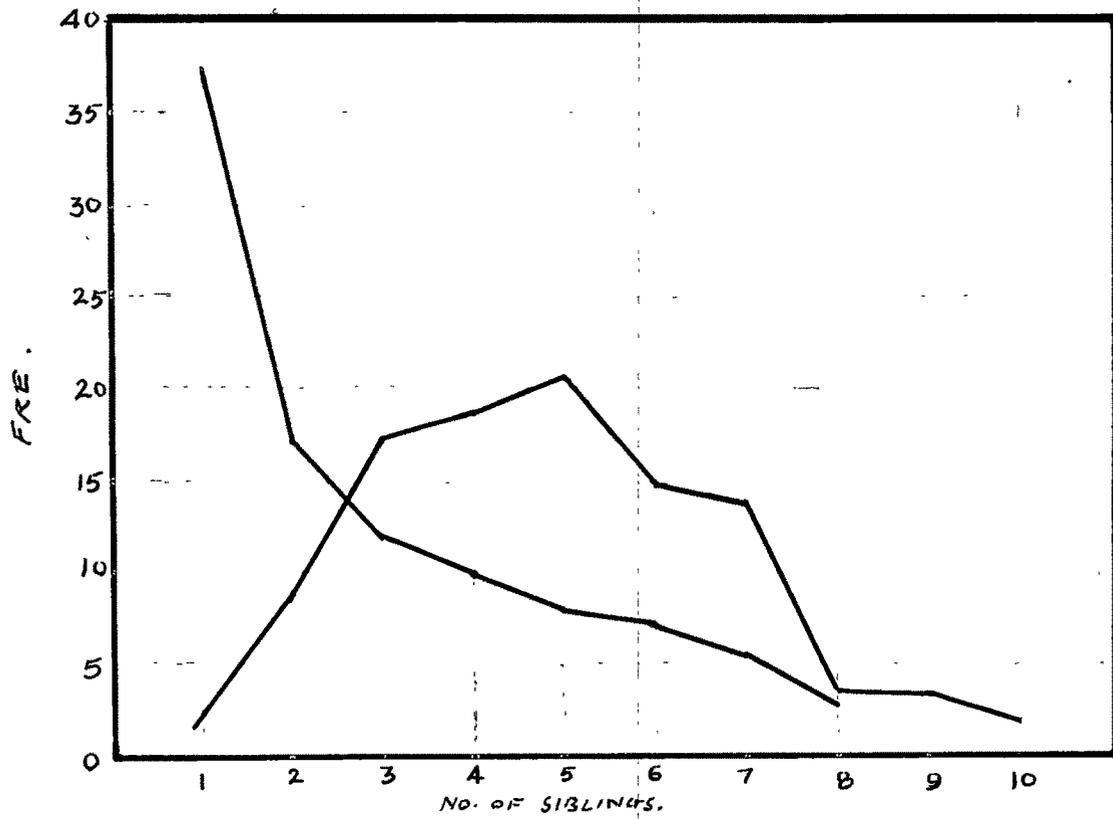
Total Siblings in the Family

Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
	No.	%age	No.	%age
1. Only one	56	37.4	3	02.0
2. Two	26	17.3	13	8.7
3. Three	18	12.0	19	12.6
4. Four	15	10.0	28	18.7
5. Five	12	8.0	31	20.7
6. Six	11	7.3	22	14.7
7. Seven	8	5.3	21	14.0
8. Eight	4	2.7	5	3.3
9. Nine	-	-	5	3.3
10. Ten or more	-	-	3	2.0
Total	150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 73.74$$

$$P < .01$$

TOTAL SIBLINGS IN THE FAMILY.



— DEL.

FIG. 10

— NON-DEL.

data. It follows statistically that with the increase in number of children in the family, the possibility of delinquency decreases. Higher rate of delinquency was prevalent in the families having one (37.4 % - 2.0 %) or two (17.3 % - 8.7 %) children in the family. 37.4 % of the children among the delinquent group were belonging to a family having one sibling, 17.3 % to a family having two siblings, 12.0 % to a family having three siblings, 10.0 % to a family having four siblings, 8.0 % to a family having five siblings, 7.3 % to a family having six siblings, 5.3 % to a family having seven siblings, 2.7 % to a family having eight siblings, and no families of delinquent children were having nine or more than nine siblings. In contrast to this, 2.0 % children among the non-delinquent group were coming from a family with one sibling, 8.7 % with two siblings, 12.6 % with three siblings, 13.7 % with four siblings, 20.7 % with five siblings, 14.7 % with six siblings, 14.0 % with seven siblings, 3.3 % with eight siblings and nine siblings and 2.0 % belonged to a family having ten or more siblings.

It is readily observed that as expected non-delinquent group described almost a normal curve when the frequency of children was plotted against the size of the family, while the same curve for the delinquent group was highly positively skewed, as seen from the figure 10, both these curves were significantly different, pointing to the fact that delinquency was found inversely related to the size of the family, i.e. majority of delinquent children came from the family with the lesser number of siblings. In other words, the less the number of children in the family, the higher was the tendency for incidence of delinquency.

DREAMS, AMBITIONS AND PRESENT WISHES
OF THE CHILD

Preferences and aversions, life-goals, ambitions, desires and dreams of children are often the reflectors and projectors of their inner hidden life or personality. They are said to reflect their mental life of the individuals, their frustrations and thwartings of the fundamental wishes and urges and conflicts in life. Hence it was thought that the study of their dreams, ambitions and present wishes would advantageously distinguish between the two groups. In view of this, in the present investigation the author has tried to study the differences regarding the dreams, ambitions and any three present wishes in order of preference, in both the groups - delinquent and non-delinquent. During the interview children of the delinquent group were rather hesitating in comparison to those of the non-delinquent group in expressing their dreams, ambitions and present wishes. Some of the members

of the delinquent group refused to express the same. Whatever information regarding these has been collected is broadly classified and summarised in the lines that follow.

Dreams :

In Freudian sense, dream is a wish fulfilment or broadly speaking, dreams represent the wishes of individuals as well as the thwartings of their fundamental urges. In the present investigation the author does not aim to analyse the dreams of the children of both the groups, but simply tries to compare them.

Table No. 13 shows the number of delinquent and non-delinquent children having dreams associated with different persons objects or situations. Higher number of non-delinquent children (58.6 %) were found having no dreams in comparison to that of the delinquent children (26.7 %). This may show that delinquents had more inner conflicts and frustrations. Again, more number of delinquent children were having dreams about their parents relatives and home in comparison to non-delinquent children; it is likely

TABLE NO. 13

Frequency of Child with Different
Type of Dreams

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-Delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Parents	22	14.7	7	4.6
2.	Devil	20	13.3	14	9.3
3.	Home	17	11.3	2	1.3
4.	Animal	12	8.0	11	7.3
5.	Relatives	9	6.0	2	1.3
6.	Water	4	2.7	7	4.6
7.	Deadbody	4	2.7	2	1.3
8.	Thief	4	2.7	1	0.7
9.	Girls	1	0.6	3	2.0
10.	God	-	-	5	3.3
11.	Any other	15	10.0	4	2.7
12.	No	42	28.0	88	58.6
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

FREQUENCY OF CHILD WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF DREAMS.

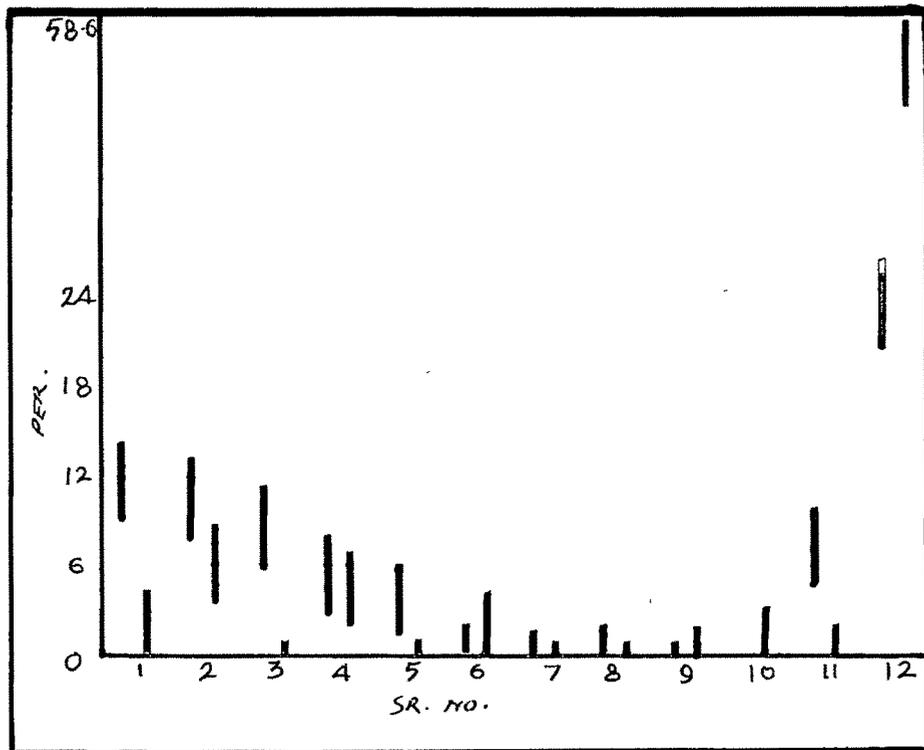


FIG. 11

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

that they were devoid of parental love at home for which they craved constantly. This is simply a description or conjecture; perhaps a psychiatric or psychoanalytical examination would reveal more interesting differences.

Ambition :

Study of ambitions is as important to understand the child as the study of dreams, in so far as they are also the cravings, for satisfaction of which they direct all their energy. When children indulge in highly fanciful aspirations and cross the level of aspiration, they often land themselves into a frustrated and hence spoiled life. To study differences in ambitions of both the groups, each child was also asked to narrate his ambitions.

It is observed from Table No. 14 that 45.3 % children of the delinquent group were having ambitions for services in railway, municipality, government, hotels or the like, 10.7 % for business pertaining to glass, tobacco, pan-bidi, cycle, etc., 9.3 % for being labourers in mills and factories, 8.0 % for tailoring, 4.0 % wanted to be farmers,

TABLE NO. 14

Frequency of Children with Varied
Ambitions

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Service	68	45.3	63	42.0
2.	Business	16	10.7	40	26.7
3.	Factory	14	9.3	2	1.3
4.	Tailoring	12	8.0	1	0.7
5.	Farmer	6	4.0	2	1.3
6.	Teachers	4	2.7	6	4.0
7.	Doctor	1	0.7	8	5.3
8.	Engineer	1	0.7	10	6.7
9.	Carpenter	4	2.6	-	-
10.	Any other	5	3.3	13	8.7
11.	No	19	12.7	5	3.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

FREQUENCY OF CHILDREN WITH VARIED AMBITIONS

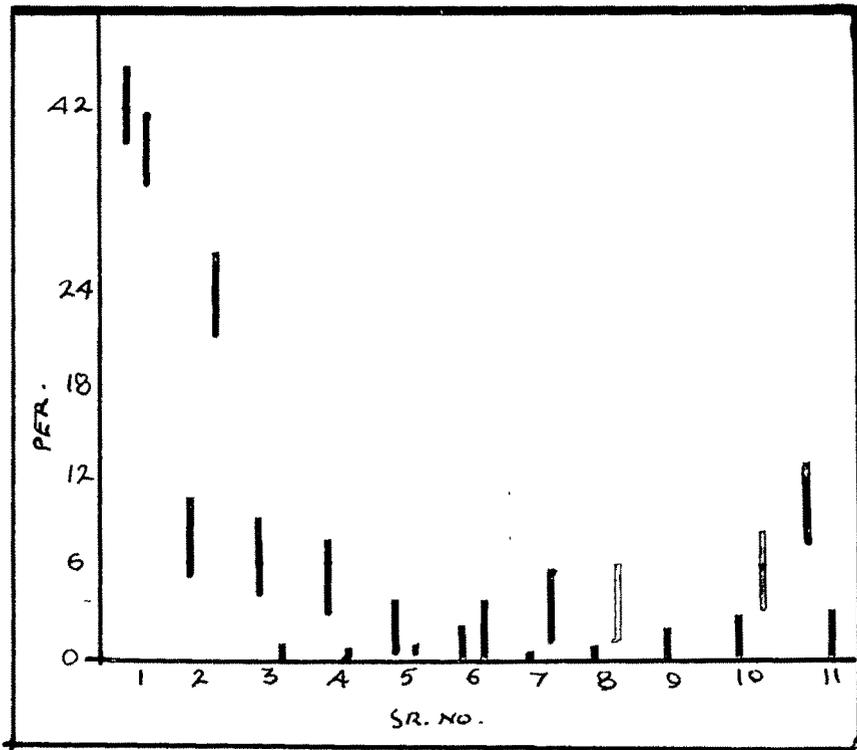


FIG. 12

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

2.7 % wanted to be teachers, 2.7 % wanted to be carpenters, 3.3 % showed preference for any other work like that of a hotel boy, rikshawala, vendor and driver, 0.7 % for being doctor, 0.7 % for being engineer and 12.7 % did not express their ambitions. In case of non-delinquent group, 42.0 % were found preferring services in banks, railway, government, cloth merchant, commission agent and as clerks and head clerks etc., 26.7 % had preference for business pertaining to cloth, cycle, grain, stationery, medicine, etc., 6.7 % for being engineer, 5.3 % for being a doctor, 4.0 % for teaching, 1.3 % for agriculture, 1.3 % for labour in mills or factory, 0.7 % for tailoring, 8.7 % for any other job, ranging from being filmstar to a gardner, ^{and what not} compounder _∠ while 3.3 % did not express their ambitions.

In view of the capacity and skill, it is natural that greater number of delinquent children were observed preferring services, tailoring and showed inclination for factory work, carpentry, and agriculture, while less for business and higher professions in comparison to ambitions of the non-delinquent children. Higher number of children of the delinquent group refused to have any ambition

or refused to express in contrast to the members in the non-delinquent group most of whom expressed this or that way of living.

It was also observed by the present investigator that the nature of ambitions was influenced by their environment and the nature of the parental work in both the groups. In the certified schools the delinquents were mostly taught carpentry, tailoring, gardening, agriculture and craft work. Some of the delinquents were employed outside the school in semi-skilled or unskilled labour. Naturally, the children of that group were prone to show inclination for the work of similar nature. Similar trend was observed with non-delinquent children also, as understood from their interview as well as the interview with the parents.

Present Wishes :

Further, while interviewing them the author asked the children in both the groups to tell any three of their present wishes in order of preference. It was found that delinquent children were rather more vague about their wishes, in comparison to non-

delinquent children; only a few of them expressed their wishes. Most of their wishes were coloured by their immediate environment and necessity. They were expressed after the consideration. Yet the significance of their wishes was worth noticing in both the groups. After collecting the same, they were broadly classified according to their nature.

Table No. 15 shows the types of wishes and the frequency of children having such wishes in both the groups. This table is limited only to the first wish. These wishes ranged from having education, economic stability and service to wishes for parents, home and matrimonial life. Their miscellaneous wishes included wishes for intelligence, immorality, death, long life, freedom, etc. It is significant that 56.7 % of children among the non-delinquent group expressed their first wish for education and 6.0 % for economical stability, while majority of delinquents were eager for economic stability. So also 40.0 % delinquents were not clear about their wish in comparison to 27.3 % of non-delinquents.

Table No. 16 shows the frequency of children with their second wish. It is evident that barring

TABLE NO. 15

Types of Wishes of Children

A - FIRST

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Economical	24	16.0	9	6.0
2.	Service	13	8.7	4	2.7
3.	Parents	11	7.3	-	-
4.	Home	9	6.0	-	-
5.	Educational	6	4.0	85	56.7
6.	Happiness	5	3.3	5	3.3
7.	Professional	5	3.3	2	1.3
8.	Religious	3	2.0	4	2.7
9.	Matrimonial	4	2.7	-	-
10.	Any other	10	6.7	-	-
11.	No	60	40.0	41	27.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

TYPES OF PRESENT WISHES OF CHILDREN
 (A)
 FIRST

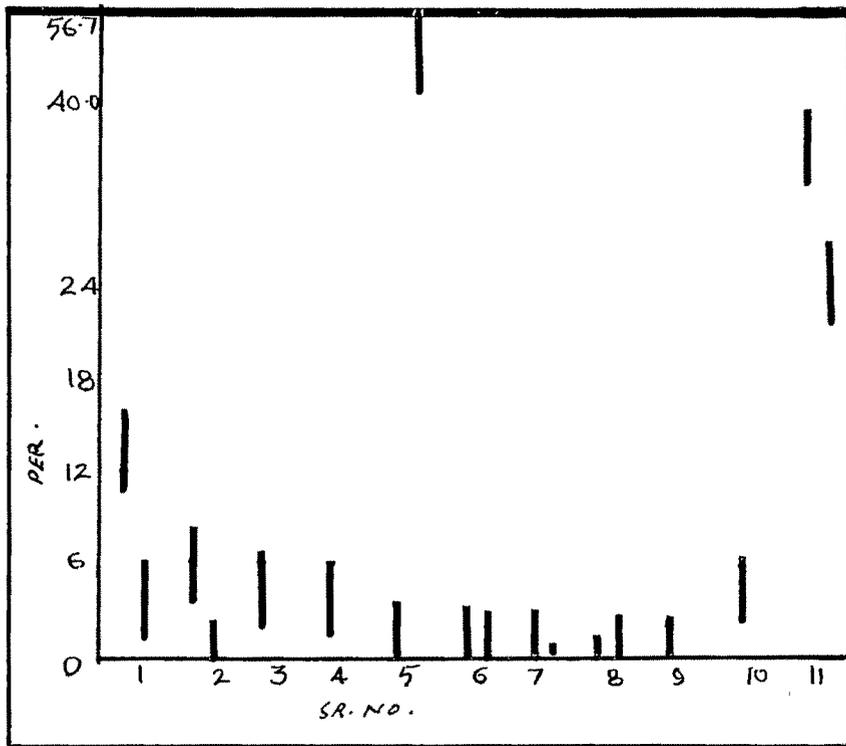


FIG. 13

— DEL.

- - - NON-DEL.

TABLE NO. 16

Types of Wishes of Children

B - SECOND

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Matrimonial	9	6.0	4	2.7
2.	Economical	8	5.3	40	26.7
3.	Educational	6	4.0	5	3.3
4.	Happiness	5	3.3	6	4.0
5.	Service	4	2.7	7	4.6
6.	Parents	3	2.0	3	2.0
7.	Home	2	1.3	-	-
8.	Religious	1	0.7	6	4.0
9.	Any other	18	12.0	6	4.0
10.	No	94	62.7	70	46.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

TYPES OF PRESENT WISHES.. OF CHILDREN .

(B)
SECOND

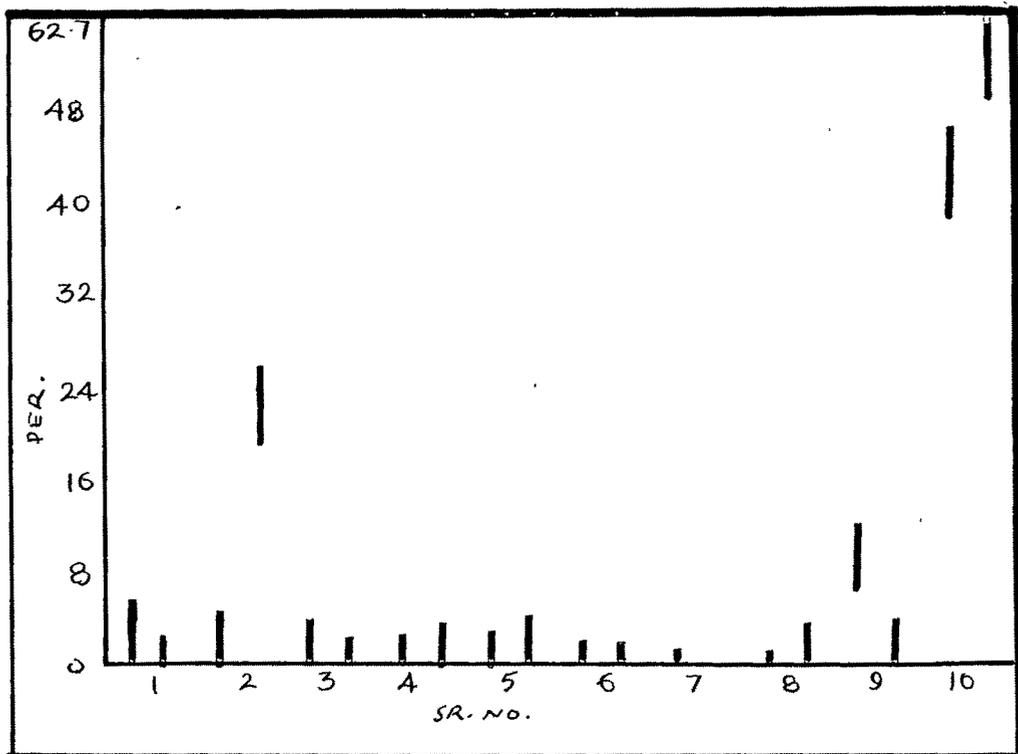


FIG. 14

— DEL.

○ NON-DEL.

the cases of 'miscellaneous' and 'no wish', majority of children (6.0 %) among the delinquent group expressed their second best wish of matrimonial nature. In contrast, 26.7 % children among the non-delinquent group wished for economic stability as second best. Among the delinquents, 62.7 % did not express their second wish while 46.7 % children among non-delinquent group did not express the second wish.

The third present wish is observed from Table No. . . Here also barring the cases of 'Miscellaneous' and 'no wish', majority children (6.7 %) among the delinquent group expressed their third wish regarding matrimonial relations. Any other third wish included release from certified schools, removal of existing physical defect, health, brothers, etc. In contrast, 4.7 % children of non-delinquent group desired for matrimony as the third wish. Their any other wish included wishes for honesty, reputation, health, necessities, father etc.

It will be of much interest to compare the different wishes of both the groups, at least on their face value. Non-delinquent children were

TABLE NO.17

Types of Wishes of Children

C - THIRD

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Matrimonial	10	6.7	7	4.7
2.	Economical	5	3.3	4	2.6
3.	Happiness	3	2.0	-	-
4.	Home	1	0.7	-	-
5.	Educational	1	0.7	2	1.3
6.	Parents	-	-	1	0.7
7.	Religious	-	-	1	0.7
8.	Service	3	2.0	-	-
9.	Any other	14	9.3	5	3.3
10.	No	113	75.3	130	86.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

TYPES OF PRESENT WISHES OF CHILDREN.

(C)

THIRD.

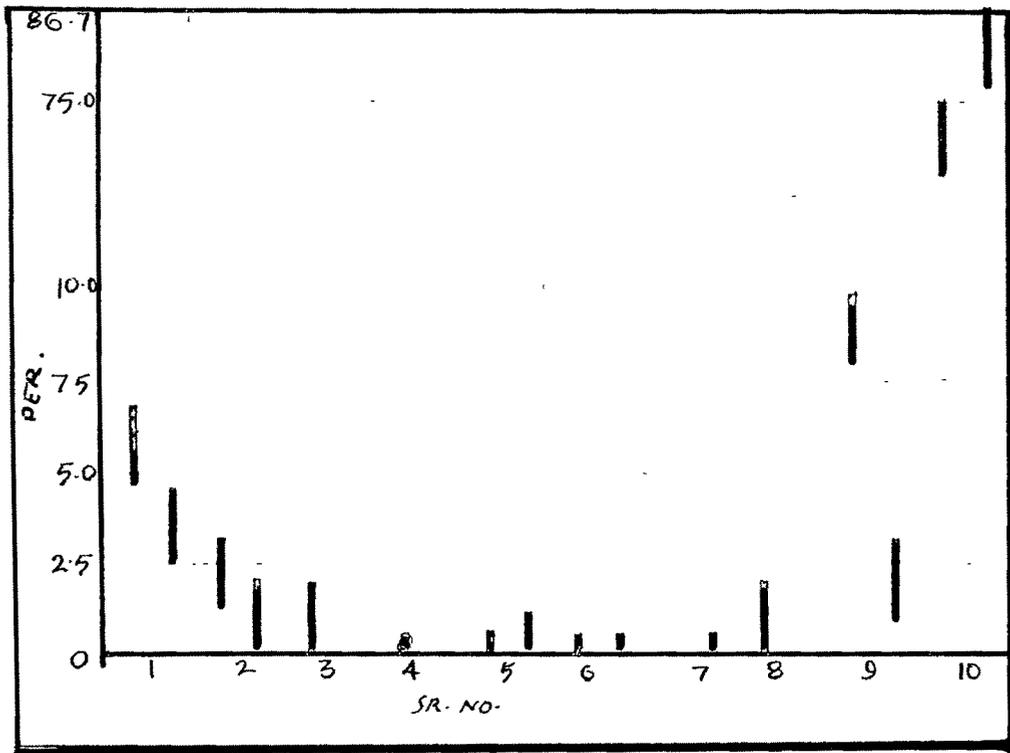


FIG. 15

— DEZ.

— NON-DEZ.

were selected from the normal school-going children, so the author feels that a greater number of non-delinquent children expressed their wishes having educational importance, while in case of delinquent children, it is quite obvious that delinquent children suffered economically so they showed tendency to give more importance to money and subsequently for services, while some wanted their missing parents, happiness, etc. The wishes and dreams are to a great extent revealers of the present life. It is beyond the scope of this brochure to look deep psychoanalytically into the wishes or dreams, and hence only a cursory, yet an instructive glance has been cast at these.

EDUCATION OF THE CHILD

As non-delinquent children were selected from the normal school-going population, comparison with respect to education would be thought perhaps out of place. Yet, when the level of education of delinquents was studied, it was found that delinquency was closely associated with lack of education.

It is observed from Table No. 18 that more than four in ten (42.0 %) children among the delinquent group were found illiterate, more than five in ten (52.0 %) were found to have been upto ^{the stage of} primary education and only about one half in ten (6.0 %) had the advantage of secondary education, while none had higher education.

Lack of education may be construed to mean lack of capacity to resist temptations. Children who are educated are generally capable of viewing the situations widely. They hesitate for a moment while

TABLE NO. 13

Education of the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Illiterate	63	42.0		
2.	Primary	78	52.0		
600/ 3.	Secondary	9	6.0		
4.	Higher	-	-		
Total		150	100.0		

All Non-delinquents were school going Pupils

EDUCATION OF THE CHILD.

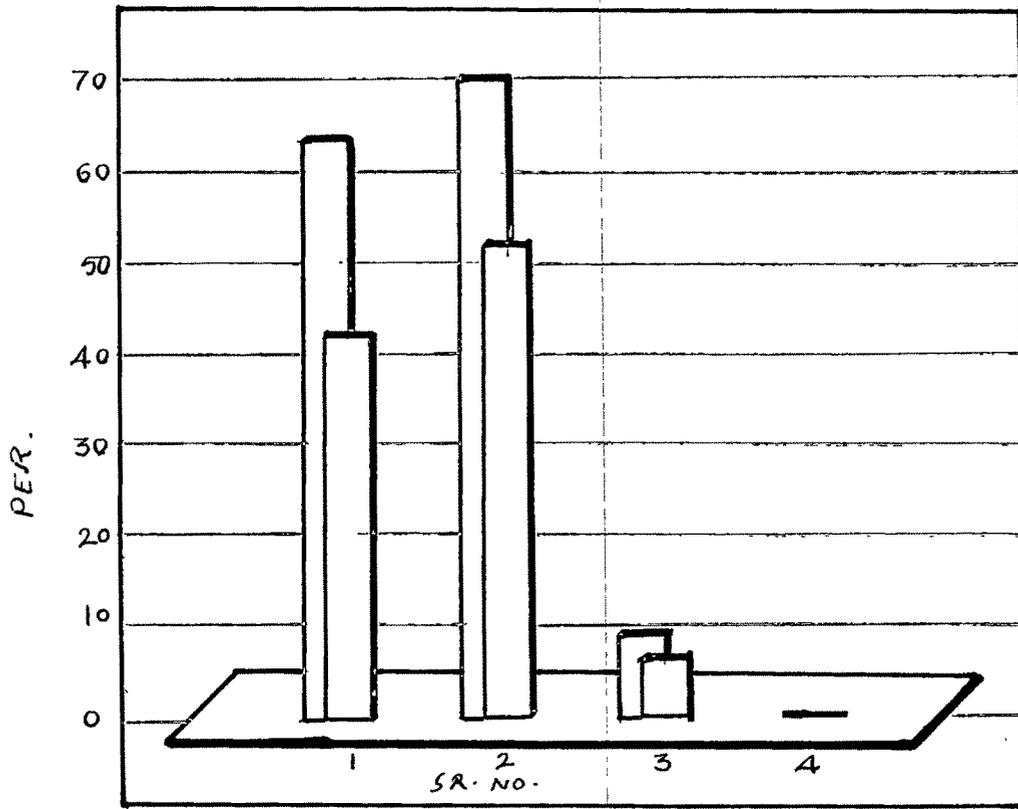


FIG. 16

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

yielding to temptations very easily. They can think about right and wrong and to some extent also of consequences of their acts in general. In contrast, uneducated children mostly can be easily victimised by the evil-producing environment. They always seek easy satisfaction for their natural drives and impulses. Sometimes they are denied the healthy development of philosophy of life. They have their own standards of approaching their wants, contrary to the ones accepted or expected by the society. Often they are suffering from a sense of deprivation and inferiority in the presence of educated children, and in absence of recognition of their ego, they resort to the course of delinquency.

Further, uneducated children can very easily become the tools of the adult criminals. They are easily led by their adult prototype for fulfilling the latter's own ends. They lack inhibitory control over their own impulses and drives as well as those of others. Next, because of lack of education they get only such employments that bring too low remunerations and offer higher temptations for anti-social behaviour. In addition, they mostly have employments

requiring more physical strains and hazards. Under such conditions they easily fall a prey to cheap commercialised entertainments, and also become addicted to unwholesome practices. All these are the breeding grounds of criminal behaviour.

READING INTERESTS

Naturally, in view of the lesser education of the delinquent group, one should not expect the delinquent to be interested in more reading. However, even in the less amount of reading, what he reads is significant. Table No. 19 presents the type of reading literature preferred. Significant differences are observed in both the groups regarding the type of reading. More than half the number (56.1 %) of children of the delinquent group were unable to read. And among those that read 23.3 % of the total group of delinquent children were found fond of detective literature, 7.3 % were observed reading autobiographies, 2.0 % liked to read short stories, 3.3 % preferred to read magic stories, 8.0 % were observed to read the rest type of literature, like novel, love stories, history of adventure etc. A large number of those (56.1 %) who were indifferent to read because of illiteracy or

TABLE NO. 19

Reading Interests of the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Defective	35	23.3	20	13.3
2.	Autobiography	11	7.3	35	23.3
3.	Short Stories	3	2.0	35	23.3
4.	Magic	5	3.3	11	7.3
5.	Any other	12	8.0	16	10.7
6.	No	84	56.1	33	22.1
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 68.64$$

$$p < .01$$

READING INTERESTS.

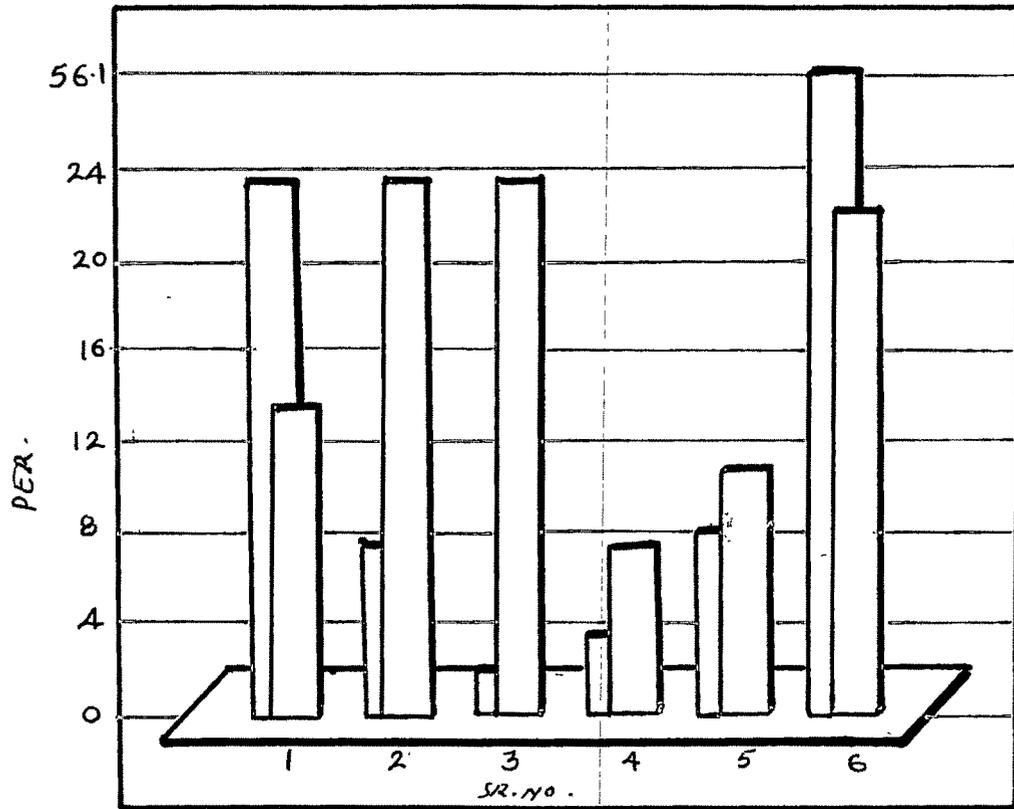


FIG. 17

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

the like showed during the interview an inclination to hear detective, adventurous, love or sexual and criminal stories. Their habits of writing and drawing on walls and corners as observed and reported, manifested the same tendencies, e.g. interest in sex scenes and fighting situations. In contrast, 13.3 % children of the non-delinquent group were found fond of detective literature, 23.3 % were found reading autobiographies and the same number was for short stories, 7.3 % liked to read literature regarding magic, 10.7 % showed preference to read any other literature and only 22.7 % were indifferent to reading. All these differences were statistically significant. It could be seen that significantly higher number of delinquent children showed preference for detective or criminal type of literature. From interview it was gathered that in both the groups, those that liked detective stories did so perhaps with different purpose; the non-delinquent were interested in the adventure depicted, while the delinquent read the detective stories with an interest in the criminal descriptions.

Reading habits like cinema visits (as discussed later) also affect the behaviour of the children, though the latter furnish the more potent factor.

Even Professor Neumeyer Martin H. (32)^d holds :

"Mystery, detective, and certain art magazines and a variety of other publications if they play up crime or sex scenes, may have deleterious effects, especially if the readers possess an abnormal interest in these subjects."

The adventures and romances depicted in the literature and on the screen captivate the mind of the young child and ultimately drive him to lead that life. However, reading like cinema visit is not the sole factor responsible for growth of delinquency. It is only a contributing or accelerating factor when some kind of delinquent pattern is formed.

CINEMA VISITS

Almost all children like to visit cinema, but delinquent children are said to have had cinema visits to a greater extent than the non-delinquent children. It is a matter of dispute and discussion regarding the type of effect of cinema on the behaviour of the children and hence there is a great controversy as to whether there should be restrictions for the young on cinema-going and the type of cinema pictures. Dr. A. S. Patel* in a recent investigation has observed that majority of college students favoured restrictions on types of cinema films for the young, though all liked to visit the shows. However, it is generally agreed by almost all the workers in the field that cinema going has the potent influence upon the behaviour of the children.

The author was here simply interested to study the difference in types of cinema shows visited by

* Dr. A. S. Patel : A Study of Opinions of University Students on some Current Issues, M.S. University Journal, 1960.

both groups. The data of the present investigation revealed significant differences. It is observed from last line of Table No. 2^o that only 8.7 % of the delinquent group in contrast to 53.7 % of non-delinquent group had 'no' cinema visit on their record, i.e. higher number of delinquent children (91.3 %) had visited cinema shows in contrast to lesser number of non-delinquent children (46.7 %). Among these visitors, delinquent children were found fonder of visiting detective (22.7 %), and 'fighting' (46.0 %) pictures while respectively far lesser figures (6.7 % and 3.3 %) were for non-delinquent children. However, a higher number of non-delinquent children were observed to prefer social (13.3 %), and religious (16.7 %) films in contrast to similar lesser visits by the delinquent children. 12.0 % of the total group of delinquent children in comparison to 6.7 % of the total group of non-delinquent were fond of any kind of films, i.e. they were habituated to cinema visits irrespective of the type of the films. These were statistically significant differences.

It would be recalled that delinquent children showed greater preference for detective and fightful pictures, as in case of reading type. Children are

TABLE NO. 20
Shows ed by
 Type of Cinema Visits of the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Detective	34	22.7	10	6.7
2.	<i>Full of Fights</i> Fighting	69	46.0	5	3.3
3.	Social	6	4.0	20	13.3
4.	Religious	10	6.6	25	16.7
5.	Any other	18	12.0	10	6.7
6.	No	13	8.7	80	53.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 132.96$$

$$P < .01$$

CINEMA VISITS.

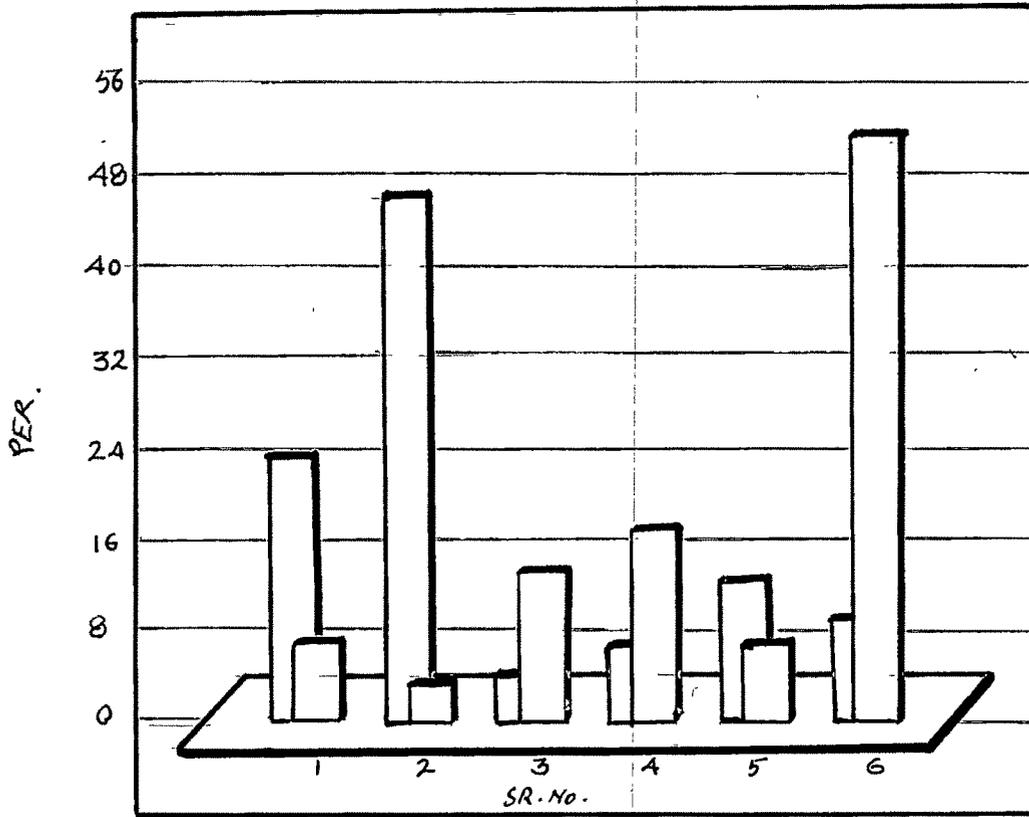


FIG. 14

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

at this age impressionable and imitative. Whatever they see, they try to adopt or execute in their conduct, and especially whatever they witness on the screen life, they are prone to copy and thus follow the cinema heroes whom they worship. With lesser education and lesser capacity to distinguish the right from the wrong or to infer the consequences, the young are more carried away by emotions rather than reason; the crime depicted in pictures has thus a special appeal to the less reasoning children who adopt not the morals but the means. As. Dr. Cyril Burt (5)^e says :

" The direct reproduction of serious film crimes is, in my experience, exceedingly uncommon : and, even then, it is usually the criminal's method rather than the criminal's aim that is borrowed. The nefarious impulses themselves have been demonstrably in existence beforehand".

The cinema provides a standing temptation to steal money for admittance to the theatre, but it works only after the child has reached a certain stage. Healy and Bronner found very little connection between cinema visits and growth of delinquency, as quoted by Professors Reckless and Smith (35). Professor Merrill Mand A. found both delinquents and

non-delinquents going to the movies, but more of the delinquents were perennials. The delinquents attended the theatre more than once a week, to a significantly greater extent than did the non-delinquents (30).

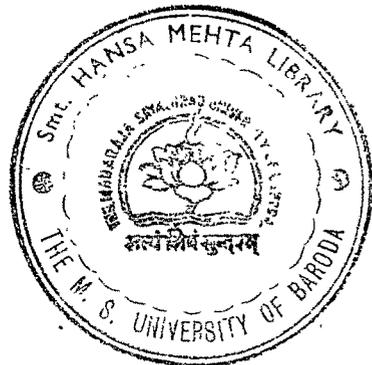
Professors Testers Negley K. and others (44)^a asked the cinema visitors to narrate whatever they learnt from the show; the report reveals :

" 49 percent of the male delinquents questioned indicated that the movies gave them desire to carry a gun; 28.0 % that the movies taught them methods of stealing; 21.0 % that they learned ways to "fool the police"; 12.0 % that they were encouraged to pull on adventuresome job because they saw a similar crime depicted in the movies; 45.0 % that they got notions of "easy money" from the shows they saw; 26.0 % that the movies encouraged them "to get tough"; and 20.0 % that they were led to day-dreaming concerning bandits and gangsters".

In the midst of controversial statements regarding the effect of cinema on the behaviour of children, the present investigator on the basis of this data holds that cinema-going does not cause delinquency, but aggravates or contributes to delinquency where it exists, thus agreeing with Professors Reckless and Smith (35)^d when they say :

" The effect of cinema seems to be largely an individual matter, since it is perhaps only a crystalizing agency in a tendency fostered by other conditions".

It is likely that cinema is not the main cause, but it works as the contributing or accelerating cause when some kind of delinquent pattern of behaviour is formed. One should not hastily favour the lean over all cinema shows which have both corrective or educational as well as worsening effect.



ADDICTIONS

It is generally noted that delinquent children are addicted to unwholesome practices. Individuals in both the groups were interviewed also with reference to their addictions or practices such as smoking, drinking, gambling etc. to which they had been a prey. Table No. 2, presents these data. The present investigation reveals significant relationship between addictions and delinquency.

It is evident that higher number of children among the delinquent group were addicted to smoking (33.3 %), drinking (20.0 %), gambling (26.7 %), and any other addictions like tobacco, snuffing, excessive tea etc. (16.7), in comparison to children among the non-delinquent group. It was observed that 80.0 % of children in the non-delinquent group responded that they had 'no' addictions, while only 9.3 % of delinquent children were free from addictions. The statistical

TABLE NO. 21

Addictions of the Child

Sr. No.	Types of Addiction	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Smoking	50	33.3	25	16.7
2.	Drinking	30	20.0	1	0.7
3.	Gambling	40	26.7	2	1.3
4.	Any other	16	16.7	2	1.3
5.	No	14	9.3	120	80.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 164.92$$

$$P < .01$$

ADDICTIONS.

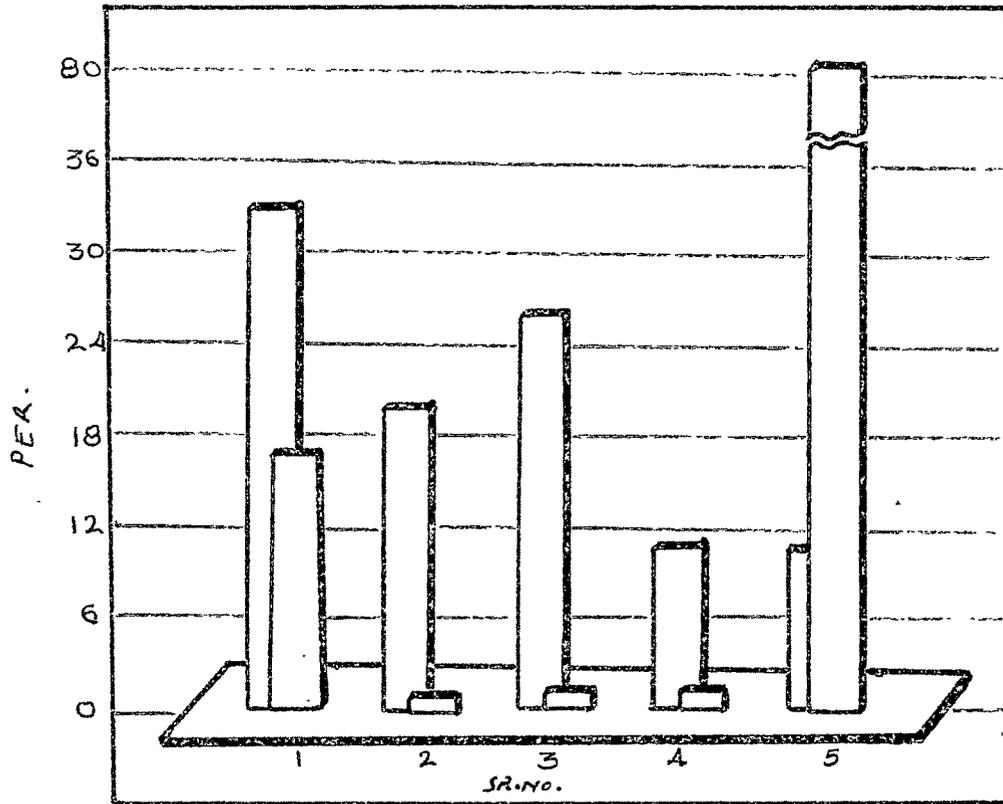


FIG. 19

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

analysis of results showed delinquency to be closely associated with addictions.

Generally most of the addictions are adjustment to frustrating situations. The extent to which the bad habits are to be considered either as a case of delinquent or as a warning of developing maladjustment is problematical. The delinquent child who smokes habitually probably does so as a part of the same attitude of rebellion against a frustration which makes him a delinquent (24).

Among addictions mentioned in the Table No. more serious are the addictions of drinking and gambling. The child is a lover of excitement, and gambling satisfies it. Some delinquents are generally fascinated by gambling. It has been said (5) that gambling harms the child in four ways : firstly it fosters in him an unhealthy form, the craving for excitement which is already native to children. Secondly it induces a demoralising hope for some short and easy way of earning a large sum without the trouble of thinking and working for it. Thirdly, it costs him more than he can afford. Fourthly, it brings him in contact with degenerate characters, and so it shakes his moral faiths and paves away to worse transgressions.

The habit of drinking by children is also worse and degenerating. Drinking like gambling costs heavily on the children's pockets. Once addicted to it, it becomes difficult for him to get out of it. Drinking weakens the inhibitory control. Under its effect, individual performs such acts which bring him into clash either with law or norms of society.

Drinking and gambling bring children into such a stratum of society where antisocial elements thrive. It was seen from parental interviews that most of the addictions found in the children of both the groups were more or less found in their families. It is difficult to tell that delinquency results from addictions; it is safer to note that addictions are associates or followers rather than causes of delinquency.

TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT

The nature of employment also influences the behaviour of the children, Often, the nature of certain employments is such that they offer the opportunity for delinquent behaviour through unwholesome association. The present investigator studied also the types of employment that the children in both the groups engaged themselves in, if they had at all to do so. Table No. 22 furnishes such information.

It is seen that round about two third of the children (58.6 %) among the delinquent group were found employed for maintenance and only ten (6.6 %) children among the non-delinquent groups were found employed. Among the engaged delinquents 12.0 % children were found shoe-shiners, 18.7 % were found working in the hotels, 9.3 % were found employed in casual labour, 3.3 % were found as street vendors, 3.3 % were employed in the factories, 8.7 % were observed to be domestic servants, and 3.3 % earned money through

TABLE NO. 22

Types of Employment

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Shoe-maker	18	12.0	-	-
2.	Hotel Boy	28	18.7	-	-
3.	Casual Lanour	14	9.3	2	1.3
4.	Vendor	5	3.3	3	2.0
5.	Factory	5	3.3	4	2.7
6.	Domestic Work	13	8.7	1	0.7
7.	Any other	5	3.3	-	-
8.	No	62	41.4	140	93.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 107.02 \quad P < .01$$

TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT.

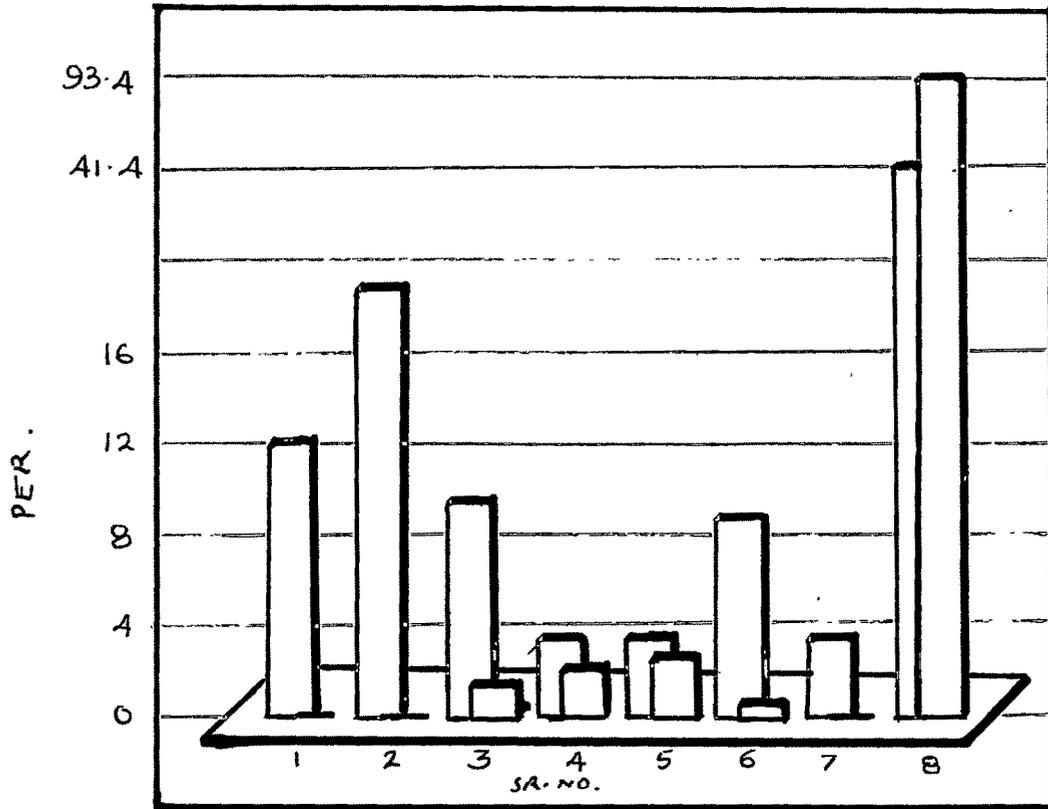


FIG. 20

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

miscellaneous activities, such as carrying messengers, black-marketting in cinema tickers, for securing seats in the railway compartments for the passengers etc. Among the non-delinquent children only 1.3 % were found engaged in casual labour, 2.0 % were employed in the factories and 0.7 % were working as domestic servants. These observed differences were statistically significant.

This means that only a negligent number of normal children had to work during the study period, while delinquents were mostly the population that had to work to meet their needs; they had always tension for maintenance and this perhaps added to the mental conflict responsible for delinquency. The category 'no employment' in case of delinquents can also be construed in a different sense from that for non-delinquent group. In the former case, 'no employment' is equivalent to unemployment inspite of need, and hence it is a factor contributing to delinquency. In case of non-delinquents, 'no employment' means they are not working because there is no need for them, thus it means a relief from tension. Thus, either unemployment or low type of employment for delinquents is a significant factor of delinquency.

The relationship between employment and delinquency is complex and difficult to investigate adequately. There are certain employments which offer comparatively higher temptations for antisocial behaviour in children than other employments. Higher number of children among the delinquent group were found employed in the hotels (18.7 % - 0.0 %), working as shoe-shiners (12.0 % - 0.0 %), employed in casual labour (9.3 % - 2.0 %), and in domestic services (8.7 % - 0.7 %) in comparison to children of the non-delinquent group. Shoe-shiners, vendors, and those who were employed in casual labour have to wander here and there near the railway station, parks or gardens in the bazaar, near cinema theatres, and at other public places for the whole day for earning. Here they come into contact with antisocial elements of the society. Those who are employed in hotels and domestic services have more opportunity for undesirable temptation to which they little resist. Thus, the employment or the work as such is not cause of delinquency, but the environment in which the child has to work is such that if that environment is continued, the child's own behaviour is likely to be influenced by it in an undesirable way.

Further, data were collected also regarding the regularity or steadiness in work of those that were employed. It is observed from Table No. 23 that higher number of children among the delinquent group who were working were found working irregularly or occasionally and not working regularly (60.2 % vs. 40.0 %). In case of non-delinquents, even the few who were working had habits of regularity. The greater extent of irregular or unsteady workers is again a reflection of the delinquent behaviour due to which they cannot stick to a job regularly.

TABLE NO. 23

Regularity in Serving

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Regularly	35	39.8	6	60.0
2.	Irregularly or Occasionally	53	60.2	4	40.0
3.	Total working	88	100.0	10	100.0

POCKET MONEY AND ITS USE

Next, it was found out during personal interview that most of the non-delinquent children were not habituated to keep more money for their personal expenses. The main reason for this was that they were getting enough and regularly their necessities from their parents. While two-third children of the delinquent group (58.6 %) were employed, and most of them were keeping all their earnings with them. This state of affairs suggested the author to inquire into the amount and the way of disposing it and study the differences if any between the two groups. Hence during interview the children in both the groups were asked about the amount that they were spending per week as pocket money. From Table No. 24 it will be observed that larger number of delinquent children were spending more than 16 As. per week as pocket money in comparison to children among the non-delinquent group (41.4 % vs. 1.3 %). Majority (6.7 %) of children of the non-

TABLE NO.24

Pocket Money - How Much ?

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	1 - 3 As.	2	1.3	10	6.7
2.	4 - 6 As.	4	2.7	9	6.0
3.	7 - 9 As.	9	6.0	4	2.7
4.	10 - 12 As.	11	7.3	3	2.0
5.	13 - 15 As.	30	20.0	1	0.7
6.	16 As. and onward	62	41.4	2	1.3
7.	Not having or Receiving	32	21.3	121	80.6
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

THE AMOUNT OF POCKET MONEY.

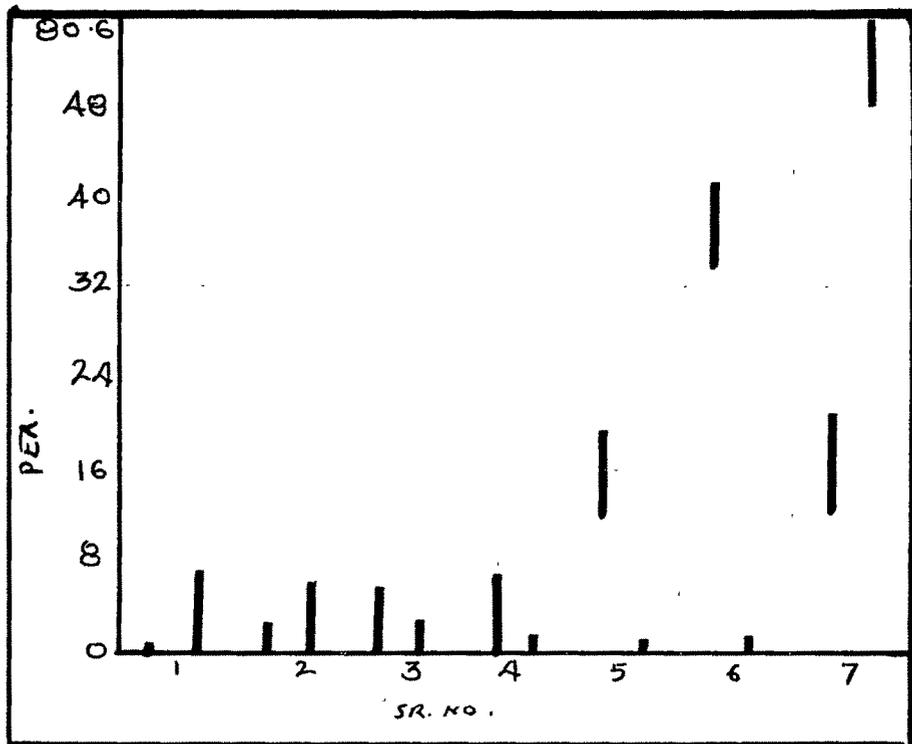


FIG. 21

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

delinquent group were spending between 1 to 3 As. per week as pocket money, and almost another equal percentage of children (6.0 %) were spending between 4 to 6 As. Very few of non-delinquent used to spend more than 6 As. per week. In case of delinquents, majority (41.4 %) were spending more than a rupee per week, another 20.0 % between 13 to 15 As. and very few spent less than 13 As. These differences ^{Casually} point to the irresponsibility and lack of vision on the part of the delinquent groups.

Further, children in both the groups were also asked about the nature of disposition of their pocket money. Table No. 25 gives this type of information. Apart from the amount received by the child as pocket money, its disposition is also important in determining his behaviour. It is found that children among the delinquent group were mostly disposing their pocket money unwisely and indiscriminately in comparison to non-delinquent group. It can be seen from the Table No. that among the delinquent children that had pocket money, the major sources of extraction were hotel, cinema and gambling; while a few among the non-delinquent group who had pocket money spent money on simple eatables and necessities. Simple eatables

TABLE NO. 25

Nature of Disposition of the Pocket
Money

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Simple Eatables	10	6.7	10	6.7
2.	Necessities	10	6.7	8	5.3
3.	Hotel and Cinema's	50	33.3	2	1.3
4.	Gambling	40	26.7	-	-
5.	Any other	8	5.3	9	6.0
6.	No pocket money	32	21.3	121	80.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

NATURE OF DISPOSITION OF THE POCKET MONEY.

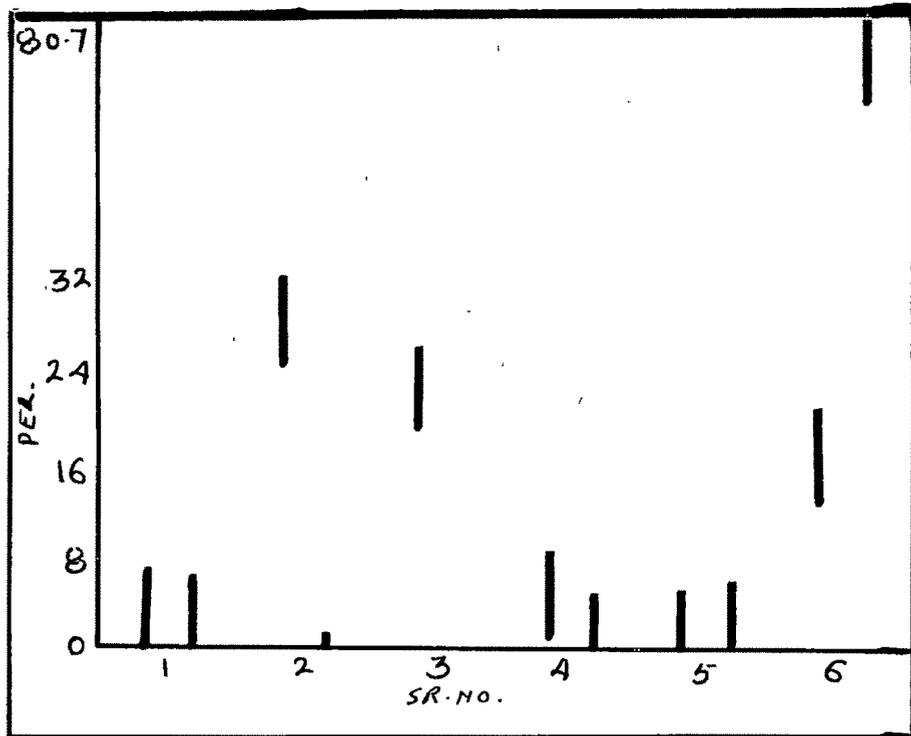


FIG. 22

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

and hotel visits are distinguished here in the sense that the former is less money-consuming and somewhat desirable, while the latter is more extravagant and undesirable affair. Anyway, the way in which a child disposes his money is definitely an indicator of his inner ^{self} and it is found that delinquents differed from non-delinquents in this respect.

Sources of Pocket Money :

Further information regarding the sources from where pocket money was received by the children in both the groups was also obtained. Table No. 26 shows that 10.7 % children of the delinquent group were mostly obtaining their pocket money from their fathers, 14.0 % were obtaining from any other relatives, 20.0 % were obtaining from their mothers and 44.0 % were themselves earning and most of them used to keep it with them. In case of non-delinquent group, 6.0 % children were obtaining their pocket money from their fathers, 6.7 % were obtaining from their mothers, 6.7 % were earning and a part of that earning, they were keeping as pocket money. This information should not be construed as suggesting that parents had a share in developing delinquency by providing money.

TABLE NO.26

Sources of Getting Pocket Money

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Father only	16	10.7	9	6.0
2.	Mother only	30	20.0	10	6.7
3.	Own earnings	66	44.0	10	6.7
4.	Any other relative	6	4.0	-	-
5.	No pocket Money	32	21.3	121	80.6
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

SOURCES OF GETTING POCKET MONEY.

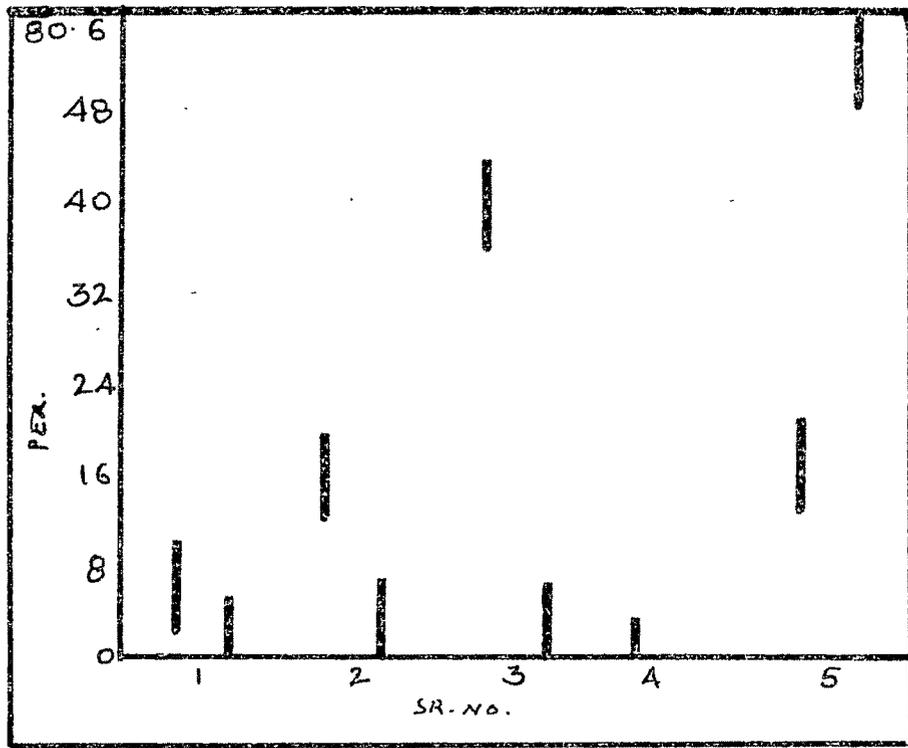


FIG-23

— DEZ.

— NON-DEZ.

It simply means that most of the non-delinquent children never had the habits of getting and using pocket money indiscriminately, probably because their parents were definitely looking after their real needs. In case of delinquents, they were forced to earn and were led to use indiscriminately in absence of any parental control, Moreover, in case where they were receiving some money, it appears that the parents or relatives might be giving out of affection or pity or ~~xxx~~ with a desire to get, some kind of work done. Anyway, delinquency leads to indiscriminate use of money and use of money in turn affords opportunities for incidence of delinquency, thus trapping the child in a vicious circle. Only, wise guidance can straighten out the encircling curves and free the child to be on the right path.

USE OF LEISURE TIME
(Before Admission)

Generally it is agreed by almost all the writers in the field of juvenile delinquency such as Kr. Singh R.S. (40), Ellingston John R. (15), Saunders Mannheim Rhodes (37), Neumeyer Martin H. (32) and Dr. Cyril Burt (5) that use of leisure time is definitely related to delinquency. If the leisure time is utilised for right type of self expression and self-satisfaction, the child is likely to develop normally and if adequate opportunities are not provided for use of leisure time, the child has all chances to be prone to misconduct. The preceding section on employment refers to the type of work the child is engaged during employment hours. However, it is more important to examine how the child spends his leisure time, when he is neither employed in some occupation nor he is studying (as in case of non-delinquent children). Both the groups had some leisure time and this section investigated the use of such time by both. 27 Table Nos. 28 and provide such information

TABLE NO.27

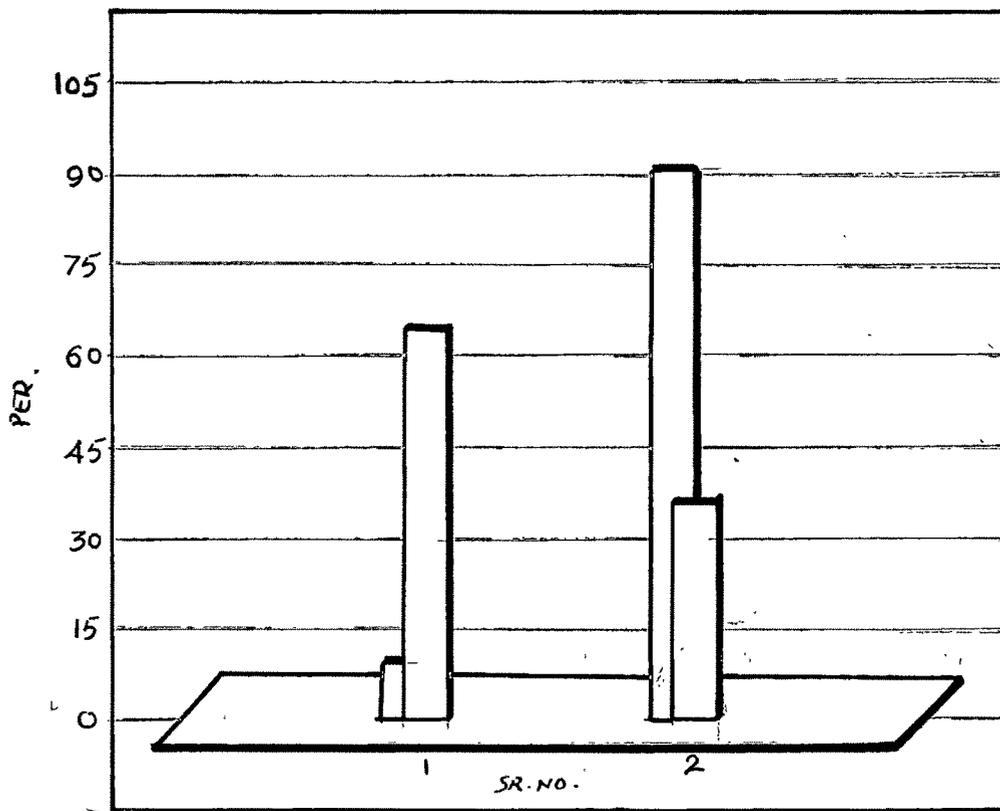
Use of Leisure Time (Before Admission)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	In the Home	14	9.3	96	64.0
2.	Out of the Home	136	90.7	54	36.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 96.49$$

$$P < .01$$

USE OF LEISURE TIME.
(BEFORE ADMISSION).



SR. NO.

FIG. 24

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

It is seen from table that a very high number of children (90.7 %) among the delinquent group passed their leisure time out of home, in comparison to children of the non-delinquent group (36.0 %), while higher number of children among the non-delinquent group (64.0 %) were mostly passing their leisure time at home in comparison to that of delinquent group (9.3 %). In other words, most of delinquents had no identity with home and security at home; they were moving away and often astray. These differences were statistically significant.

Next, the facts, viz. where and how the child passes his time outside the home have an important bearing upon his growth. This information is enumerated in Table No. 28 which says that the delinquent children were unguardedly passing their leisure time in the public parks (15.3 %), were wandering in streets (12.7 %), loitering in bazaar (23.3 %), moving aimlessly on railway station (16.0 %) and some (16.7 %) were loitering near cinema theatres (perhaps to help black-marketing or to get in free) and 6.7 % were passing their leisure time at any other unidentified odd places. In case of non-delinquent group, 20.0 % of the children were found passing their leisure time in the parks or

TABLE NO. 28

Places where Leisure Time is Spent
out of Home

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Park or Garden	23	15.3	30	20.0
2.	Street	19	12.7	2	1.3
3.	Bazar	35	23.3	-	-
4.	Railway Station	24	16.0	-	-
5.	Cinema	25	16.7	18	12.0
6.	Anywhere outside	10	6.7	4	2.7
7.	Remaining in Home	14	9.3	96	64.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 138.50$$

$$P < .01$$

PLACES WHERE LEISURE TIME IS SPENT OUT OF HOME.

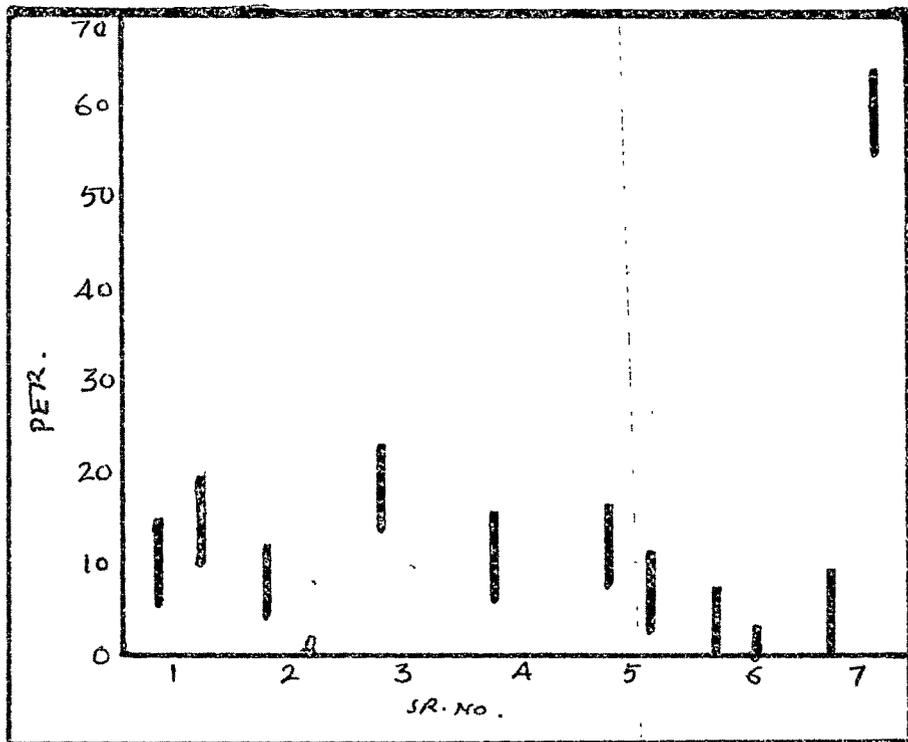


FIG. 25

— DEL.

- - - NON-DEL.

gardens, 1.3 % in the streets, no one in the bazaar or on the railway station, 12.0 % were found mostly passing their leisure time in witnessing the cinemas, and only 2.7 % were passing their leisure time at other odd places.

Further, during the interview they were asked the kind of activity or the manner in which they passed their leisure time out of home. Table No. 29 reveals this information. Thus, most children among the delinquent group were passing their leisure time outside the home in an unhealthy way, like aimless wandering, begging, quarrelling and fighting, gambling etc. To put in figures, 22.0 % children of the delinquent group were used to wandering during their leisure time, 3.3 % were fond of moving out for walk during their leisure time, 8.0 % were playing during their leisure time, 16.0 % were begging at public places during their leisure time, 10.0 % were quarrelling and fighting during their leisure time and deriving joy from it, 26.7 % were passing their time in gambling or were engaged in activities related to gambling, 4.7 % were passing their leisure time in any other way, meaning black-marketing, teasing the passers-by etc. Among the non-delinquents, 1.3 % of children were passing

TABLE NO.29

Use of leisure time (before admission)
~~The Way in which They spend Leisure Time~~
 out of Home

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Walking	5	3.3	19	12.7
2.	Playing	12	8.0	19	12.7
3.	Aimless Wandering	33	22.0	2	1.3
4.	Begging	24	16.0	-	-
5.	Quarrelling and Fighting	15	10.0	1	0.7
6.	Gambling	40	26.7	-	-
7.	Any other	7	4.7	14	9.3
8.	No	14	9.3	96	64.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$X^2 = 160.44$$

$$P < .01$$

THE WAY IN WHICH THEY SPEND LEISURE TIME OUT OF HOME.

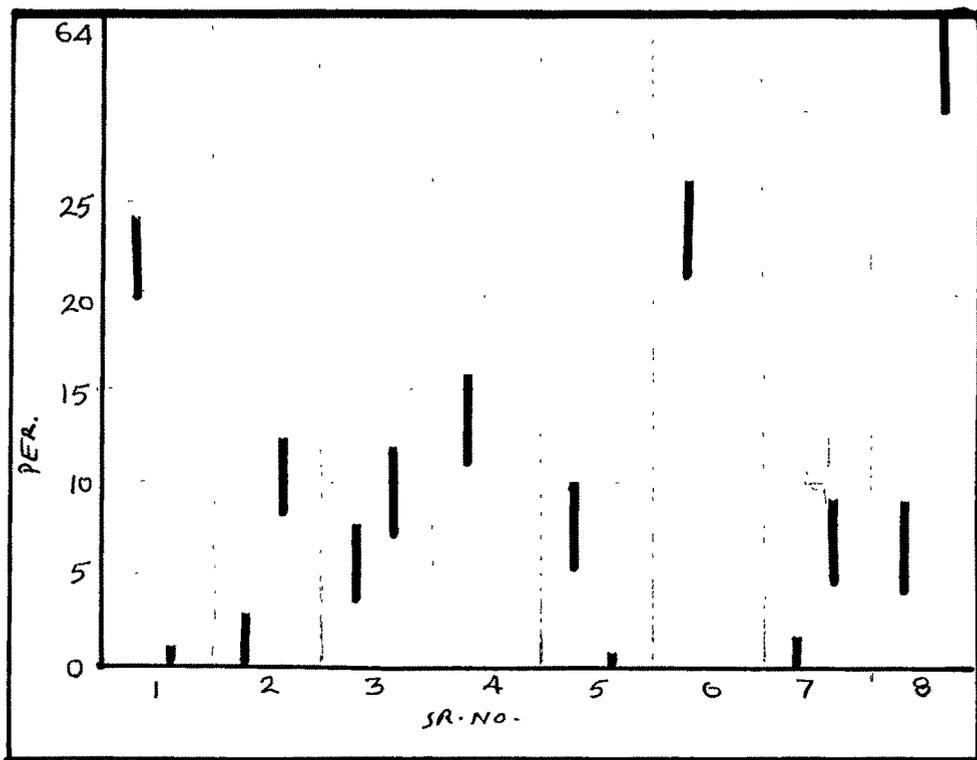


FIG. 26

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

their leisure time in wandering, 12.7 % in regularly going for a walk, 12.7 % in playing, and only one (0.7 %) was found passing his leisure time in quareeling and fighting, while 9.3 % were observed passing their leisure time in any other way, such as in the library or gymnasium or at friend's or relative's places and the like. It should be noted here that 40 delinquents children showing gambling as their leisure time activity were the same as those engaged in gambling shown in Table No. under section 'employment'. To them, gambling seemed to be both a recreational as well as an earning job.

Next, children who were passing their leisure time in the home were further asked as to how they spent their time at home. The responses are classified and shown in Table No. 30. Thus, among the delinquent, 0.7 % children were studying, 0.7 % reading, 6.0 % doing household work, 2.0 % doing any other domestic activities. Among the non-delinquent group, 33.3 % were fond of extra reading, 14.0 % were observed doing their household work, 6.7 % were busy with any other work at home. All these differences were not a matter of chance but had a statistical significance.

TABLE NO. 30

Use of Leisure Time (before Admission) spend
~~at~~ the Home

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Studying	1	0.7	50	33.3
2.	Reading	1	0.7	15	10.0
3.	Household Work	9	6.0	21	14.0
4.	Any other	3	2.0	10	6.7
5.	Remaining out of Home	136	90.6	54	36.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 99.09$$

$$P < .01$$

USE OF LEISURE TIME (BEFORE ADMISSION) SPEND
IN THE HOME.

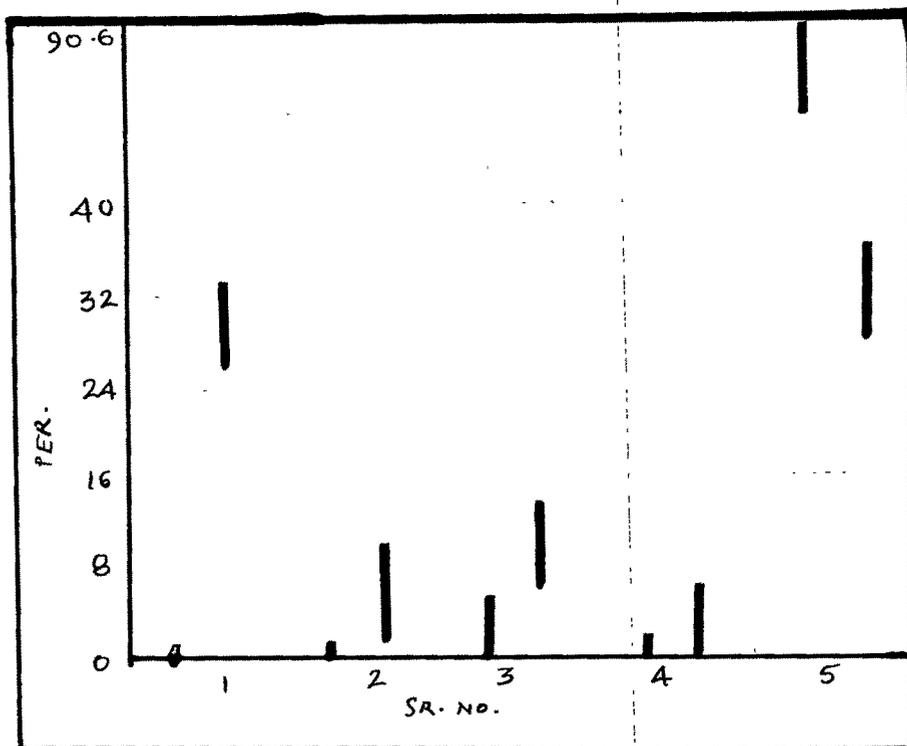


FIG. 27

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

To summarise, delinquents were mostly recreating themselves during their leisure time with activities detrimental to their healthy growth, while non-delinquents were comparatively engaged during their leisure time in wholesome activities or occupations that were at least not derogatory. Delinquents were passing their leisure time at such places and in such a manner that they would easily identify themselves with antisocial behaviour. Generally, delinquency is not the product of working hours, but of leisure hours. One of the chief aims of education is the adequate use of leisure time; its misuse breeds evil antisocial acts. It is rightly said that idle brain is the workshop of devil. So also unfilled hours provide vice to the idle hands (40).

Professor Ellingston John R. (15)^a says :

" For every child, leisure time opens new doors either to the enrichment of the personality or to its demoralisation. Which it shall be depends on how its use is organized".

Children should be properly directed to use their leisure hours. The White House Conference on Child Health and Protection (46)^c lays down :

" Learning how to use and enjoy leisure time is an important part of the child's development".

Professor Sullenger Thomas Earl (42)⁶ also emphasises :

" The child must be taught how to enjoy his leisure time most effectively and be afforded opportunity to use it wholesomely, both for himself and for society. Juvenile delinquency results in a large measure from an unwise use of leisure time. A majority of children are brought into court because of lack of adequate community direction of leisure time activities".

Further it is summarised by him :

" That much of the juvenile delinquency is the result of misdirected play; that most of the delinquent acts are suggested or brought to the child's attention during his spare time; that many of the acts were performed in order to get the resources or means by which the child can enjoy his leisure time; that the behaviour of delinquent and normal children is, in general, similar except that the former is slightly distorted as a result of insufficient guidance; and that some of these acts are due to revolt against routine and strict discipline in the homes. The general conclusion is that the greatest determinant in delinquency outside the home is the lack of properly directed recreation".

It is generally assumed that the wholesome recreation tends to prevent delinquency, whereas unwholesome and harmful amusements lead to misconduct(31).

This emphasizes the importance of not only the provision of adequate leisure time activities in which the young seek their self-expression and self-satisfaction after the routine drudgery of fast mechanical life, but also the essentiality of direction for adequate use of these activities for the growing youth in order that the growth may not deviate from the normal standard laid down for a 'social' individual.