

## CHAPTER VII

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

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Parents and Siblings

Parents Mutual Relationship

Attitude Towards the Child and  
Other Children in the Family

Education

Lack of Healthful Living

Occupation

Addictions and Vices

Criminality and Immorality

Sibling Relationship

## PARENTS AND SIBLINGS

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Apart from the characteristics peculiar to the child himself, parents and siblings being the essential components of the family are influencing the child's personality development. The child is born helpless in the world. He has to depend on parents for every kind of basic necessities. He, through direct or indirect teaching, begins slowly to adjust himself with the outer world. His first dependence is upon the mother, the source of food, warmth and security. The mother may be said to represent to the infant the satisfaction of his natural drives (3). On the other hand, the father is a symbol of discipline. The child learns the disciplinary attitude from his father. Father means an economic and other kind of social security against the outer world and mother means the security of love and affection. Parents' attitude towards

himself and other children in the family, their attitude towards each other, their addictions, occupations etc. are constantly affecting the development of the life of the child. As he grows older in age, he accepts prejudices and preferences, like and dislikes, interests and attitudes primarily of the parents and siblings rather than of others. First he accepts without reason whatever he sees or observes in his parents or siblings and after acceptance, he tries to rationalise if irrational. From the siblings he learns either the lessons of co-operation or jealousy by playing and working together. The child mechanically accepts the standards of conduct exemplified by his parents or siblings. He begins his life with standards set by them. He exercises very little reason but learns more by imitation. He always thinks or acts in terms of standards accepted and followed by them. The child imbibes the ideals of life as well as the attitudes or prejudices towards the authority, the outside world, the marriage, and towards a number of other social problems, as he lives in the family and in the social environment. If a child receives normal affection from his parent he has a good start (4). Sometimes parents own inconsistency in their own behaviour confuses the child. Parental neglect

may have many reasons but its consciousness to the child hurts his sense of security of love and affection and that may develop hostilities towards them and neurotic symptoms in him, which may provide the fertile ground for delinquency or antisocial behaviour to grow.

The child's fondness for his mother is linked with love and for his father it is linked with respect and awe (4). Prof. Merrill Mand A. (30) e recognises the importance of parental role when he says-

"There are two chief aspects of parental role that profoundly influence the structure of the child's personality. As his main source of affection and care, the parents are a source of security; as the disciplinary agents; they are a source of frustration in their interference with the free expression of his impulses. This "contradictory function" of the parents produces the ambivalent attitudes which the Freudian Psychologists have done so much to clarify, attitudes which produce conflicts between incompatibles since a child both loves and hates his parents".

Child is the joint expression of both the parents. Both the parents are <sup>^</sup>plying their own role. Yet the field of influencing the child is totally different for both the parents. Father acts as a disciplinary agent in child's life. From father child learns respect for authority. Presence of father is an economical and a social security for the family. By the death of father the whole family, if mother lacks in the ability to cope up with the situations, becomes like a ship, without a pilot to guide, and dashes upon the rock of confusion and obscurity. But in many cases as father passed much of his time outside the home, his absence is never felt or if felt can be faced by the mother like the father.

From birth onwards the child depends upon his own mother for food and affection. Loss of mother is a dangerous blow to the family than any thing else. Prof. Doty Madeleine Z. (12)<sup>^</sup> recognising the paramount importance of mother says-

"Ninety times out of a hundred the best influence in a child's life is his mother. He confides in her, he goes to her for advice and for the touch of her hand when ill or hurt. When sent away he has the hand of man

against him and no mother to help".

Further :

*demand of the* "No institution can withstand  
the ~~■~~ mothers".  
/

Further it is emphasized that :

"To nourish the heart of a child  
and make it blossom like a flower, is  
women's secret".

The importance of the role of a mother is highly  
emphasised in the Study of the Neglected Child and his  
Family (43)<sup>A</sup> with the following words-

"In looking at these problem  
families there emerges one dominating  
feature- the capacity of the mother.  
It is she who stands out pre-eminantly  
as the person who gives the 'temper' to  
the household. It is her calibre which  
matters. A feckless or a drunken father  
influences the economic situation of the  
family; and detracts from the emotional  
security of the child, since for full  
development he needs a father and  
mother whom he can respect and trust  
Yet it is remarked again and again  
that the father's deficiency is not  
the determining factor. Frequently a  
family can survive in spite of a weak  
or vicious father; but it is rare  
that it can survive with an incapable  
mother, for it is she who is the  
coping stone of the structure".

When the mother dies, there are a number of instances in which the father remarries, while there are very few cases of mothers having remarried. In India women are less prone to remarriage than men. When either parent remarries a number of problems crop up for the children. It is wisdom of mother which is entirely responsible for the happiness or unhappiness in the family.

Sibling relationship is also an important factor in child's life. Siblings are not generally the sole factor in producing delinquency, but it is a contributing one, the original source being parental relationship. When the child has step siblings, the miseries for him increase, undesirable rivalries between them take the worst form of continuous conflicts, and strains and frustrations coupled with parental neglect or sometimes even indirect approval destroy the healthy personality growth of the child. It should be borne in mind here that sibling relationship is not all important; it is mainly the lack of parental healthy relationship or adequate guidance, directions and control that accounts for inadequate relationship between siblings. Thus, delinquency at the most can be traced more fruitfully first to the nature of the parents

rather than siblings. We should better examine parents before the siblings, with respect to a number of their aspects such as education, their occupations, parental mutual relations, their attitudes to children, their addictions and their records of criminality or immorality and the like. The sections that follow provide in figures information on all these aspects of both the groups.



## PARENT'S MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP

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It has been accepted by many that parents play a major role in the type of growth of their children, either through their treatment of and relations with the children or even through their own mutual relations between the father and the mother, all of which are reflected on the clean slate of the growing child. The role of parent's mutual relationship is discussed just below and the contribution of parental attitudes towards children is brought out in the next sections. Authorities on delinquency are in general agreement that discord and disharmony between the parents is a potent cause in producing antisocial behaviour. It is found highly associated with delinquency. In view of this, information was collected from children as to how they perceived the nature between their father and mother.

The obtained data after being subjected to a statistical test for studying differences are presented in Table No. 31. It can be observed from this table that significantly higher number (35.3 %) of delinquent children's parents had poor mutual relationship, meaning that there was breach of confidence or that one of the other parent had deserted the family or they were separated occasionally ending in divorce, or were highly neglecting each other. Next, a few had fair ( 16.0 %) mutual relationship as determined by incompatibility, occasionally serious quarrelling and indifference to each other; while hardly few (10.0 %) had good mutual relationship meaning that they were compatible, having no undue quarrelling and that they were taking interest in each other. In contrast to this, in case of non-delinquent group, significantly a greater number of parents (42.0 %) showed good mutual relationship; few had fair (34.0 %) and very few had poor (11.3 %) mutual relationship. Wherever parent's mutual relationship in both the groups was not determined or traced due to death or insufficient data, it is expressed as unknown. In this regard, also, untraceable cases amounting to

TABLE NO.31

## Parents Mutual Relationship

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Good	15	10.0	63	42.0
2.	Fair	24	16.0	51	34.0
3.	Poor	53	35.3	17	11.3
4.	U. K.	58	38.7	19	12.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 77.52$$

$$P < .01$$

PARENTS MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP.

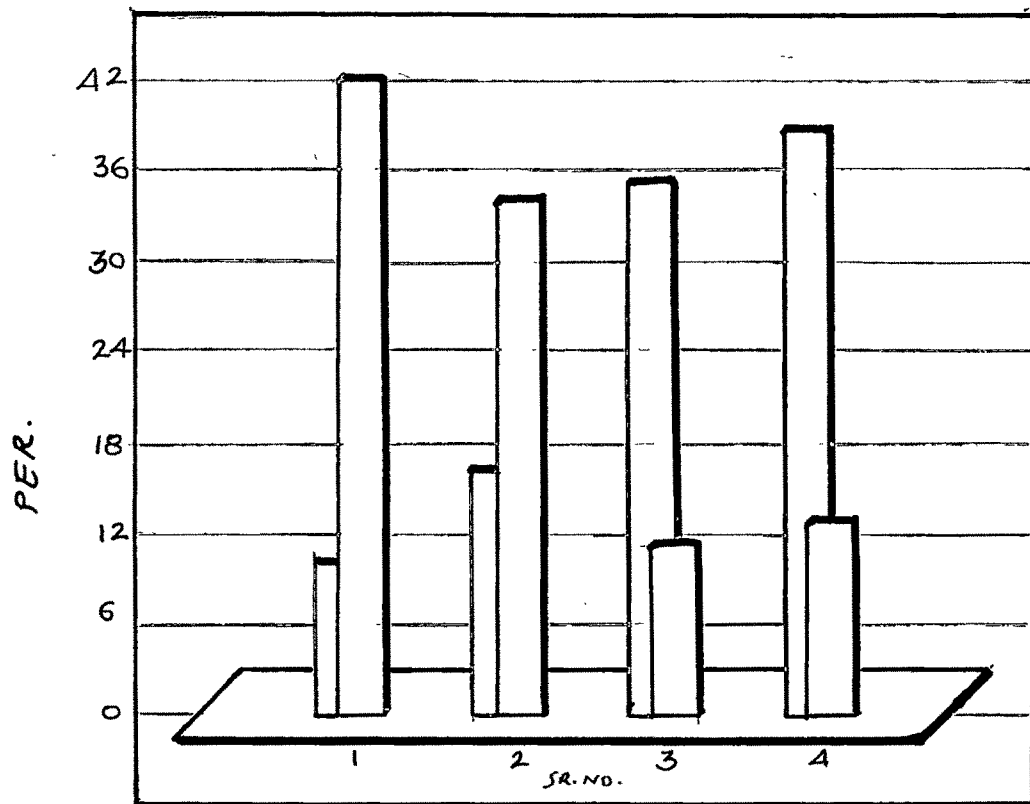


FIG. 28

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

almost unfavourable mutual relations were observed to a higher extent (38.7 %) in case of delinquent group than in case of non-delinquent group (12.7 %). All these differences are statistically significant, implying that mutual unhealthy relationship is an important accompaniment of delinquency.

Parents are the main pillars of the entire family life, so their mutual relationship is more significantly a contributory factor. When their healthy mutual relationship is wanting, no one accepts the responsibility of the children. On the contrary, they are used as means to serve their purpose against each other. Healy and Bronner (2) found clashes between father and mother to be an important accompaniment of delinquency. While pilots are wrangling about the course, the ship drifts on to disaster. The discord between the parents is more or less constant during the developmental period and causes immense disaster for the child. From such situations result fear and insecurity. Parental conflict disturbs the child's emotional life and creates a sense of neglect and unwantedness. It tends to suppress the development of character as it should grow in line with socially accepted principles and norms. Disturbed relationship

affects the child's feeling of being loved and wanted, it accentuates and increases the frustrating and disappointing experiences and tends to complicate the normal achievement of satisfactory identification with either parent and the acquisition of adult emotional maturity. Wherever there is conflict between parents, a child cannot identify with either, without losing the approval of the other (30).

In such cases sometimes a child is also tempted to extract undesirable advantage of flattering either parent or making show of loyalty to each parent or often the child is used as a spy by each over the other. Anyway, the child demonstrates undesirable practices and prejudices. Quarrels between parents may not mean simply that the children are physically neglected but they undoubtedly tend to make children either timid or distorted in personality and disturbed in their behaviour. Divided loyalty is always a perplexing and damaging factor in child's life (46). Even Dr. Marfatia (29) notes :-

"Disharmony between the parents causing frequent quarrels is one of the common causes of juvenile delinquency. The need for security which is the one of the most fundamental requirements of the child can only be satisfied if the child feels that both his parents love him. If quarrels arise frequently between the parents, the child may be led to take the side of one parent and start hating the other. Such

a state of affairs is bound to lead to obstacles in the smooth development of the Child's personality".

Prof. Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) also found significant relationship between conjugal relations of parents and delinquency. Collecting figures on conjugal relations of parents of delinquent children, they found 36.8 % having good, 32.0 % fair and 31.2 % having poor mutual relations in comparison to parents of non-delinquent children, among whom, 65.3 % had good, 19.8 % had fair and only 14.9 % had poor conjugal relations.

In short, the nature of mutual relations between the father and the mother has an important say in moulding the growth of the child.

## ATTITUDE OF FATHER AND MOTHER TOWARDS THE CHILD

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Besides the mutual relations of parents, distinction in attitudes of parents towards one child and other children in the family or better the perception of such distinctive parental attitudes by the children has also been observed to be a highly significant factor in determining the child's behaviour. It is the general statement of truth agreed by almost all the workers in the field, such as Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) Mullins Claud A (31), Neumeyer Martin H. (31), Kvaraceus (24) and others that the parental attitudes towards one child and other children in the family play a greater role in the development of healthy personality adjustment. In the present investigation the author during the interview with each child



enlisted on the basis of his responses the attitudes of parents as perceived by the child towards him. These attitudes of the father as well as the mother are classified and tabulated as shown in Table No. 32 and 33 towards the child under study and in Table Nos. 34 and 35 towards other children in the family. Data in all these tables when subjected to Chisquare test revealed that delinquency was significantly associated with the attitudes of father and mother towards the child and other children in the family.

Table No. 32 shows that a higher number of fathers among the delinquent group had rejective attitude towards the child (16.0 % compared to 10.66 %). Rejection in this case meant actively avoiding the child from the home and home enjoyment, frequent cases of scolding and punishing him either physically or mentally. On the other hand, a vast majority of fathers of the non-delinquent group had warm attitude (46.6 % compared to 10.6 %) indicated by relationship of love and affection between them. Almost equal number of fathers in both groups had the attitude of indifference (Del. 35.3 % and Non-Del. 34.7 %). Indifference here meant absence of relationship of love or hatred, affection or rejection between them, rare cases of strife between them,

TABLE NO.32

## Father's Attitude Towards the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	16	10.7	70	46.7
2.	Indifferent	53	35.3	52	34.7
3.	Rejection	24	16.0	16	10.6
4.	U. K.	57	38.0	12	8.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 64.96 \quad P < .01$$

ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE CHILD (FATHERS).

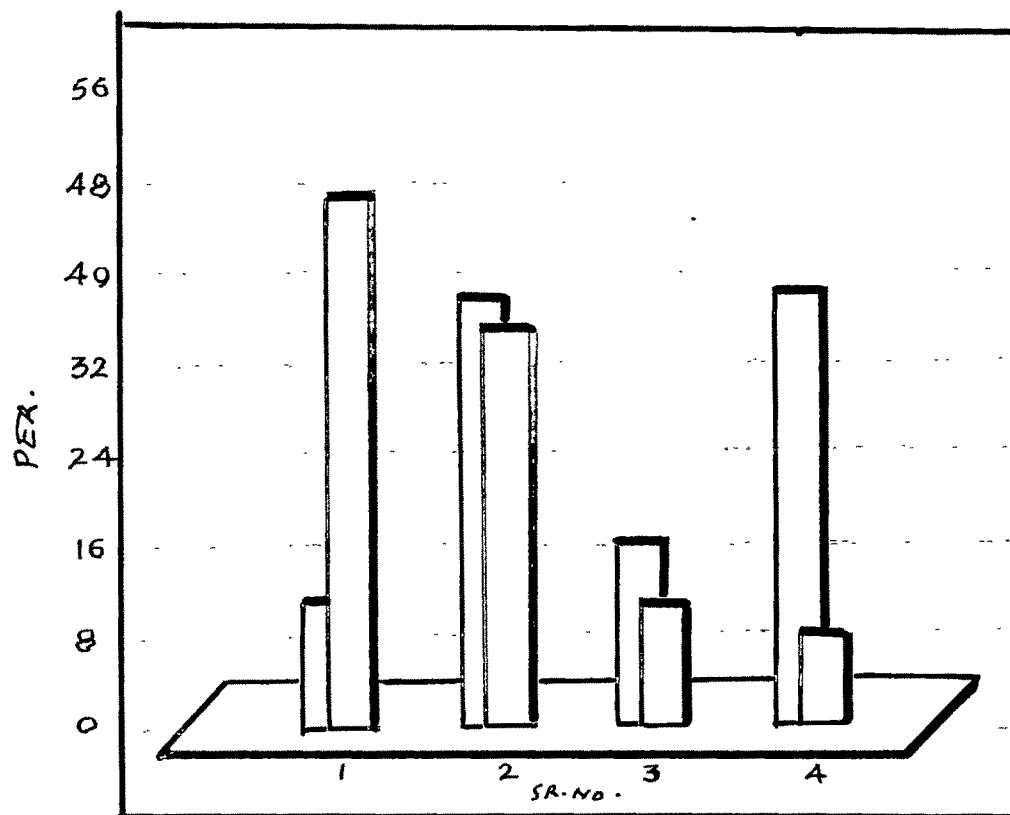


FIG. 29

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

and absence of active avoidance of the child from the home in both the groups - delinquent and non-delinquent. There were 38.0 % cases among the delinquent group and 8.0 % cases among the non-delinquent group, where the father's attitude towards the child could not be recorded due to either absence of father in the family or the refusal of the child to express, in which case the inclination seemed more likely against the father. Anyhow, these difference in attitudes of acceptance or rejection were significant statistically too.

Next, from the Table No. 33 it is observed that 26.7 % mothers among the delinquent group had attitude of rejection, 13.3 % had attitude of indifference, 10.0 % had warm attitude towards the child, and in 50.0 % of cases it was not determined or was doubtful. In contrast, 72. ) % mothers of the non-delinquent group had warm attitude, 16.7 % had attitude of indifference, 6.0 % had attitude of rejection and only <sup>in</sup> 5.3. % cases it was<sup>n</sup> not possible to determine. These figures too were significantly different in both groups. Moreover, it should be again noted from comparison of table 32 and 33 that mother's warm attitude for non-delinquent group and her rejective attitude for delinquent group were

TABLE NO.33

## Mother's Attitude Towards the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	15	10.0	108	72.0
2.	Indifferent	20	13.3	25	16.7
3.	Rejection	40	26.7	9	6.0
4.	U. K.	75	50.0	8	5.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 74.20$$

$$P < .01$$

ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE CHILD (MOTHERS).

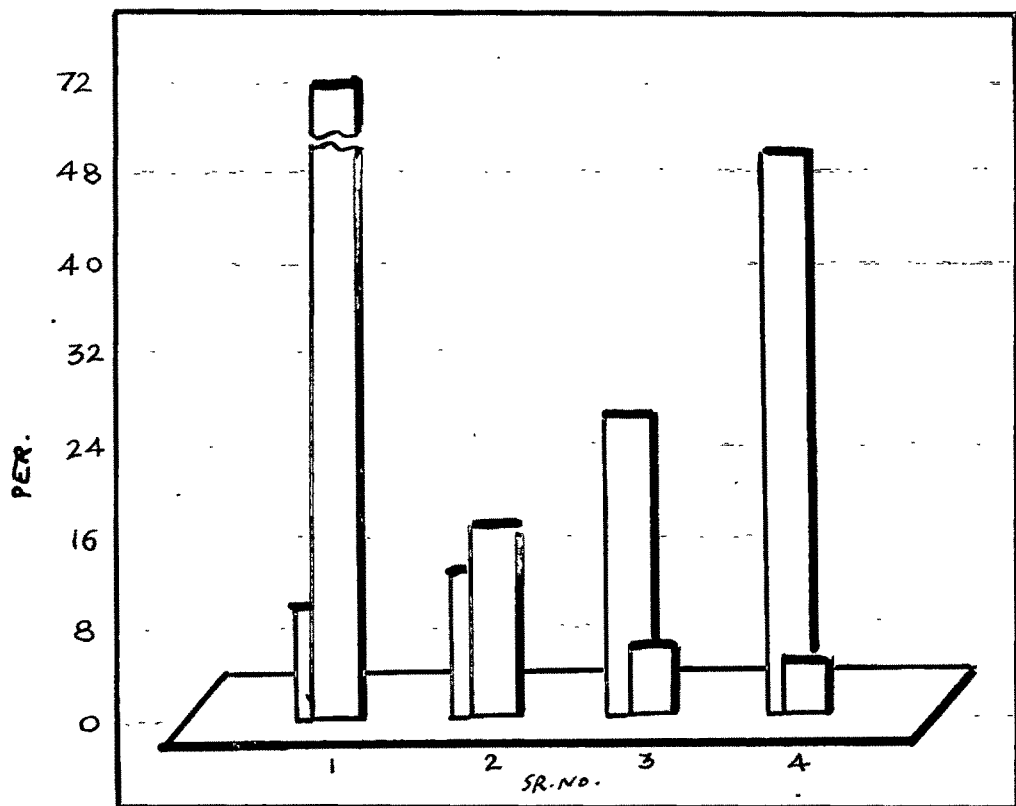


FIG. 30

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

higher than the same for the father, suggesting greater role of the mother's impact.

Next, just as the attitudes of fathers and mothers towards the particular child under study, have an important say in child's delinquency, the parental attitudes towards other children, as perceived by the child under study play an equally important role in his growth. Thus their distinctly partial attitude towards other children in the family makes the perceiving child more conscious of his own lower position and lesser importance in the family. Or the rejective attitude of parents towards children including himself as perceived by the child aggravates his feeling of insecurity in case of his perception of harshness towards all; or the perception of warm attitudes towards other creates a sense of security in the perceiver. To gather all such information, parental attitudes towards other children also were collected by asking the child during interview how he perceived parents in relation to other children. These data are presented in Table Nos. 34 and 35 for fathers and mothers respectively. It is observed that more than one and one half in ten (16.7 %) fathers among the delinquent group were

TABLE NO.34

Father's Attitude Towards the Other Children  
in the Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	25	16.7	58	38.7
2.	Indifferent	38	25.3	64	42.7
3.	Rejection	20	13.3	15	10.0
4.	U. K.	67	44.7	13	8.6
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 54.14$$

$$P < .01$$



ATTITUDE TOWARDS OTHER CHILDREN IN  
THE FAMILY (FATHERS).

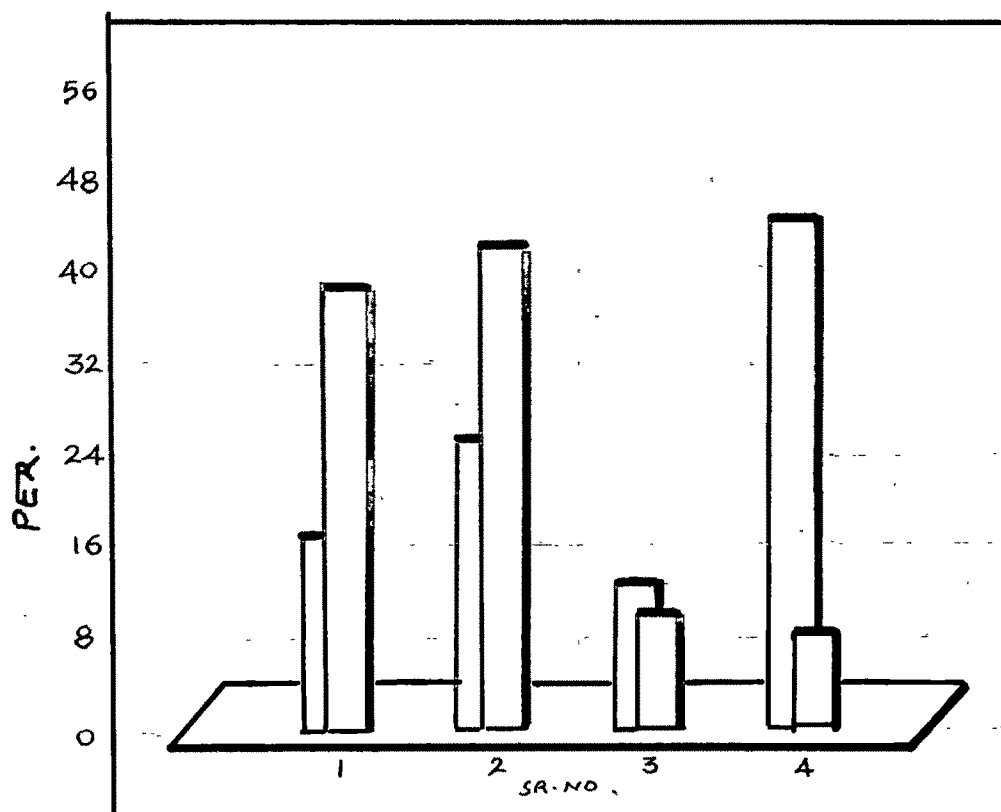


FIG. 31

— DER.

— NON-DEL.

ATTITUDE OF FATHERS OF THE DELINQUENT  
GROUP TOWARDS THE DELINQUENT CHILD AND  
OTHER CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY.

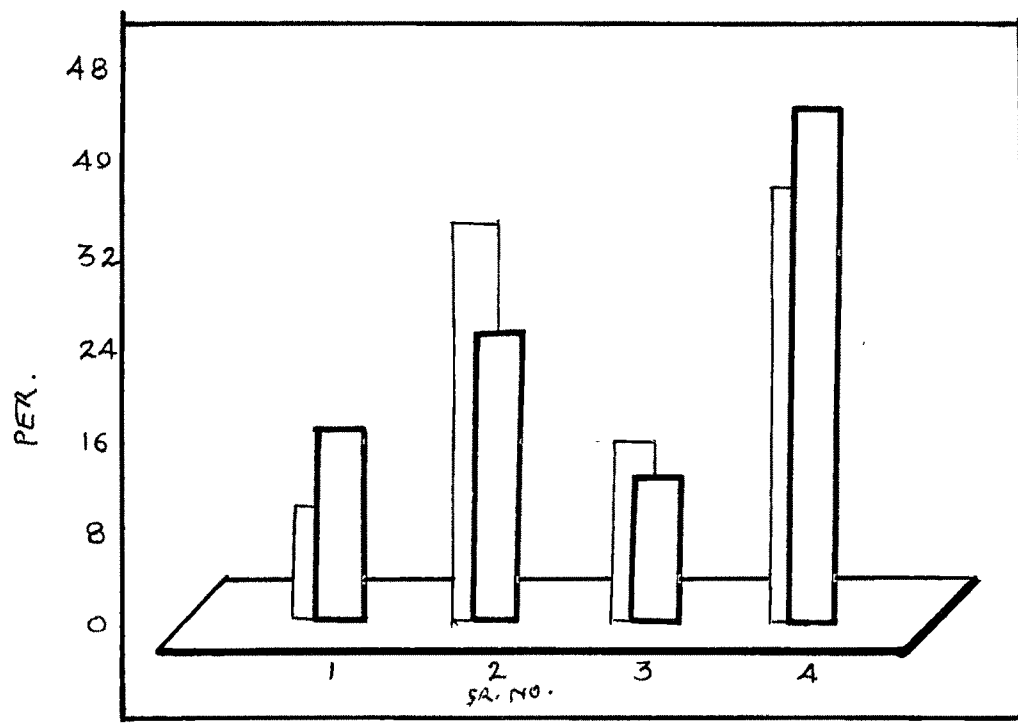


FIG. 33

— DELINQUENT.  
— OTHER CHILDREN.

perceived by the child as having warm attitude towards the other children in the family, about two and one half in ten (25.3 %) as having attitude of indifference, more than one and one fourth in ten (13.3 %) as having rejective attitude and on more than four in ten (44.7 %) cases it was not determined because of either absence of father in the family or the refusal of the child to express or the child being the only child in the family. In contrast, more than three and one half in ten (38.7 %) fathers of the non-delinquent group were perceived as having warm attitude towards the other children in the family, more than four in ten (42.6 %) as having attitude of indifference one in ten (10.0%) having attitude of rejection and in less than one in ten (8.6 %) cases it was not possible to trace. These differences between two groups were also significant.

Similarly in case of mothers among the delinquent groups, it was also observed (Table No. 35) that more than two in ten (23.3 %) were perceived by the child as having warm attitude towards the other children in the family, more than one in ten (13.3 %) having attitude of indifference, more than one half in ten (6.7 %) having attitude of rejection and in more than five in ten (56.7 %) cases it was not determined.

TABLE NO.35

Mother's Attitude Towards <sup>other</sup> ~~the~~ Children  
in the Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	35	23.3	101	67.3
2.	Indifferent	20	13.3	30	20.0
3.	Rejection	10	6.7	9	6.0
4.	U. K.	85	56.7	10	6.77
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 92.00$$

$$P < .01$$

# ATTITUDES TOWARDS OTHER CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY (MOTHERS).

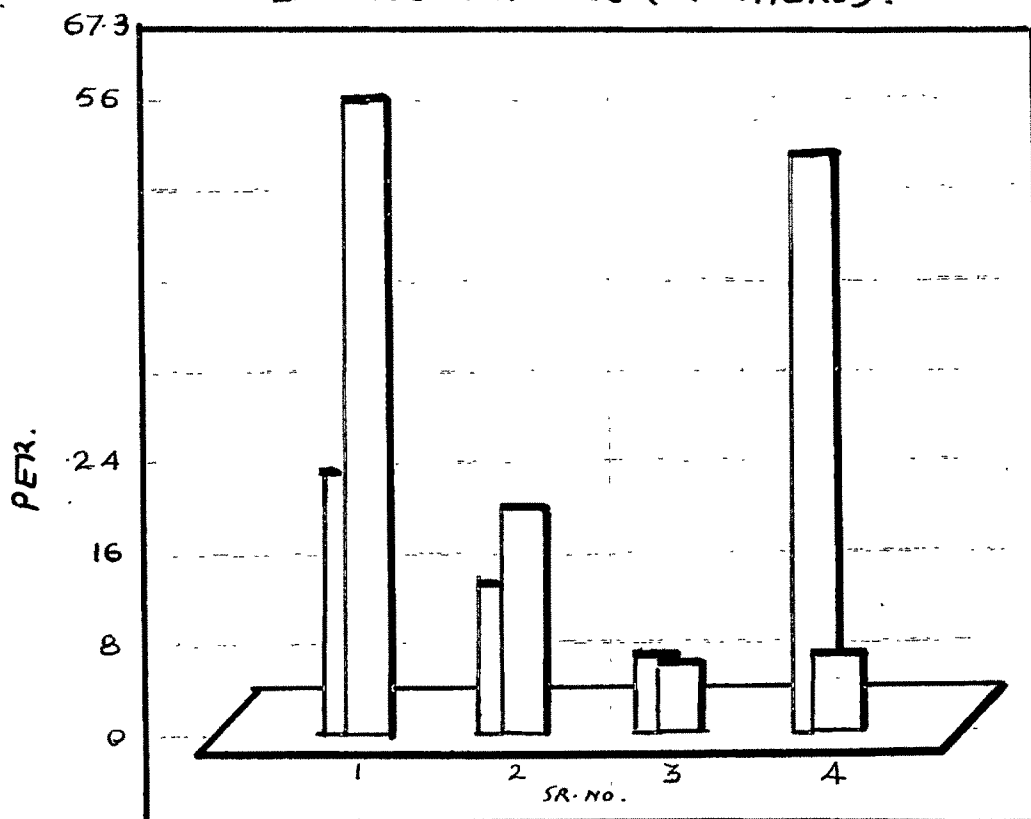


FIG. 32

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

In case of mothers of non-delinquent group, more than six in ten (67.3 %) mothers were perceived having warm attitude towards the other children in the family, two in ten (20.0 %) having attitude of indifference, about one half in ten (6.0 %) having rejective attitude and in other one half in ten (6.7 %) cases it was not determined. Perception of warmer attitudes to other seemed to give them more security and this was the case with non-delinquent group; higher percentage of delinquent group observed rejective attitude towards others and this seemed to create in them a sense of <sup>ea</sup>ins<sup>u</sup>curity. All these comparisons show significant differences between delinquent and non-delinquent groups.

Further, besides comparison of delinquent and non-delinquent groups, even in the delinquent group alone, the comparison of parental attitudes towards the child under study and towards other children would yield fruitful data. It would be expected that perhaps greater number of parents of the delinquent Groups might be showing favourable attitude towards other children than the number of parents showing favourable attitude towards the child under study and similarly greater number of parents might be showing rejective attitude towards the child under

study than the number of parents showing rejective attitude towards other children; and such situation might give rise to jealousy etc. and consequently end in delinquent behaviour. For such comparison, the same data are reorganised in Table Nos. 36 and 37 for fathers and mothers. On applying Chi-square test, the differences between attitudes towards the child and towards other children in case of fathers of the delinquent group were not found significant. However, this expectation of partiality turns out to be true in case of mothers as seen from results in Table No. which are significant. In case of fathers, attitude towards the child and other children in the family was perceived to be almost the same. As the types of attitudes were more or less the same, there was less scope for jealousy and injustice resulting from the father's warm attitudes, but there was more scope for added feelings of fear and insecurity resulting from rejective attitudes of the father towards oneself as well as towards other children. However, in case of mothers, the attitudes were perceived warmer or distinctly partial with respect to other children (23.3 % against 10 %) and rejective with the child under study (26.7 % against 6.7%).

TABLE NO. 36

Attitude of Fathers of the Delinquent Group  
Towards the Delinquent Child and other Children in the Family

Sr. No.	Description	The Child		Other Children	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	16	10.7	25	16.7
2.	Indifferent	53	35.3	38	25.3
3.	Rejection	24	16.0	20	13.3
4.	U. K.	57	38.0	67	44.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 5.62$$

$$P < 0.05$$



TABLE NO. 37

Attitude of Mother of the Delinquent Group  
Towards the Delinquent Child and other  
Children in the Family

Sr. No.	Description	The Child		Other Children	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	15	10.0	35	23.3
2.	Indifferent	20	13.3	20	13.3
3.	Rejection	40	26.7	10	6.7
4.	U. K.	75	50.0	85	56.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 26.62$$

$$P < .01$$

ATTITUDE OF MOTHERS OF THE DELINQUENT GROUP TOWARDS THE DELINQUENT CHILD AND OTHER CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY

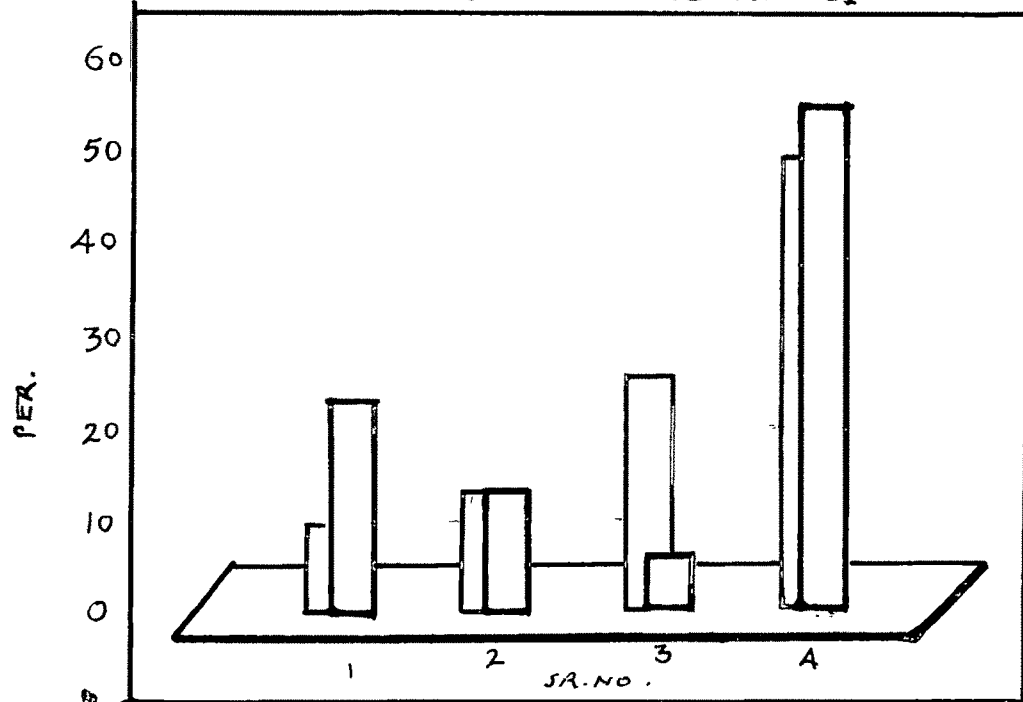


FIG. 34

— DELINQUENT

— OTHER CHILDREN

Here it seems that there was more scope for undue jealousies, strifes and conflict. In such cases it is bound to end in delinquent behaviour. Mother's differential attitude of treatment of one child and other children in family has far reaching influence over his behaviour, because of the child passes along with other children more time at home with mother rather than with father. It creates a sense of unwantedness and neglect in him. It isolates him from the family. In such situations he finds self-satisfaction and gratification by taking recourse to delinquent behaviour.

Anyway, it is observed from all these tables that fathers as well as mothers of the delinquent group had adopted more discriminating attitude towards the child and also towards other children in the family in comparison to that adopted by parents of the non-delinquent children and especially mothers of delinquent group were more discriminating between one child and other children. This type of policy adopted in the family by the parents creates a sense of neglect, avoidance and insecurity in the child. He constantly feels that he is unwanted and unloved by the parents. And he ultimately cultivates hostilities towards the parents and the dislike for home and frequently tries

to remain away from home and practices truancy. During truancy he come in contact with children of such strata of society as that where crimes thrive. By neglecting the child, parents are neglecting their most pious duty. The parent's omission of instilling into the child the fundamental principles of life is the chief cause of delinquency and crime in later years as also revealed in the life stories of the prison inmates (19). Parent's failure to express their love for children creates complicated problem. It is from these unloved and rejected children that crimes receive their largest number of recruits. Neglected and without touch of human affection in their lives, it is but natural that they become a menace to the society (19). Neglect is not the outcome of one factor, but of a number of interacting factors, each aggravating the other, and it is the combination of these factors, which leads to rejection, dejection and delinquency. It is apparent that there are certain common defects, in part environmental and in part inherent in the character of the parents, which can be detected, no doubt in different degrees in the majority cases (46). Professor Kravacus (24) <sup>was</sup> in case of child conflict situation in family, the lack of

rapport usually manifested itself in several forms - neglect, nagging, dislike and other conflicts likely to be present concurrently. Dr. J.C. Marfatia (28)<sup>d</sup> recognises the importance of parent-child relationship when he says :-

"The most fundamental emotional needs of the child can be satisfied only if the parent-child relationship is healthy. Just as vitamins are absolutely necessary for healthy and normal physical development and growth, so also for the development and growth of a healthy and well integrated personality the fundamental emotional needs of the child must be satisfied. Non-satisfaction of these needs leads to emotional mal adjustment and behaviour problems in children".

The same is put by Professor Neumeyer Martin (32)<sup>e</sup> in his lines :-

"The warm relationship between a child and his parents is of great significance in developing a wholesome set of ideals and in satisfying the wish for response. Love is essential for a child. If he is not loved and feels that he is not wanted, or if the emotional identification with the parents is disrupted, the growing child may seek substitute satisfactions in companionship or he may pass through a period of grave insecurity, frustration and resentment, even hatred. It is in this type of situation that a child may turn to gang associations and other undesirable types of companionships".

Generally a small child has a yearning or hunger for love, which is partly due to his/her sense of weakness and dependence. If he/she finds no satisfaction

for this hunger, he/she may retreat into his/her own little world and retain the impression of the callousness and enmity to the other world for the rest of his/her life. A lack of love in the earliest months and years may even result in a failure to achieve sublimation of the normal instincts of aggression and desire for power. Sometimes parental attitude of carelessness and consequent lack of security in the children have probably been main cause of the delinquency and sometimes are the cause of the failure of attempts to cure (31). Once rejected, always rejected. Parents never think of attending, caring and <sup>craving</sup> ~~caring~~ child. Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) says :-

"As regards affectional relations between the parents and boys, on which so much of the development of personality and character depends the delinquents were much more the victims of the indifference or actual hostility of their fathers and mothers, and were, in turn, less attached to their parents. Not only did they derive less affections from their mothers and fathers, but they were also regarded with less warmth by their brothers and sisters. This greater emotional deprivation is further reflected in a greater feeling on the part of the delinquent boys that their parents were not concerned about their welfare. Whether as a result of this or of other elements in the family life, the delinquents did not identify themselves with or seek to emulate their fathers nearly as much as did the non-delinquents."

In short, parental attitudes not only towards the child alone but even the attitudes towards the other children in the family, whether they be discriminating or be of equal rejection, have far reaching effect in the development of adjustment or growth of personality of the growing child.

EDUCATION OF THE PARENTS

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Lack of education in parents has also important bearing on treatment of children and hence on producing delinquency, if it does. Lack of education on the part of the parents results in lack of insight in child's basic needs and necessities. Illiterate parents often fail to understand the child's nature and the importance of the childhood. In view of this, in the present investigation the author inquired also into the level of education on part of parents in both the groups. This information has been summarized in Table Nos. 38 and 39 for father and mother respectively. The level of education as given in Table Nos. 38 and 39 was found significantly related to the presence of delinquency, i.e. the lower the level of education, the more is the incidence of delinquency.



it can be observed from the Table No. 38

66.7 % fathers among the delinquent group were found illiterate, 14.7 % were found having primary education, 7.3 % were found having secondary education, and only 2.0 % were found having higher education, while 9.3 % cases information was not traceable. With respect to non-delinquent group, 18.7 % fathers were found illiterate, 37.3 % were found having primary education, 36.7 % were found having secondary education and 7.3 % were found having higher education. The differences in these figures regarding education of fathers were significant.

Similarly, it can also be observed from the Table. No. 39 that 66.7 % mothers among the delinquent group were found illiterate, 12.0 % were found having primary education and not a single mother of the delinquent group was having secondary or higher education, and in 21.3 % of cases, the exact educational level of the mothers could not be determined. From data available during the interview the investigator is led to think that in almost all these undetermined cases mothers were found illiterate. Only a few had primary education. In contrast, 35.3 % of the mothers among the non-delinquent were found illiterate, 60.0 % were found

TABLE NO. 38

## Education (Father)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Illiterate	100	66.7	28	18.7
2.	Primary	22	14.7	56	37.3
3.	Secondary	11	7.3	55	36.7
4.	Higher	3	2.0	11	7.3
5.	U. K.	14	9.3	-	-
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 100.82 \quad P < .01$$

EDUCATION (FATHERS).

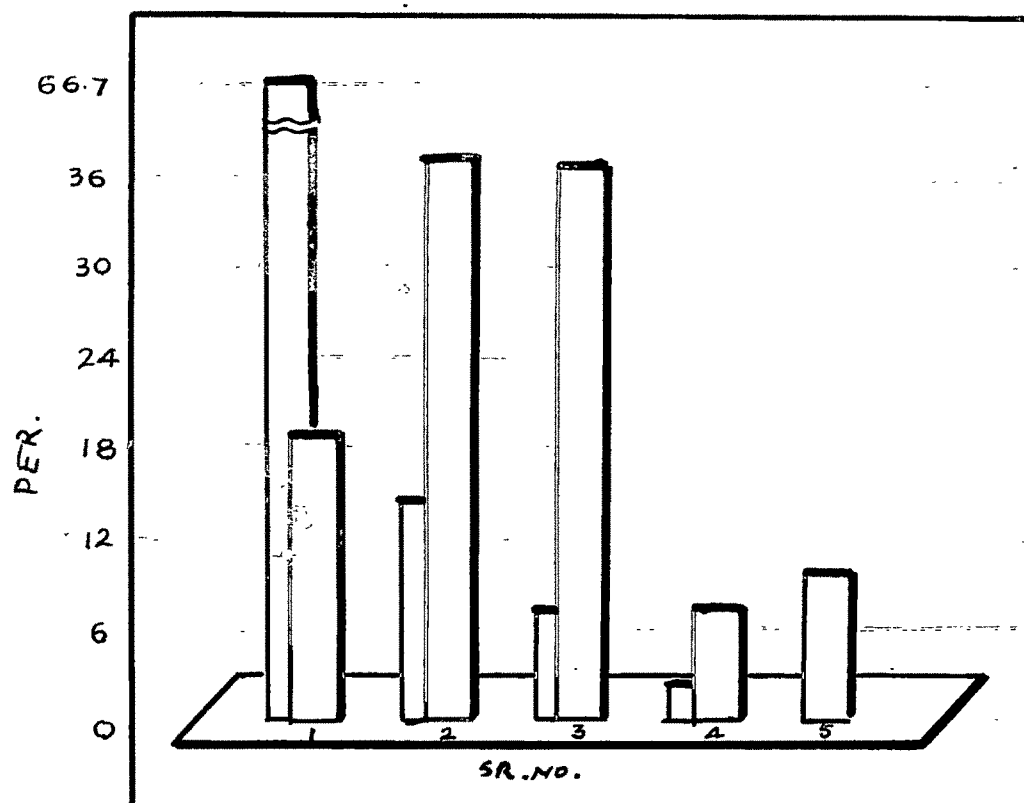


FIG. 35

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

TABLE NO. 39

## Education (Mother)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Illiterate	100	66.7	53	35.3
2.	Primary	18	12.0	90	60.0
3.	Secondary	-	-	7	4.7
4.	Higher	-	-	-	-
5.	No	32	21.3	-	-
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 90.98$$

$$P < .01$$

# EDUCATION (MOTHERS).

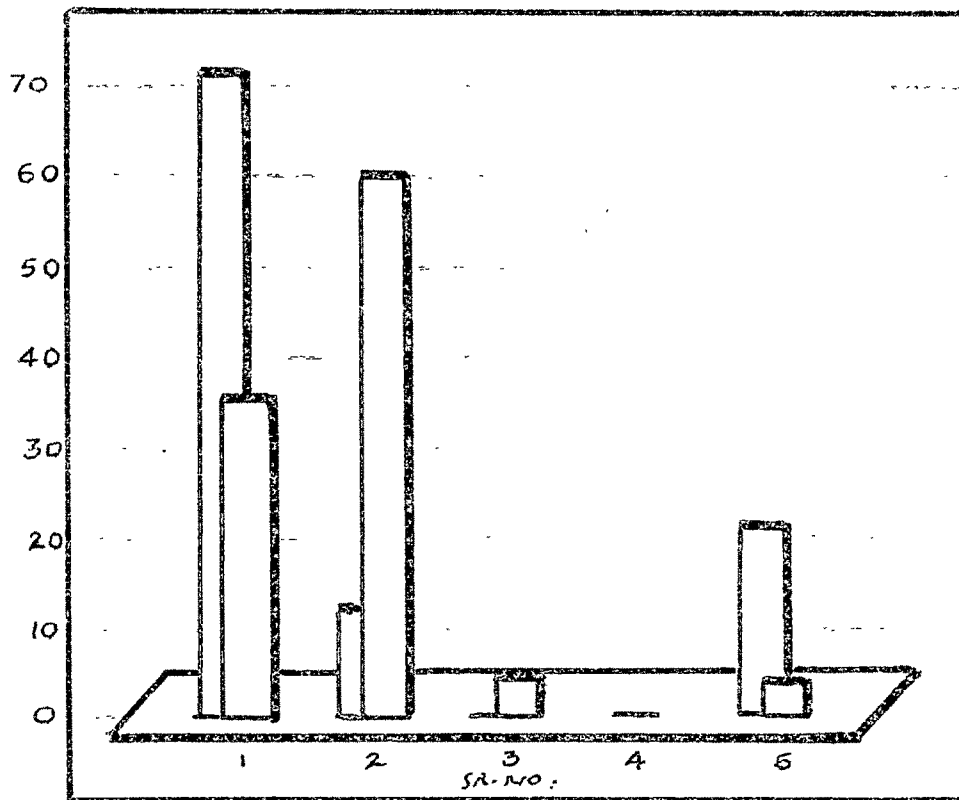


FIG 36

— DEZ.  
— NON-DEZ.

having primary education, and remaining 4.7 % were found having secondary education. These figures too were statistically significant.

During the interview the investigator found that higher number of fathers among the delinquent group who had education had hardly completed their education, whether it was primary or secondary or higher, while very few number of fathers among the non-delinquent group who had education had hardly left it uncompleted, whether it was primary, secondary or higher. But, higher number of mothers of both the groups in comparison to fathers of both the groups who had education had left their education incomplete whether it was primary or secondary. However, it is no use dilating on this comparison between mothers and fathers in as much as even the general figures of women education are too low. The only significant point observed in Table No.      and Table No.      is that higher number of fathers and mothers among the delinquent group were found illiterate in comparison to fathers and mothers among the non-delinquent group. (Delinquent group : illiterate fathers 66.7 %, mothers 66.7 % vs Non-delinquent group : illiterate fathers 18.7 %, mothers 35.3 % ).

Lack of education in relation to crime is a problem of dispute. Charles Ceasare Lombros is of the opinion that lack of education favours crims only upto a certain point, after which it's influence is the other way; sometimes more educated are more cunning and criminal. However, lack of education often determines the type or nature of the crime indulged in. Crimes by illiterate are of savage type, while crimes by educated are of cunning type (25). But whatever may be, lack of education on the part of parents definitely plays a role in transmitting its undesirable effect on children and consequently enabling children to learn anti-social deeds or behaviour pattern stamped as juvenile delinquency. This aspect will be further discussed in the later section on "Criminality and immorality".

Lack of education on the part of mother is rather more important in producing maladjustment in the child than the lack of education on the part of the fathers, because the child from the birth depends more on mother than on father. The mother exercises greater influence over the child in the beginning or in the formative stage. The father enters late in the picture, that is, after the child reaches a certain level of development.

Lack of education on the part of mothers means lack of insight into the child's nature and basic emotional needs of the child. As Professors Teeters Negley K. and Reinemann John Otto (44) say :-

"Juvenile maladjustment and to some degree delinquency, may be found in homes not usually labeled 'broken' rather they should be referred to as homes in which there is lack of insight into the emotional needs of the child".

Sometimes lack of education means deficiency in motherly qualities. Uneducated parents generally fail to recognise the paramount importance of childhood, and the basic necessities of the childhood, and sometime even they fail to view the situations broadly and in a proper perspective. Consequently, maladjustment occurs in the child's personality due to lack of parental education coupled with other factors in the family.



#### LACK OF HEALTHFUL LIVING

---

Besides the lack of child understanding, the immediate outcome of lack of parental education is the lack of healthful living on part of both parents themselves and of children. Uneducated parents generally get low remunerative employments which foster greater opportunities for illegal temptations. Such parents cannot withstand those temptations, yield themselves to them, and provide bad examples to their children. They do not encourage children's education, nor instill virtues necessary for their healthy development. They cannot handle properly their children in the family. They follow preferential policy. They take to any course, for controlling the children in the family, that yields easy and quick obedience and submission on the part of children. Thus, children due to lack

of insight in the consequences of their acts immediately react to their drives and ultimately in some cases they desire crooked or illegal means to satisfy their basic needs or impulses. Parents indirectly and unconsciously provide an incentive to their children for antisocial conduct.

Not only is their mental health is thus at stake, but even physically their living is unhygienic due to lack of education or lack of knowledge of hygienic practices. To substantiate this, a survey was made of the prevalent diseases among the parents of both groups. Table Nos. 40 and 41 give these data. More than one and one half in ten (16.7 %) fathers among the delinquent group were found suffering from T.B. ( Tuberculosis); two fathers of delinquent children were found suffering cancer; more than one half in ten (6.0 %) were found suffering from madness; and more than one in ten (11.3 %) were found suffering from any other diseases like paralysis, rheumatism, skin diseases etc. In case of fathers of non-delinquent children, more than one half in ten (6.0%) fathers were found suffering from T.B.; none was found among the whole group suffering from cancer or madness; less than one half in ten (4.0%) were found suffering from any other diseases.

TABLE NO.  
Disease (Father) 40

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	T. B.	25	16.7	10	6.7
2.	Cancer	2	1.3	-	-
3.	Madness	9	6.0	-	-
4.	Any other	17	11.3	6	4.0
5.	No	97	64.7	134	89.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 40.74$$

$$P < .01$$

# DISEASE (FATHERS).

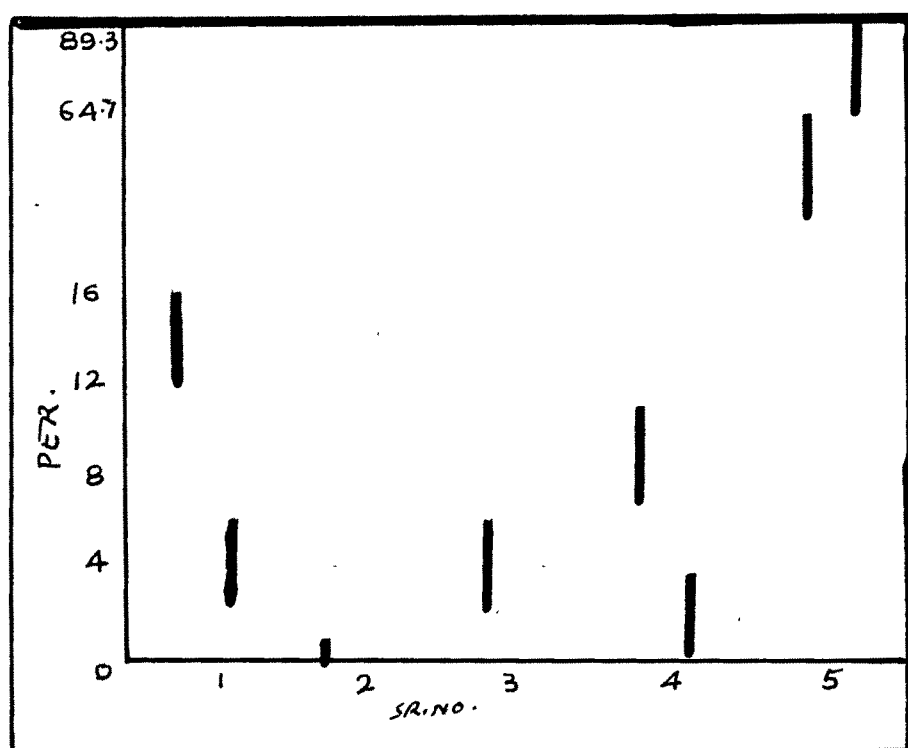


FIG. 37

— DEX.  
— NON-DEL.

TABLE NO.

Disease (Mother) 4)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	T. B.	24	16.0	7	4.7
2.	Cancer	2	1.3	1	0.7
3.	Madness	7	4.7	1	0.7
4.	Hysteria	10	6.7	4	2.6
5.	Any other	17	11.3	4	2.6
6.	No	90	60.0	133	88.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 33.06$$

$$P < .01$$

# DISEASE (MOTHERS).

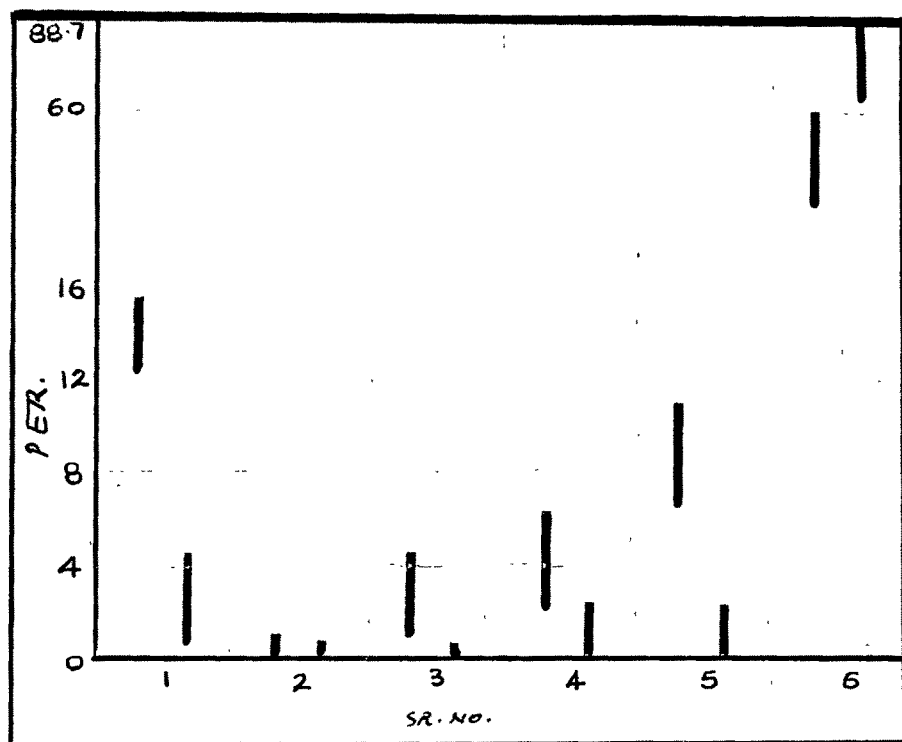


FIG. 38

— DEL.  
— NON-DEL.

Among the mothers of both the groups, it was observed that higher number of mothers of delinquent children were found suffering from T.B. (16.0 % vs. 4.7 %), cancer (1.3 % vs. 0.7 %), madness (4.7 vs. 0.7 %), hysteria (.6.7 vs. 2.6 %) and other diseases (11.3 % vs. 2.6 %) in comparison to the incidence same diseases among mothers of non-delinquent group. It can further be observed the differences were not merely between parents of delinquent and non-delinquent group, but also that in both the groups higher number of mothers were suffering from diseases in comparison to number of the fathers of both the groups. (Mothers : Delinquent group - 40.0 %; Non-delinquent group - 11.3 %-- fathers :- Delinquent group : - 35.3 %; Non-delinquent Group - 10.7 %). Thus observation again points that mothers' share is greater than that of father in indirectly accounting for the delinquency of the child.

It may be remarked that during the sickness, the parents become weak and irritative. They cannot properly look after their children. They lose inhibitory control. They decide upon any course for controlling their children. Moreover, father's

sickness means economic loss and mother's sickness means loss of home duties. The normal life of the family is threatened. As they are absorbed in their own worries about their health, they cannot exercise proper control over them. Sometimes, sicknesses like, T.B. and madness separate the either parent from the child because of compulsory hospitalisation or institutionalisation. All such consequences threaten in one way or the other the feeling of security as well as supervision and guidance, necessary for adequate growth of children. Such a state of affairs increases in turn the likelihood of the incidence of juvenile delinquency.



## OCCUPATIONS OF THE FATHER AND THE MOTHER

---

It is often noted that the nature of the work or employment of fathers or mothers have some bearing on the behaviour pattern and personality growth of the children. Directly or indirectly it exercises influence over children in the family. Children develop attitudes on the basis of parental experiences towards occupations. In view of this the attempt was made to study the types of occupations of parents of both the groups. This information is summarized in Table Nos. 42 and 43 for fathers and mothers respectively. It was revealed that higher number of parents of delinquent group were engaged in occupations that are unwholesome low remunerative and involving more physical hazards than the number of the parents of the non-delinquent group.

The detailed analysis of occupations is very instructive. From the Table No. 42 it is

TABLE NO. 42

## Occupation (Father)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Labourer	24	16.0	11	7.3
2.	Private or Government Services	11	7.3	57	38.0
3.	Personal Labour	25	16.6	9	6.0
4.	Independent Business	-	-	30	20.0
5.	Vendor	13	8.7	4	2.7
6.	Factory Worker	10	6.7	8	5.3
7.	One's own Shop	4	2.7	13	8.7
8.	Any other	6	4.0	8	5.3
9.	Nil	57	38.0	10	6.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 88.70$$

$$P < .01$$

OCCUPATIONS (FATHERS).

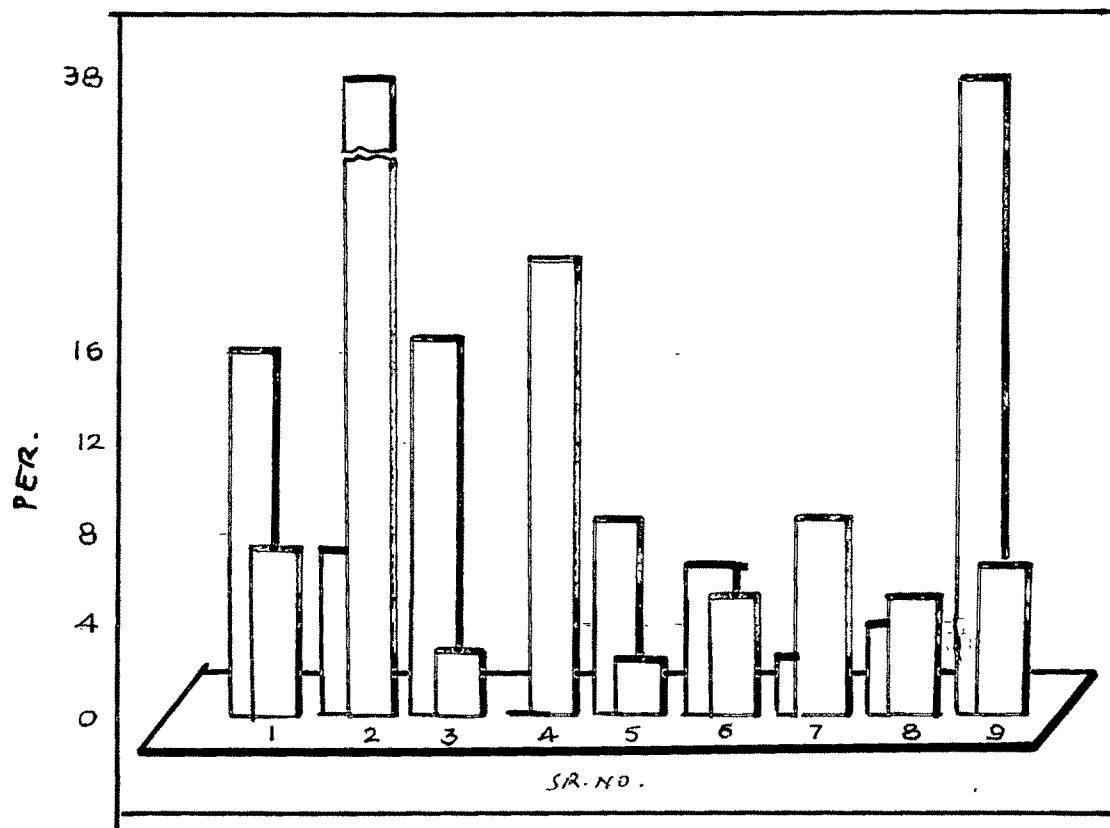


FIG. 39

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

observed that 16.0 % fathers among the delinquent group were employed as labourers; 7.3 % were found employed in government or private lower services, such as peons, sweepers, watermen, etc.; 16.6 % were found engaged in seasonal labour, e.g. working in the field or building constructions or places for repairs on daily wages, or for menial work in marriage or dinner parties on daily wages; none was found doing business; 8.7 % were found to be vendors; 6.7 % were found having their own small shops, say of pan-bidi, shoe-store or repair, umbrella repair, hotels of low standards etc.; 4.0 % were found not employed in any specific kind of work. Most of them were found working as messengers, fetching water, cleaning the vessels, driving cart and hand lorries, etc.; and 38.0 % were found unemployed in any remunerative work. In contrast to this, 7.3 % fathers of the non-delinquent group were found to be labourers; 38.0 % were found employed in private and government services such as peons, clerks, teachers, gumastas, etc.; 6.0 % were found engaged in seasonal labours like working in the field or building constructions on daily wages, or working

on such occasions as marriage or dinner party on daily wages; 20.0 % were found in business of cloth, tailoring, carpenters, jari goods, etc.; 2.7 % were found vendors; 5.3 % were found employed in the factory; 8.7 % were found having their own shops, e.g. hotel, tailoring, shoe-making, grocery, etc.; 5.3 % were found doing any other work like salesmanship, milkman, commission agent, etc.; and 6.7 % were found unemployed.

From Table No. 43, it is observed that 7.3 % of mothers among the delinquent group were found labourers; 4.7 % were found employed in services like peons, waterwomen, sweepers, etc.; 4.0 % were found to be in seasonal labour like working on the field, building constructions on daily wages, coolies in the bazaar, or railway stations, etc. (that is, there was no fixed specific type of labour); 18.0 % were found engaged in domestic works like fetching water, taking care of infants, cooking, cleaning vessels and other type of household works, etc.; 4.0 % were found as vendors near the schools, colleges, bazaar, etc.; 0.7 % were found engaged in remunerative work at home; 8.0 % were found not doing any

TABLE NO.43

## Occupation (Mother)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Labourer	11	7.3	3	2.0
2.	Service	7	4.7	5	3.3
3.	Seasonal Labour	6	4.0	3	2.0
4.	Domestic Work	27	18.0	7	4.7
5.	Vendor	6	4.0	1	0.7
6.	Home Industry	1	0.7	16	10.6
7.	Any other	12	8.0	3	2.0
8.	No outside work but Housewife	80	53.3	112	74.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 44.04 \quad P < .01$$

# OCCUPATIONS (MOTHERS).

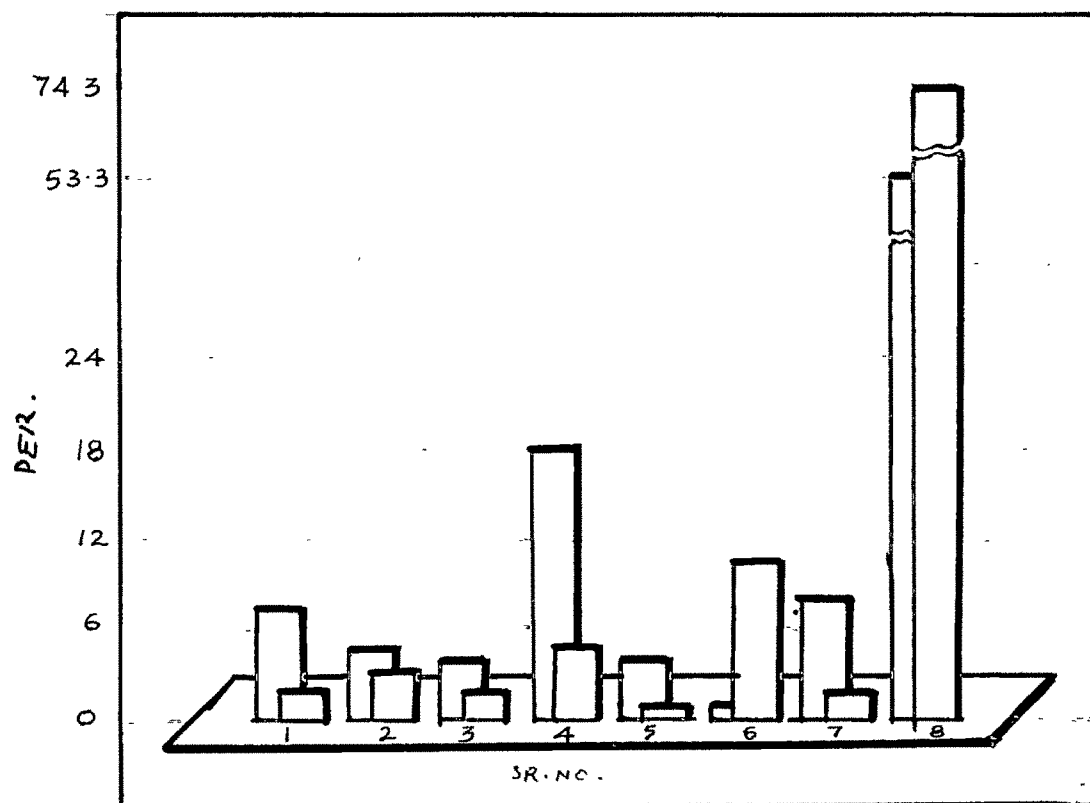


FIG. 40

— DEF.

— NON-DEF.

specific kinds of work; and 53.3 % were housewives. Against these figures, 2.0 % mothers of the non-delinquent group were found working as labourers; 3.3 % were found in services like nursing, teaching, peon-work, etc.; 2.0 % were found engaged in seasonal labour; 4.7 % were found engaged in domestic work; 0.7 % were found as vendors; 10.6 % were found engaged in remunerative work at home, like stitching clothes, caps, and exercise note books, jari works, embroidery, etc.; 2.0 % were found engaged in any other work and 74.7 % were found to be housewives.

Fathers of the delinquent children were found to be employed in unwholesome work : work requiring more physical labour; work giving low remuneration, the surroundings of the work being such that offer evil temptations to the workers; working of more opportunities for corruptions and mal-practices; while fathers of the non-delinquent group were mostly engaged in their own business, serving in government or private services, and possessing their own shops. Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39)<sup>d</sup> write :



" Thus, in respect to occupational skill, the fathers of the delinquents make a poorer showing than those of the non-delinquents, although the difference between the two is not as striking as in other respects".

It can be observed from the Table No. that less than half the number (46.7 %) of the mothers among the delinquent group were found working, and those who were working were mostly found working outside the home; while very few mothers (25.3 %) among the non-delinquent group were found working; and among these, 10.6 % were engaged in remunerative work at home. The analysis shows also an interesting difference between the two groups in the nature of work. Among the delinquent group, only one-third of the total number of working mothers were found engaged in domestic works. The mothers among the delinquent were engaged in such work which naturally offer temptations for corruptions and undesirable activities. Most of them were working outside the home, so they could not look after their children properly; while few mothers of the non-delinquent group were employed and those who were employed were working at home, so that they were in a position to look after their

children and at the same time they were able to earn.

Further, it was learnt that mothers who were working outside the home as labourers, seasonal labourers, or in the factory were working with self-degradation. Even in domestic work elsewhere they were in constant danger of having a possibility of their moral downfall. Professor Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) also found that more mothers of the delinquent group than those of the non-delinquent worked outside the home (47.0 % vs. 33.0 %); this meant that more of the children in the families of the delinquents were deprived of maternal supervision. That employment of mothers will continue and increase is hardly debatable; what is debatable is the effect of employment on their children, their community participation, their own personal adjustment and their relationship to their husbands. She has less time to help and to supervise her children. Loss of direct control appears inevitable. From such loss of direct control, one would anticipate more frequently delinquent behaviour.

Professor Neumeyer Martin H. (32)<sup>3</sup> says :

" The employments of mothers have been regarded to be a problem. It is difficult to generalize with reference to the positive and negative effects of such employments. In many instances, the added income makes it possible for the families to live better and to provide more adequately the material necessities of their children. On the other hand, when mothers are away from their homes, especially where there are young children, the members of the family do not receive adequate care and supervision".

When mothers are on work, the neglected and unsupervised children of the economically insecure are likely to be subject to the undesirable influences causing a number of social misfacts. Some escape the notice, while come to the attention of law enforcement agencies and become eventually the inmates of correctional institutions.

Besides the types of occupations, or services, it was also studied whether the parents were steadily and regularly attending their services or were having occasional breaks and absences i.e. were unsteady. From Table No. 44 it is observed that more than one and one-half in ten (16.0 %) fathers among the delinquent group were found steady in their services; more than four

TABLE NO. 44

## Steadiness in Service (Father)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Steady	24	16.0	109	72.7
2.	Unsteady	69	46.0	21	14.0
3.	Not working	57	38.0	20	13.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 97.70 \quad P < .01$$

STEADINESS IN SERVICE (FATHERS).

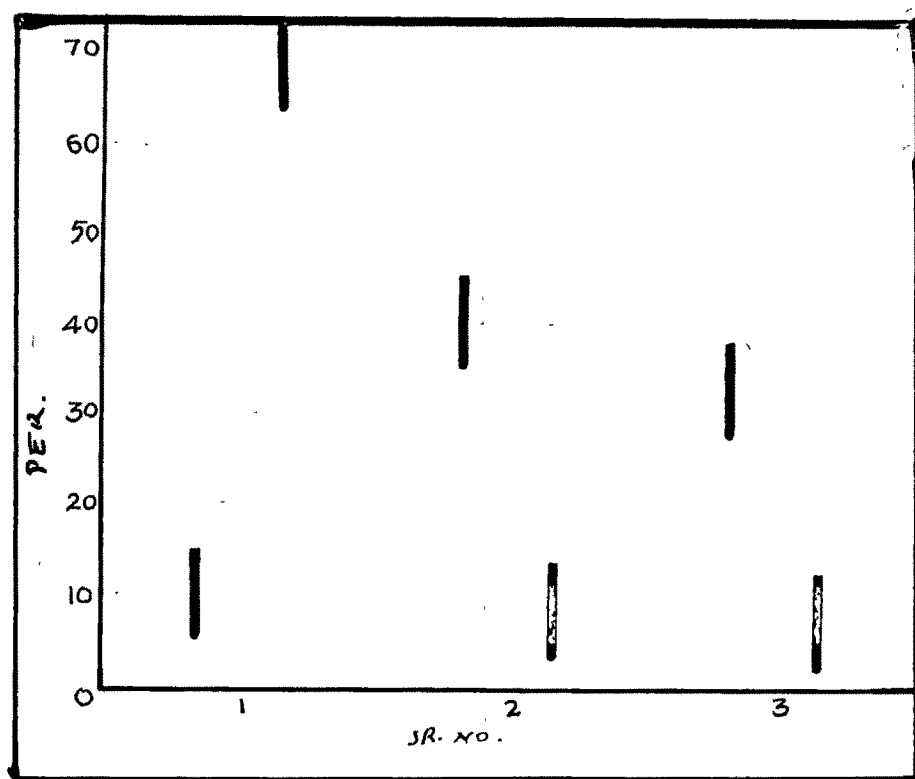


FIG. 41

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

and one-half in ten (46.0 %) were found unsteady i.e. serving not regularly; and more than three and one-half in ten (38.0 %) were found unemployed; In contrast to these figures, more than seven in ten (72.7 %) fathers of the non-delinquent group were found regular in their employment; more than one in ten (14.0 %) were occasionally serving, that is, they were unsteady and irregular in their work; and more than one in ten (13.3 %) were found unemployed. In case of mothers, from Table No. 45 it is found that more than one in ten (13.3 %) mothers of delinquent group were regular in their work; more than three in ten (33.3 %) were irregular in their work; and more than five in ten (53.4 %) were found not working outside, i.e. they might be housewives. Among the non-delinquent group, one in ten (10.0 %) mothers were found regular in their work; more than one and one-half in ten (15.3 %) were irregular in their work and more than seven in ten (74.7 %) were found to be housewives.

In short, it is clear that larger number of fathers of delinquent group were unemployed; and more number of mothers of delinquent group were

TABLE NO. 45

## Steadiness in Service ( Mother )

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Steady	20	13.3	15	10.0
2.	Unsteady	50	33.3	23	15.3
3.	Not working	80	53.4	112	74.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 16.60$$

$$P < .01$$

# STEADINESS IN SERVICE (MOTHERS).

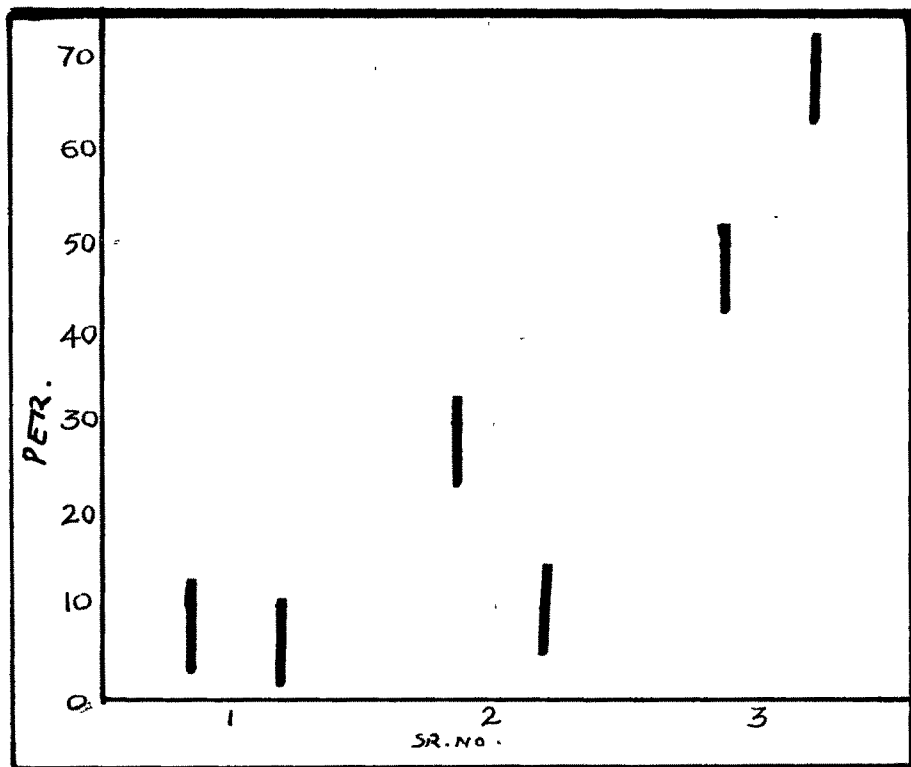


FIG. 42

— DEL.

— NON - DEL.



found working outside. So also, the nature of employments on the part of fathers and mothers among the delinquent children in comparison to that of the non-delinquent group was such that employments were offering more possibilities for corruption. Moreover, a greater number of parents of delinquent group were unsteady and irregular in their work, often shifting from work to work and often having breaks or absences during their service. It is possible that children of such parents are more likely to turn out delinquents.

ADDICTIONS AND VICES

---

Addictions and vices of the parents are often responsible for causing maladjustment in the normal development of the child's personality. Children generally imitate their father or mother in all activities and often in the crooked restricted behaviour. The author has made a survey of the addictions and vices of the parents and tried to deduce their relation to delinquency among children.

Most of the fathers of both the groups delinquent and non-delinquent - were found smoking; smoking was taken to be a normal addiction among the fathers, though it was not normally found among the mothers of both the groups. In India it is generally observed by everyone that higher number of men are <sup>found</sup> smoking in comparison to women.

For mothers, smoking has been considered here as a vice.

From Table No. 46 it is observed that more than three in ten (34.7 %) fathers of the delinquent group were found addicted to gambling; about two and one half in ten (25.3 %) were found addicted to drinking, and four in ten (40.7 %) were found not having any addiction whatsoever; while one in ten (10.0%) fathers among the non-delinquent group were found gambling; less than one half in ten (4.0 %) were found drinking; and more than eight and one half in ten (86.0 %) were found having no addictions whatsoever. All these differences were significant.

From Table No. 47 it is found that more than one and one half in ten (17.3 %) mothers among the delinquent group were found smoking; more than one in ten (12.0 %) were found gambling; more than one in ten (12.0 %) were found drinking; and more than five and one half in ten (58.7 %) were found without addiction. In contrast to this, more than one half in ten (3.3 %) mothers of the non-delinquent group were found smoking; only one (0.7 %) was found gambling and only one (0.7 %) was found drinking wine; and nine and one half in ten (95.3 %) were

TABLE NO. 46

## Addictions and Vices (Father)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Gambling	52	34.7	15	10.0
2.	Drinking	38	25.3	6	4.0
3.	No	60	40.0	129	86.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 68.92$$

$$P < .01$$

ADDICTIONS AND VICES. (FATHERS).

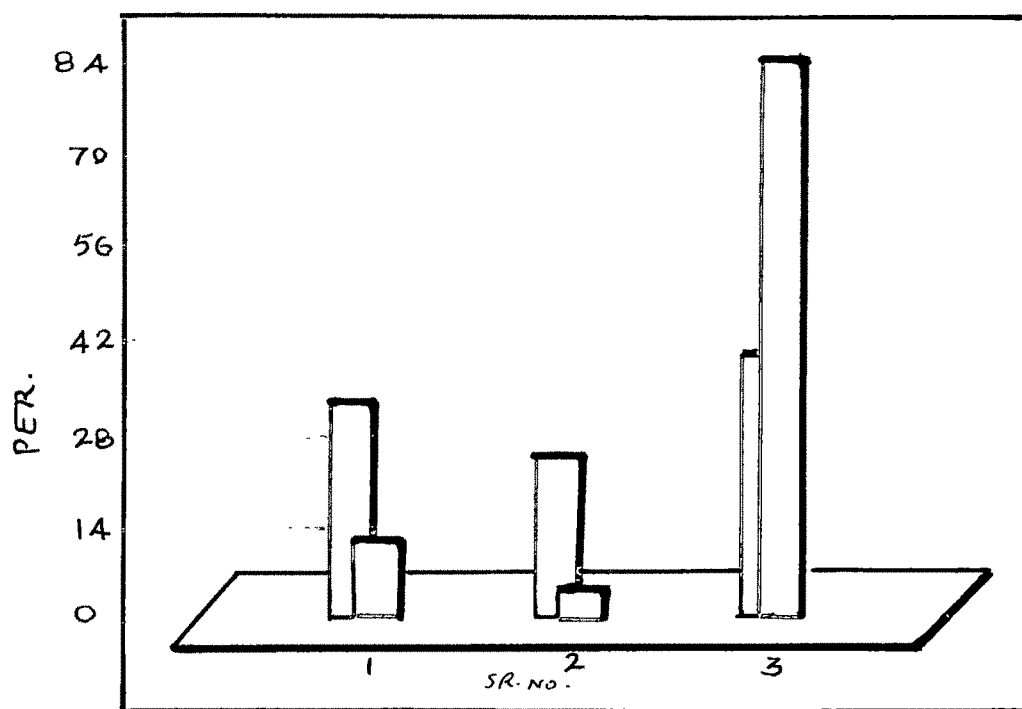


FIG. 43

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

TABLE NO. 47

## Addictions and Vices (Mother)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Smoking	26	17.3	5	3.3
2.	Gambling	18	12.0	1	0.7
3.	Drinking	18	12.0	1	0.7
4.	No	88	58.7	143	95.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 62.42$$

$$P < .01$$

ADDICTIONS AND VICES. (MOTHERS).

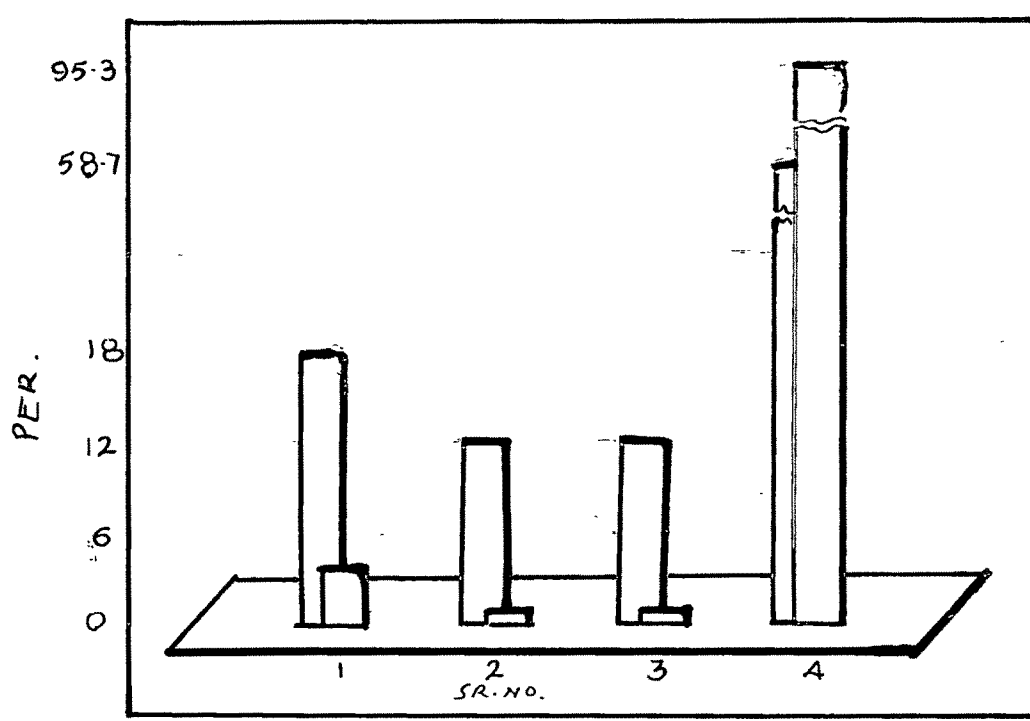


FIG. 44

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

found having no addictions whatsoever. These are also statistically significant differences.

It was also found during investigation that addictions were more and highly persistent in case of fathers and mothers of delinquent children in comparison to those among the parents of non-delinquent children. So also, the fathers of delinquent group were also pursuing their addictions with more intensity in comparison to mothers of the same group. It was also found that more fathers in both the groups were addicted to one or other addiction in comparison to mothers of both the groups.

(Fathers : Delinquent Group - 60.0 % Non-delinquent Group - 14.8 %. Mothers : Delinquent Group 41.3 %; Non-delinquent Group 4.7 %). Higher number of fathers among the delinquent group were found gambling (34.7 % vs. 10.0 %), and drinking (25.3 % vs. 4.0 %) in comparison to those of the non-delinquent group. This is also true of mothers in both the groups. Higher number of mothers among the delinquent group were found gambling (12.0 % vs. 0.7 %), drinking (12.0 % vs. 0.7 %), and smoking (17.3 % vs. 3.3 %).



Gambling and drinking are the most dangerous addictions of all. It degenerates the character of the individual. Once addicted the individual does everything to maintain them. And for maintaining them he has to incur heavy debt. It is said that they drink to forget their miseries and gamble to earn a lot <sup>of</sup> easily and quickly. People gamble because gambling offers the most powerful temptation to earn a lot money very easily. In the hope of becoming rich, they go on gambling and ultimately they ruin their family including the life of their children.

When children, who depend upon their parents, find them addicted to such vices, they consciously or unconsciously follow the same course thinking it <sup>to</sup> be desirable. Behaviour is more caught rather consciously imitated.

Gambling and drinking undermine peace, tax family finance, and everybody in the vicinity thinks ill of the family. Drinking lowers the standards of morality and discipline. It is generally said that people use to drink to run away from the Hazards of real life. But it gives little relief and on the contrary it makes the existing trouble more dangerous and unbearable. The well-known

Italian criminologist Cesare Lombroso (25)<sup>c</sup> notes :-

"Alcohol, after it has once driven its unhappy victim into this evil path holds him fast there, since after a drunkard is once made the noblest sentiments become paralysed and soundest brain deceased".

Further :-

"Alcohol aggravates certain conditions. The progeny of the alcoholic are blind, paralytic, impotent, . Even if they begin life with wealth, they must necessarily become poor; if they are poor they are incapable of working".

He further explains :-

"Alcohol then is a cause of crime; just because many commit crimes in order to obtain drink; further, men sometimes seek in drink the courage necessary to commit crime or an excuse for their misdeeds; again, because it is by the aid of drink that young men are drawn into crime; and because the drinkshop is the place for the meeting of accomplices where they not only plan their crimes but also squander their gains. Some are drinking to forget dishonour and separation from family and try to run away from reality."

Generally the boys imitate the examples of the individuals with whom they come in to contact. They drink/ smoke because others do so. The craving for drink or smoking does not come until the habits have been formed. Even in the study made in 1946-47

on 'The Neglected Child and His family' by Women's group on public Welfare.(45)<sup>6</sup>. It is reported :-

"In short, it was considered more likely that a man drank to escape from squalling, dirty children, a slatternly wife, and an unkempt home, than that he neglected or ill-treated his children because he drank.

Children are more susceptible to the influence of the behaviour of their parents. Alchoholism of the mothers has the worst effect on the children than the father. Professor William Healy (20)<sup>9</sup> expresses the same views and says :-

"The influence of the alchoholic parents on the home conditions that produce delinquency is one of the plainest facts observed in the study of criminalisatics. Alchoholism of the mother had the worst effect than the father.

Further :-

"A child of an alchoholic parent is prone to be confronted in the home by any of the following : poverty, lack of parental control, cruelty, immorality and obscenity, sex immorality amounting sometimes to rape and incest, familiarity with social disorder and crime.... what might be thought to be minor conditions resulting from alchoholism, are quarreling and home irritation and the use of such language as many drinking men indulge in".

In short with an excessive use of stumulants there is every possibility for irritability, disobedience and family friction. These in turn induce antisocial reaction.

Gambling and drinking create such home atmosphere that everyone suspects every kind of vices in it. And such places are not healthful conditions for the development of child's personality.

## CRIMINALITY AND IMMORALITY OF PARENTS

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It is expected that criminal tendencies and immoral behaviour of parents have an enduring effect of the growing children who through conscious or unconscious suggestion or imitation are more likely to develop deviate character. Professors D.H.Stott(41), Hannah Kent-Schoff(19), William Norwood East(13) and other workers in the field have found very outstanding criminal and immoral episodes in the fathers and mothers of the delinquent group. In the present investigation the author too observed significant relationship between delinquency of children and criminality and immorality record of their parents. Any cases of conviction on some sort of charges such as stealing, robbery, murder or any crime for which they were sentenced, were traced out from the records available or interviews and these were considered as criminality

records. Similarly, cases of socially unapproved sexual relations or similarly immoral practices like cheating, faithlessness etc. were treated as immorality records. Such records in case of both the father and the mother of both groups of children were surveyed as shown in the table nos. 48 and 49 for fathers and mothers respectively. All these differences between delinquent and nondelinquent groups were significant.

Table no. 48 shows that in case two-third fathers of the delinquent group (66.7 %) neither criminality nor immorality record could be found or better traced; 10.0 % fathers of the delinquent group had <sup>record</sup> criminality; 9.3 % had immorality record meaning extension of marital rights to the individuals other than the married; 14.0 % had both criminality as well as immorality records. In contrast to this; none was found having both criminality as well as immorality record or even only criminality record in the non-delinquent group; 4 % had only immorality record and 96 % had no record known.

From Table no. 49 it becomes evident that 9.3 % mothers of the delinquent group had criminality record.

TABLE NO. 48

## Criminality and Immorality (Father)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Criminality	15	10.0	-	-
2.	Immorality	14	9.3	6	4.0
3.	Criminality and Immorality	21	14.0	-	-
4.	No	100	66.7	144	96.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$X^2 = 39.76$$

$$P < .01$$

# CRIMINALITY AND IMMORALITY RECORDS (FATHERS).

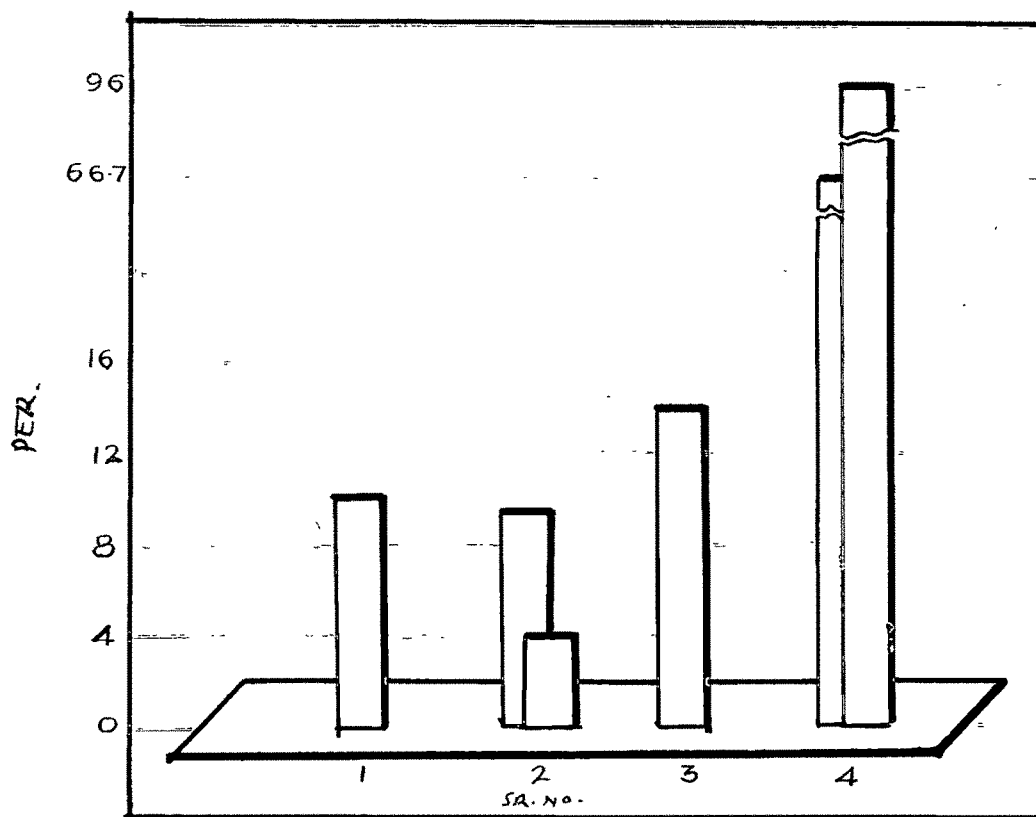


FIG 45

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.



TABLE NO. 49

## Criminality and Immorality (Mother)

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Criminality	14	9.3	-	-
2.	Immorality	13	8.7	2	1.3
3.	Criminality and Immorality	15	10.0	-	-
4.	No	108	72.0	148	98.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 44.98$$

$$P < .01$$

# CRIMINALITY AND IMMORALITY RECORDS (MOTHERS).

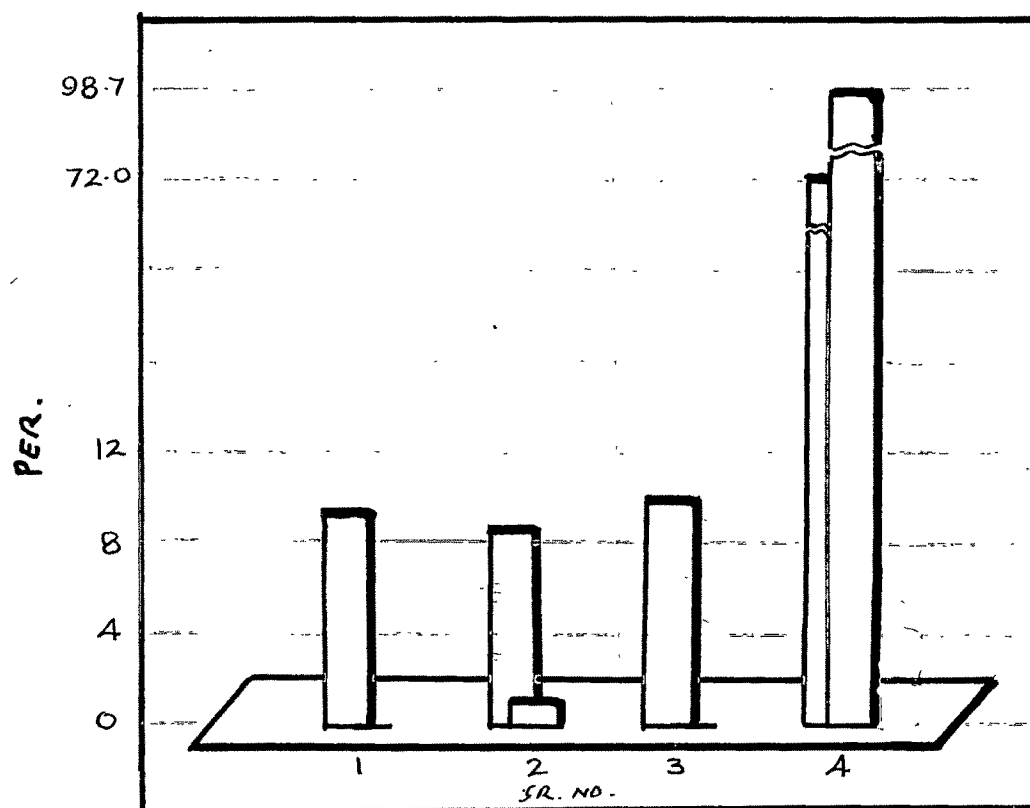


FIG. 46

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

8.7 % had immorality record; 10.0 % had criminality as well as immorality record and in 72.0 % of cases no such record was found or better traced. In non-delinquent group, no mother was found having both criminality as well as immorality record or even only criminal career, but only in 1.3 % of cases immorality record was found existing; thus in 98.7 % cases of mothers neither criminality nor immorality record was found.

In both the groups comparatively higher number of fathers had such record in comparison to mothers. (Fathers : Delinquent - 33.3 %; Non-delinquent- 4.0 % ; Mothers : Delinquent - 28.0 %; Non-delinquent - 1.3 %). That may be due to the fact that mostly women are less exposed to crime inducing situations.

When fathers and mothers supply instances of such antisocial behaviour, children easily take to such courses. Parents' occupations, preferences and prejudices, and conduct standards are easily adopted by their children. Professors Hannah Kent-Schoff(19) reported in the book 'The Wayward Child' that more than

half of the juvenile delinquents were stealing. Honesty does not come without constructive parental teaching and comparatively very few parents realise this. Thus, if parents themselves are having criminal and immorality record at their credit, how can they enforce upon their children not to adopt such behaviour ? Some parents in another study (40) were found in the beginning encouraging their children for some sort of criminal behaviour or neglecting some petty theft. In such cases children start their criminal behaviour because of the accepted approval of their own father or mother. The roots of demoralisation are in the potentialities of the parents. Children usually do not practice what their parents preach, but what they usually find others practising. Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) <sup>e</sup> also observed similar findings in their study of five hundred delinquents and non-delinquents :

"Delinquency and crime also flourished far more among the parents of the delinquents".

Professor William Norwood East (13) <sup>a</sup> who studied adolescent criminals says :

"Criminal and immoral persons have certain features in common. Both exemplify the negation of self-control and character formation. In both, conduct is detrimental to their own welfare and to that of the community in which they live and both receive the general disapproval of society. Moreover, since indulgence increases, desire and habit weaken the will, both are stranger to wise living; further immorality and criminality in the parents and others in the same home may directly or indirectly induce criminal behaviour in other members of the family".

Thus, whatever children find in their parents they directly imitate. Such behaviour of the parents spoils the home atmosphere and their own marital life. And such home has the worst effect on the developing and critical period of child's life. In certain circumstances, parents follow such actions, because of some higher good or because they are forced to defend them openly. But all these undermine the social and moral development of the child. Dr.J.C. Marfatia(29)<sup>e</sup> is also holding the same view when he says:

"Parents often set a bad example by following loose social and moral standards. Black marketting may be openly defended in the presence of the child. Remarks such as, 'one has perforce to resort to black marketing or else how can the business go on?', are detrimental to the child's social and moral development".

In short, parents' circumstantial criminal or immoral behaviour if noticed by their children is adopted by them naturally without understanding it. Thus, criminality or immorality in the parents is highly related to the type of the growth observed in children.

SIBLINGS :

THEIR RELATIONSHIPS AND OTHER CONDITIONS

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Next to parents, siblings are the essential components of the family. Siblings are not the main determinants of behaviour in all cases. But coupled with other factors available in the home, the siblings relationship aggravates the situations and consequently influences the development of personality of the child. The author in the present investigation studies also the nature of sibling relationship and its bearing on delinquency of the children in the family. Children were asked during interview how they perceived the other sibling in the family, whether they had warm, indifferent or hostile attitude to the siblings or vice-versa how they thought, sibling were viewing them. The types of attitudes or inclinations of either side are summarised in Table No.

From this Table no. 5 it is observed that more than one half in ten (6.7 %) children of the delinquent group

TABLE NO. 50

## Sibling Relationship

Sr. No.	Nature of Relationship	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	10	6.7	60	40.0
2.	Indifferent	66	44.0	71	47.3
3.	Hostile	44	29.3	16	10.7
4.	No possibility	30	20.0	3	2.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 71.64 \quad P < .01$$



# SIBLING RELATIONSHIP.

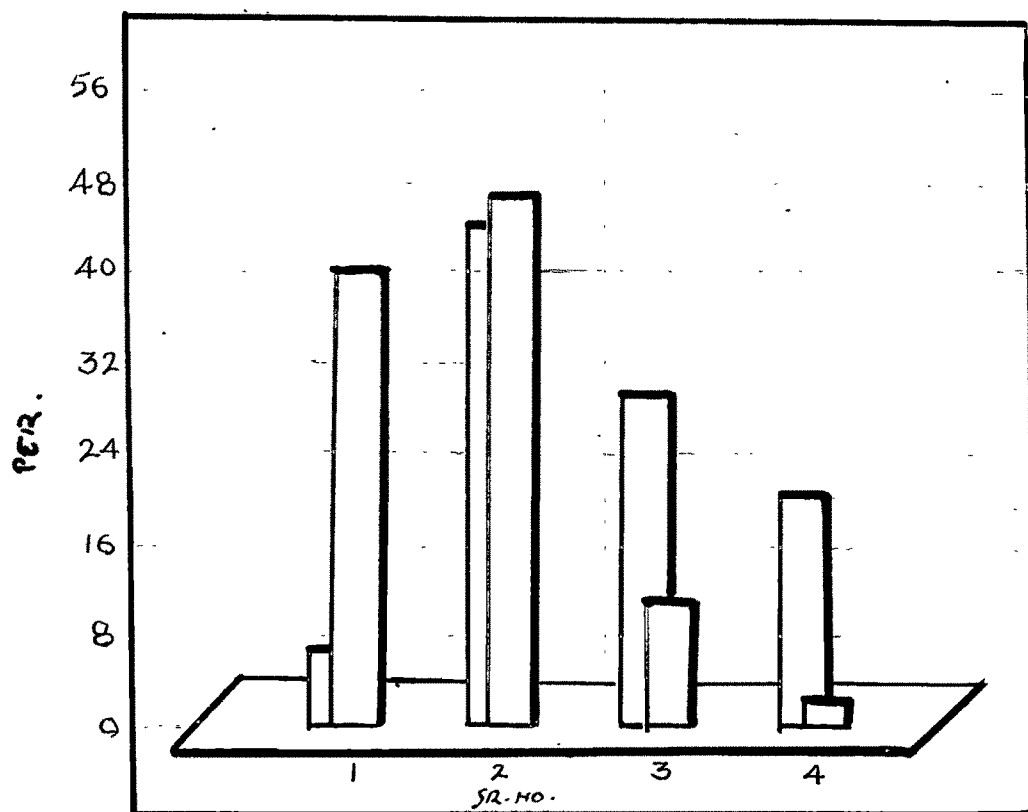


FIG. 47

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

were found having warm relationship with their siblings, i.e. relationship characterised by love and affection without undue conflict or rivalry among them; more than four in ten (44.0 %) were found indifferent to one another, i.e. absence of proper ties of love and affection or occasional strife among them; slightly less than three in ten (29.3 %) were found having hostilities with one another, manifested by presence of undue rivalry and constant quarrelling among them; two in ten (20.0 %) cases of children were found to be the only children in the family and in which case there was no possibility of such sibling relationship. In case of non-delinquent children, four in ten (40.0%) were found having warm relationship among the siblings; more than four in one half in ten (47.3 %) were found being indifferent towards their siblings; about only one in ten (10.7 %) were found at hostilities with their siblings and in 2.0 % cases, children were found having no siblings. These differences between delinquent and non-delinquent groups with respect to sibling relationship were statistically significant; i.e. more delinquents were hostile and more delinquents were warm, even if other possibilities were ignored. During the interview of the children it was found in both the

groups that most of the children were hostile towards their step children. They regretted that they were put at disadvantage by their step-parent. Where there were step-siblings, naturally fathers or mothers were found to follow discriminating policy in the treatment of their offsprings. Even in some families among natural sons, fathers or mothers were found adopting discriminating policy in the treatment of their children, that is, they openly favoured some and had prejudice against others.

Such type of differential treatment given to their children by father and mother creates the sense of unwantedness, neglect, and insecurity among children. They begin to realise the lowness of their position, place and importance in the family. They consciously or unconsciously develop hostilities towards the parents, sibling or siblings who have caused their own neglect or who are highly favoured in the home life. Often, a child develops neurotic symptoms and tries to seek substitute satisfactions in antisocial behaviour. The child developing disgust against the home life becomes truant. During truancy period, he wanders homeless in the streets, bazaar,

railway stations or public places, where he comes in contact with associates of such strata of society where criminality gets the most favourable soil to grow. During this period, he develops many undesirable habits. Ultimately he is forced to get money to maintain himself any how and consequently falls a prey to delinquent practices.

Sibling relationship is, it may be said, a contributory factor, accelerating delinquency if not the sole cause of it.

Diseased Conditions  
among the Siblings :

In addition, other conditions - bodily or mental diseases - associated with siblings were also side by side examined. Information regarding the diseases prevalent among the siblings and the number of siblings victimised in both the groups were also obtained. From table no. 5 / it is observed that 8.0 % siblings of the delinquents group were found suffering from Tuberculosis (T.B.); 2.7 % were found suffering from madness; 2.0 % were found suffering from hysteria; in 10.0 % cases - information could not be obtained; and 77.3 % were found not suffering from any such disease; while

TABLE NO. 51

## Disease

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	T. B.	12	8.0	2	1.3
2.	Madness	4	2.7	3	2.0
3.	Hysteria	3	2.0	-	-
4.	U. K.	15	10.0	-	-
5.	No	116	77.3	145	96.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 28.50$$

$$P < .01$$

# DISEASE (SIBLINGS).

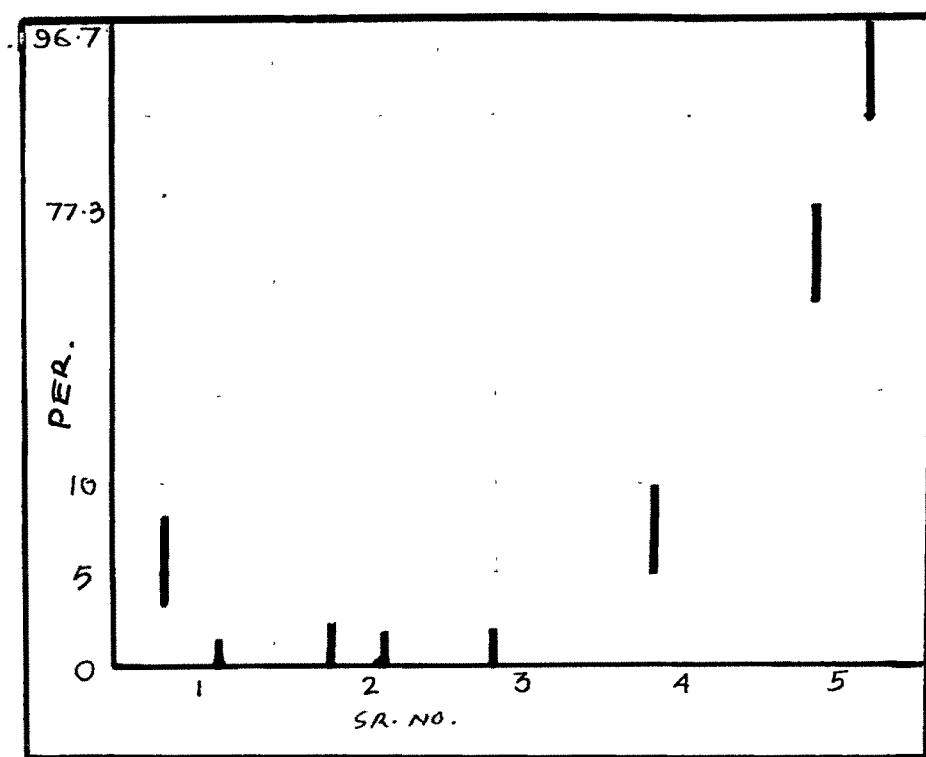


FIG. 48

— DEL.  
— NON-DEL.

1.3 % siblings of non-delinquent group were found suffering from T.B.; 2.0 % were found suffering from madness, none was found suffering from hysteria and 96.7 % were found having no disease whatsoever.

Further, from table no. 52 it will be observed that 8.0 % children in the delinquent group had only one sibling suffering from disease; 4.7 % had two such siblings; in 10.0 % cases the information could not be collected; and 77.3 % had no such siblings; while 2.7 % children in the non-delinquent group had only one sibling suffering from disease; 0.6 % had two such siblings and 96.7 % had no such diseased sibling or siblings.

It is a universal truth that if one is unhappy in the family, the whole family is unhappy. When a child is suffering from any such disease, he gets preference in almost all the matters in the family. Naturally, this attitude puts other children at disadvantage in the family. In the beginning this has perhaps no perceptible influences on other children in the family, but in the long run its influences on the behaviour of other children become marked. Not

TABLE NO. 52

## Number of Suffering Siblings in Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Only one	12	8.0	4	2.7
2.	Only two	7	4.7	1	0.6
3.	U. K.	15	10.0	-	-
4.	No	116	77.3	145	96.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0



NUMBER OF SUFFERING SIBLINGS IN FAMILY.

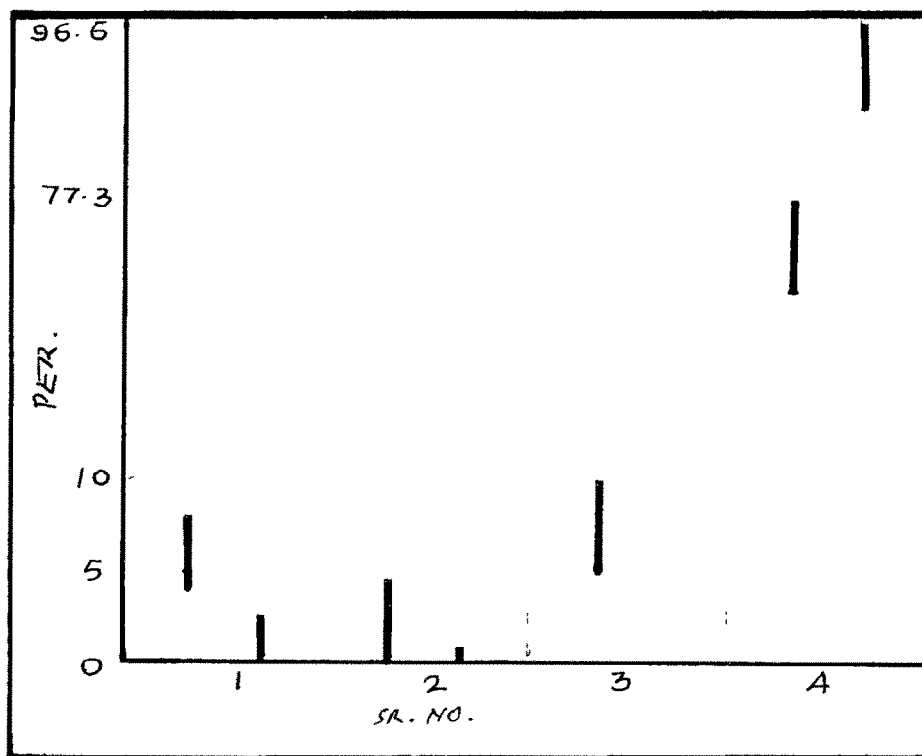


FIG 49

→ DEL.

— NON-DEL.

only does the partiality to the suffering child cause later on jealousy among others, but even the child who is suffering from disease becomes irritable and of unstable temper and this brings him into clashes with other children in the family. In some cases such children become cunning in satisfying their wants. In other words, not merely the jealous relationships growing among normal siblings but also the unwholesome relationship mutually developing in case of diseased siblings are all contributing to or facilitating the growth of delinquent behaviours directly or indirectly.

Criminality in the sibling :

Finally like the criminality records of parents, information on siblings records has also been gathered. It was observed by the author in the present investigation that higher rate or criminality of his subglings was significantly to be associated with delinquency of the child. Delinquent behaviour in the siblings works in the same way as parents' behaviour has an influence upon the children's growth, there being only a difference in degree of intensity.

From table no. 53 it is observed that higher number of delinquent children were found having criminal siblings in comparison to non-delinquent children (34.7 % vs. 8.0 %). And similarly higher number of children among the non-delinquent group were found having no delinquent sibling or siblings in comparison to delinquent children (92.0 % vs. 65.3 %).

It is further observed (table no. 54) that 24.7 % children of the delinquent group had only one criminal sibling; 10.0 % had two such siblings; in 10.0 % cases information could not be traced; and 55.3 % had either no sibling or no criminal sibling or siblings. In contrast, 7.3 % children of the non-delinquent group had only one criminal sibling; 0.7 % had two such siblings, and 92.0 % had no such sibling or siblings. In short, criminal or delinquent behaviour in the siblings was found in more cases of delinquent group in comparison to non-delinquent group. And number of criminal or delinquent siblings was also more in the case of delinquent group than with the non-delinquent group.

TABLE NO. 53

## Criminality in Siblings

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Yes	52	34.7	12	8.0
2.	No	98	65.3	138	92.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.00

$$\chi^2 = 31.78$$

$$P < .01$$

CRIMINALITY RECORD (SIBLINGS).

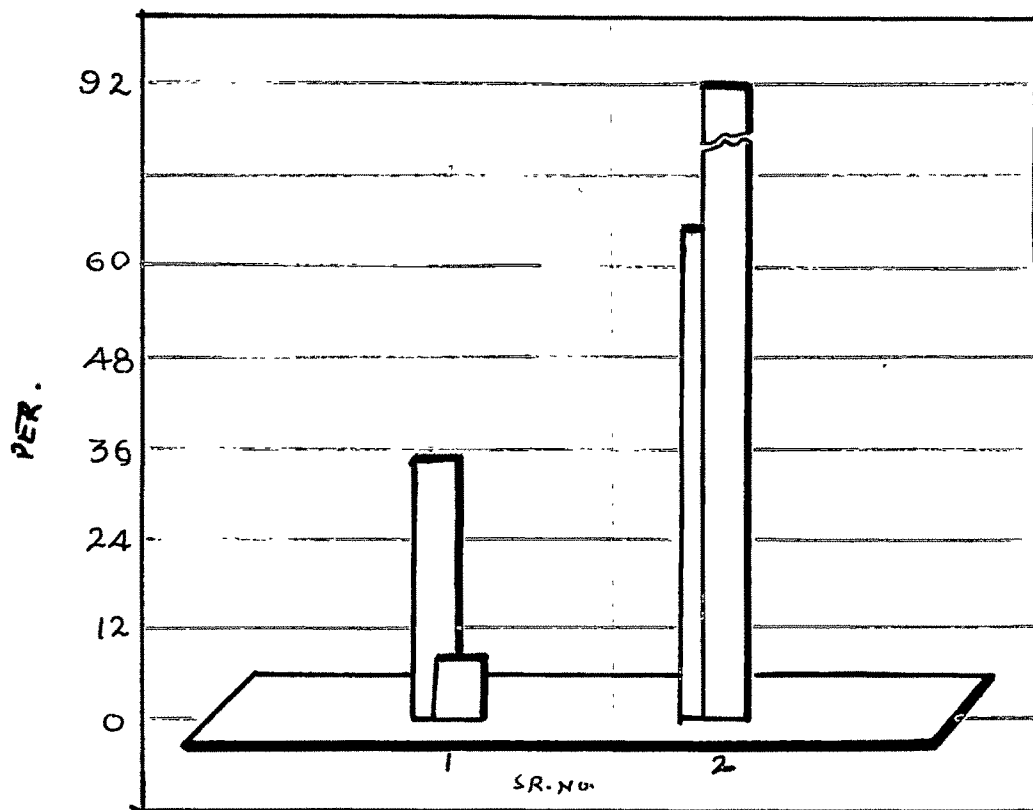


FIG. 50

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

TABLE NO. 54

## Number of Criminal Siblings in Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Only one	37	24.7	11	7.3
2.	Only two	15	10.0	1	0.7
3.	U. K.	15	10.0	-	-
4.	No	83	55.3	138	92.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

# NUMBER OF CRIMINAL SIBLINGS IN FAMILY

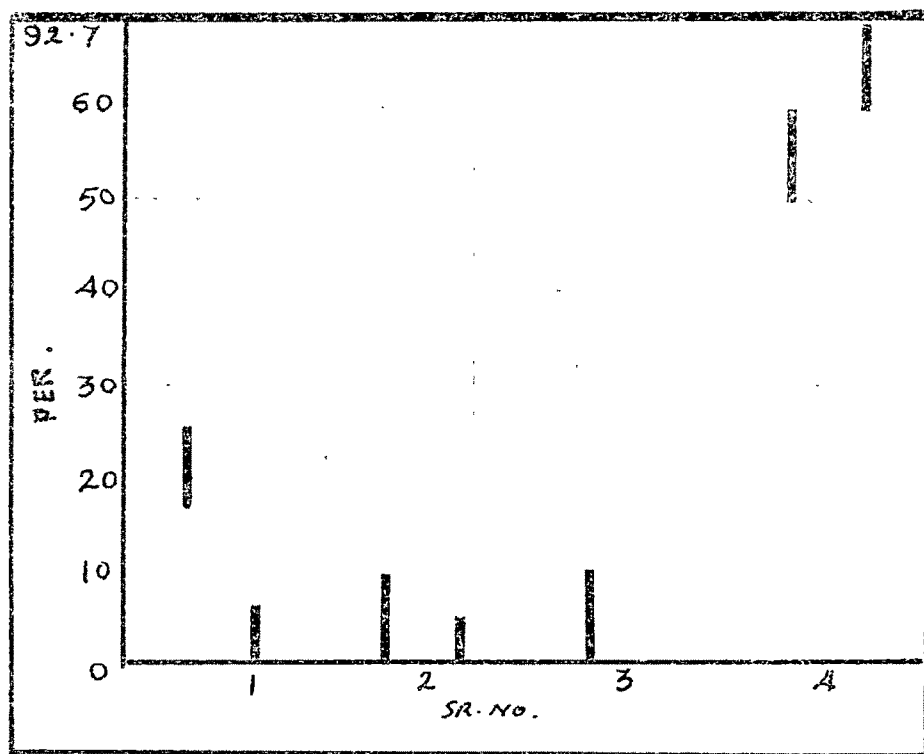


FIG. 5/1

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Criminality in sibling coupled with other factors in the home influences the development of child's personality. Like the impetus of parents' behaviour, the subtle force of siblings' behaviour is bound to pave the path on which the child treads. Professor Norwood East (13) has also observed in his study that criminality and immorality in other members of the family may directly or indirectly induce criminal behaviour in other members of the family. In brief, it is all the more likely that like a spreading epidemic or a contagious disease, criminality or immorality in one begets the same in the other, victimising w whoever comes in contact, and thus it spreads itself, enlarging its circle; the influence on those that are nearest is severest.