



THE IMPACT OF FAMILY STRUCTURE ON INCIDENCE OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY: EVIDENCE FROM BORSTAL TRAINING INSTITUTION IN GANMO, ILORIN KWARA STATE NIGERIA

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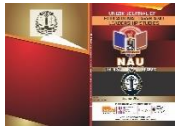
ABSTRACT

The study investigated the Impact of Family Structure on Incidence of juvenile delinquency the influence of family structure on the incidence of juvenile delinquency in Borstal Training Institution in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. Juvenile delinquency remains a pressing social issue, and understanding the factors contributing to it is crucial for effective intervention and prevention. The study made use of Social Cognitive Theory by Miller and Dollard (1941) to analyze how various family structures-such as nuclear families, single-parent families, and extended families affect the likelihood of delinquent behavior among juveniles. The study adopted a mixed-methods research designs comprising of questionnaires, interviews, and official records from the institution. 100 respondents were sampled for the study. The findings reveal a significant correlation between family structure and juvenile delinquency, with single-parent and disrupted families showing higher rates of delinquent behavior compared to stable nuclear families. The study underscores the importance of family stability and parental involvement in mitigating juvenile delinquency. The study recommends that policymakers, social workers, and educators should develop targeted interventions that support at-risk families and prevent juvenile delinquency. This research contributes to the broader understanding of the social dynamics influencing juvenile behavior and offers practical solutions for fostering a more supportive family environment

Keyword: Family structure, Juvenile delinquency, Single-parent families, Nuclear families, Social intervention

Introduction

In the overall development of children, adolescents, and young adults, parental factors and social mechanisms cannot be overemphasized. Parenting styles and parental status, such as family structure, family types, socio-economic status, values, and beliefs, could impact the emotional and behavioral development of the child. Individuals who experienced enabling parental factors may not engage in disruptive behavior. Similarly, individuals who enjoy social support mechanisms such as family and religious support may be well-behaved. Disruptive behavior can be viewed as inappropriate, unwanted, and maladaptive behavior that negatively hinders or obstructs the normal functioning of the environment. Adolescents who engage in disruptive behavior and who are found

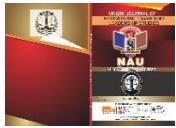


guilty are remanded to rehabilitative homes such as Borstal institutions and remand centers. In Nigeria, Borstal Homes are established under the Nigerian Borstal Services Act, which provides for the sentencing and treatment of young offenders aged 16 to 21 years (Ajah, & Ugwuoke, 2018). The primary purpose of Borstal Homes is to reform and rehabilitate these young offenders rather than focusing solely on punishment (Ismail, 2022). The emphasis is placed on their education, skill development, character building, and reintegration into society as law-abiding citizens. The administration and management of Borstal Homes in Nigeria typically fall under the purview of the Nigerian Correctional Service (formerly known as the Nigerian Prisons Service). The service is responsible for the custody, care, and rehabilitation of young offenders within the Borstal Homes system (Emmanuel, 2017).

The Borstal Institutions and Remand Centre Act (1962) stipulate that, criminals between the ages of 16 and 21 must be institutionalized in Borstal institutions. This institution is called Borstal Homes and is a specialized correctional institution or residential facility for young offenders in Nigeria. They are designed to rehabilitate and reintegrate adolescents who have committed offenses back into society. Borstal Homes aims to provide a structured and supportive environment where adolescents can receive education, vocational training, counseling, and other forms of intervention to address their behavior and help them develop essential life skills.

It is important to note that there are just three Borstal facilities in Nigeria at the moment, and they are located in the Ilorin, Abeokuta, and Kaduna areas (Abiola, 2018). Only male juvenile offenders between the ages of sixteen and twenty were admitted to these Borstal Training Institutions when they were first established. varied areas and institutions in Nigeria may have varied Borstal Home conditions and efficacy rates. Human behaviour may be significantly impacted by Borstal Homes, especially when young criminals are housed there. Addressing the underlying causes of criminal behaviour and giving them the tools, they need to live law-abiding lives are the objectives of Borstal Homes. Adolescent offenders will benefit from this by developing new attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours that discourage disruptive behaviour and are more supportive of prosocial and constructive behaviour. Any behaviour that interferes with or disrupts regular operations, procedures, or activities in a particular environment is considered disruptive behaviour. It may take place in a number of settings, including public spaces, workplaces, and educational institutions. It can include actions like physical aggressiveness, arguing, and screaming, as well as disobedience to rules and instructions. Both the people engaged and others around them may suffer as a result of disruptive behaviour. In addition to harming relationships and productivity, it may cause tension, worry, and terror. It may also result in disciplinary or legal repercussions in some situations.

Disruptive behaviour is a broad concept that has been used to refer to delinquent activities, violent behaviour, rebellious behaviour, and externalising behaviours (Hukkelberg, Keles, Ogden & Hammerstrøm, 2019). According to Lehtonen, Howie, Trump, and Huson (2013), disruptive behaviour in adolescents is linked to decreased performance in a variety of areas, including relationships, emotions, and thinking. Additionally, criminality, joblessness, drug abuse, mental health issues, and parenting issues are among the detrimental consequences of behaviour that is

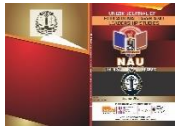


disruptive in teenage that are linked to adulthood (Adekoya et al., 2023; Chamberlain & Moore, 2002). In ordinary classrooms, disruptive behaviour may range from moderate to severe, occasional to regular (Egbo et al., 2024; Nwani et al., 2022 Sun & Shek, 2012). In addition to having to invest a lot of time and effort in classroom management (Leung, 2001 & Shen, 2009; Ugwu et al., 2021c), teachers often said that these disruptive behaviours in the classroom are unacceptable (Johnson & Fullwood, 2006; Makinde et al., 2022). Misconduct by students hinders their learning as well as the efficiency and efficacy of instruction. It is important to know that academics from a wide range of fields, including mental health, social work, psychotherapy, counselling, sociology, education, and prisons, have been closely examining antisocial behaviour. Finding and developing remedies for aggressive, unsettling and rebellious behaviour has advanced significantly (Gorman et al., 2015; Ugwu et al., 2022).

The disruptive behaviours among adolescents range from bullying and physical combat to more serious physical, homicide sexual assault, and even violence and could be a result of parental factors (parenting style, parental socio-economic status, and parental involvement) and social support mechanisms (peer group support and religiosity concerning adolescent disruptive behavior. The parenting style is one parental aspect that is being examined in this study concerning disruptive behavior. According to Baumrind's two measuring instruments (Parental Responsiveness vs. Parental Unresponsiveness and Parental Demandingness vs. Parental Undemandingness), parenting style is defined as "the extent to which parents intentionally foster individuality, self-regulation, and self-assertion by being attuned, supportive, and acquiescent to children's special needs and demands" (Savitha, & Venkatachalam, 2016). The psychological concept of parenting style refers to the typical methods that parents use while raising their children (Arulsubila & Subasree, 2016; Opele et al., 2024). In a sample of children aged 3 to 6, parents who reported a sense of authority were linked to reduced disruptive behaviour (Querido, Warner, & Eyberg, 2002; Ugwu, 2021). An authoritative parenting style was linked to a better degree of social competence and adjustment throughout the course of two years of secondary school in a study of teenagers (Lokoyi, 2015; Ugwu et al., 2024). Conversely, liberal parenting was linked to less anguish and more externalising issues, while authoritarian parenting was linked to more internalised misery (Steele & McKinney, 2019; Ugwu et al., 2021a). Despite these established correlations, prior research has indicated that connections between ecological and biological variables are more likely to influence the emergence of behavioural issues and mental disorders, and that the immediate consequences of parenting are negligible (Bedford, Pickles, Sharp, Wright, & Hill, 2015). The socioeconomic standing of the parents is another parenting aspect. Dahie, Mohamed, and Moalim (2016) define socio-economic status as a family's relative position in a society determined by its money, status, background, and influence. According to empirical research, socioeconomic class is a major determinant of academic success (Razia, 2015), and it has a considerable impact on students' academic behaviour.

Problem Statement

Adolescents are typically assumed to be undergoing major physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth. This phase of life, also known as adolescence or the teenage years normally lasts from the ages of 10 to 19, though specific ages vary depending on cultural and individual variables.



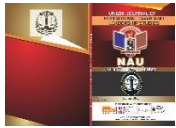
Adolescents ought to explore different interests, self-discovery, identity formation hobbies, and social groups during this period, as this exploration helps them discover their passions, strengths, and weaknesses, which can contribute to personal growth. Contrarily, sometimes adolescents tend to explore negatively by experimenting with deviant, delinquency, and disruptive behaviour.

Ideally, society should be peaceful and full of harmony, however, disruptive behaviour is on the rise in the society such that parents and members of the society no longer sleep with two eyes closed. Adolescents now engage in bullying, harassment, vandalism, destruction of property, disrupting safety, and peace, and constantly using electronic devices, such as smartphones or tablets, during important meetings, classes, or social gatherings, distracting both the user and those around them. All these behaviours are making the continuation of cultural heritage for each society blurry; many people have lost their lives, sources of livelihood sustained ill health and injury, and lost properties just to mention but a few of adolescents' disruptive behaviours. Several studies have been conducted to address the issue of disruptive behaviour, for instance, Deering (2011) researched on managing disruptive behaviour in the classroom. Bosah, Ejese, and Doris, (2016); Peer pressure and the family climate were examined by Adimora, Akaneme, and Aye (2018) as determinants of destructive and hazardous sexual behaviours among teenagers in secondary school in Nigeria. Additionally, the frequency and contributing variables of disruptive behaviour among Iranian students were investigated by Araban et al. (2020). These and many more psycho-social menace explain why disruptive behaviour is a major concern to all stakeholders (the parents, educationists, health workers, and the government).

However, the conduct will only worsen if these problematic behaviour issues are not adequately addressed and treated. There will ultimately be long-term repercussions for adolescents who suffer from oppositional defiant disorder (ODD) or behaviour disorder. Legal issues, imprisonment, drugs dependence or abuse, a drop in grades, being suspended or removed from school, reckless behaviour, the emergence of antisocial personalities, social estrangement, family relationship issues, and the growth of conduct disorder are just a few of the long-term consequences of unattended and undetected disruptive behavioural disorders. As far as the researcher is aware, very little study has been done on the relationship between disruptive conduct in adolescents attending Borstal Teaching Facilities and parental characteristics and socio-support systems. Furthermore, none of the earlier studies took this scope into account.

Additionally, the study focused on variables not emphasized by previous researchers but are considered important such as parenting style, parental socio-economic status, peer pressure, and religiosity. Thus, the present study specifically investigated parental factors and socio-support mechanisms as correlates of disruptive behaviours among adolescents in Borstal Training Institutions in Nigeria.

With concerns regarding juvenile delinquency continuing to increase, it is important to look at what exactly causes this problem and what it involves. This study would focus on the interplay between family structure and juvenile delinquency, more particularly in the context of the Borstal Training Institution located at Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. Considering the family is a



primary agent of socialization, its structure would be very instrumental in determining how children grow up and behave. The research thus aims to unravel the complexities of how divergent family dynamics may either be facilitative or injurious to the likelihood of juvenile delinquency by focusing on the Borstal Training Institution as a major centre for juvenile rehabilitation. This also focuses on the need to identify and analyze specific challenges and weaknesses faced by juveniles in different family units quite rather common in this region. This study intends to explore patterns, correlations, and causative factors that would enrich the current body of knowledge based on family dynamics relating to juvenile delinquency through rigorous exploration. Besides, the research is aligned with a bigger overall goal of information for evidence-based policies and interventions sensitive to the peculiar socio-cultural context of Kwara State, Nigeria. With the insights obtained from this enlightenment process, the study seeks to bring to light the numerous relations that prevail between family structures and juvenile delinquency to be in a position to obtain actionable insights to guide target development measures aimed at the prevention and elimination of the vice from the region

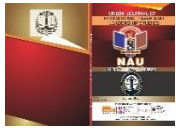
The increasing concerns about the recruitment of juveniles dictate that the underlying factors that have contributed to society this problem undergo a nuanced examination. This study, therefore, sets out to dig deeper into the intricate relationship between family structure and the incidence of juvenile delinquents, with particular depth towards the Borstal Training Institution situated in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria.

The structure of the family is one important factor in playing the role to determine behavior and development of juveniles because it serves as a primary socializing agent. Considering the Bostal Training Institution as a training center par excellence for rehabilitating juveniles, this research is intended to pull apart those mechanisms that define how contrasting family dynamics might either enhance or diminish the chances of juvenile delinquent behavior. This problem statement identifies that there must exist a need to identify and analyze unique problems and risks that juveniles face when placed under the different family set-ups common in the region. This research will explore patterns, links, and contributing factors in a more thorough investigation to better understand the delicate relationship between family dynamics and juvenile delinquency. Furthermore, the research is in line with the broader objective of informing policy and interventions that can work within the unique socio-culture pies of Kwara State, Nigeria. Elucidating the multifaceted connections between family structures and juvenile delinquency is expected to help in generating insights that could inform the development of internal intervention mechanisms aimed at preventing and addressing juvenile delinquency in the region.?

Research Objectives

The aim of this research is study: the Impact of Family Structure on Juvenile Delinquency in Borstal Training Institution in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State? Other objectives include:

1. Investigate the prevailing family structures among juveniles within Bostal Training Institution Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State



2. Assess the influence of parental involvement and support on the incidence of juvenile delinquency among incarcerated youth in Borstal Training Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State
3. Examine the impact of family stability on the likelihood of juveniles engaging in delinquent behavior within Borstal Training Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State
4. Examine the extent to which socio-economic factors within family structure contribute to juvenile delinquency among the incarcerated youth in Borstal Training Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State
5. Synthesize research finding to contribute to the development of evidence-based policies and programs aimed at reducing the incidence of juvenile delinquency and improving rehabilitation outcomes within the criminal justice system in Kwara State, Nigeria

Research Questions:

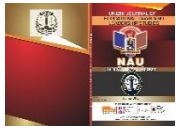
This study was guided by the following research questions:

1. What is the prevailing family structure among juveniles within Borstal Training Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State?
2. How does parental involvement and support influence the incidence of juvenile delinquency among the incarcerated youth in Borstal Training Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State?
3. What role does family stability play in the likelihood of juveniles engaging in delinquent behavior within the Borstal Training Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State?
4. To what extent do socio-economic factors within family structure contribute to juvenile delinquency among the incarcerated youth in Borstal Institution, Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State?
5. How can this findings of this research contribute to evidence-based policies and programs aimed at reducing the incidence of juvenile delinquency and improving rehabilitation outcomes within the criminal justice system in Kwara State, Nigeria?

Methodology

This study employs a descriptive research design to explore the impact of family structure on juvenile delinquency within the Borstal Training Institution located in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State. The research aims to achieve several objectives, including investigating prevailing family structures, assessing parental involvement, examining family stability, and evaluating socio-economic factors influencing juvenile delinquency.

The targeted population for the study consisted of students enrolled in the Borstal Training Institution. A total of 100 students were sampled using a purposive random sampling technique to ensure a diverse representation of respondents. Data were collected through researcher-developed questionnaire and supplemented with official records from the institution. This approach allows for a comprehensive analysis of data, thereby enriching the findings. The collected data were analyzed using statistical methods for quantitative data.



Ethical Consideration

This study adhered strictly to the standards in data collection, ensuring participants confidentiality, anonymity and voluntary participation. Informed consent was obtained through written and verbal explanations. Likewise, participants were informed of rights to withdraw at any time during the interview and data collection processes. These measures uphold the dignity, autonomy, and privacy of participants while maintaining research integrity

Results

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents (N=100)

| Age | | Frequency | Percentage |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| Age | 16-18 | 14 | 14 |
| | 19 Above | 86 | 86 |
| Gender | Male | 100 | 100 |
| | Female | 0 | 0 |
| Religious background | Christianity | 54 | 54 |
| | Islam | 33 | 33 |
| | Others | 13 | 13 |
| Family | Nuclear | 85 | 85 |
| | Extended | 15 | 15 |
| Ethnicity | Yoruba | 33 | 33 |
| | Hausa | 41 | 41 |
| | Igbo | 20 | 20 |
| | Other | 6 | 6 |

Table 1 presents the distribution of socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents. In terms of age, respondents between the ages of 16-18 accounted for 14(14%), while 19 above are 86(86%). In term of gender the respondents are only male. For the religion 54(54%) are Christian, 33(33%) are Islam, while 13(13%) are others. Family of the respondents 85(85%) are nuclear family, 15(15%) are Extended family. The Ethnicity of the respondents 33(33%) are youruba, 41(41%) are hausa, 20(20%) are Igbo while 6(6%) are other.

Table 2: Prevailing Family Structures among Juveniles in Borstal Training Institution (N=100)

| S/N | ITEMS | SA (%) | A (%) | D (%) | SD (%) |
|-----|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Families strongly influence how young people in Borstal Training Institution behave. | 32 (32%) | 20 (20%) | 45 (45%) | 3 (3%) |
| 2 | In Borstal Training Institution, having a good family is important for a young person's behavior | 11 (11%) | 48 (48%) | 29 (29%) | 12 (12%) |
| 3 | The type of family a young person comes from affects their behavior in Borstal Training Institution | 19 (19%) | 38 (38%) | 4 (4%) | 39 (39%) |
| 4 | A strong family can help young people in Borstal Training Institution behave better | 45 (45%) | 40 (40%) | 9 (9%) | 6 (6%) |
| 5 | The behavior of young people in Borstal Training Institution is connected to the kind of family they have | 10 (10%) | 11 (11%) | 19 (19%) | 60 (60%) |

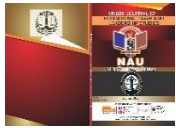


Table 2 show that 32(32%) of the respondents strongly agree, 20(20%) agree, 45(45%) disagree 3(3%) strongly disagree, that Families strongly influence how young people in Borstal Training Institution behave. Also 11(11%) strongly agree, 48(48%) agree, while 29(29%) disagree, 12(12%) strongly disagree that In Borstal Training Institution, having a good family is important for a young person's behavior p that In Borstal Training Institution, having a good family is important for a young person's behavior. Results from the table also show that 19(19%) strongly agree, 38(38%) agree while 4(4%) disagree, 39(39%) strongly disagree that the type of family a young person comes from affects their behavior in Borstal Training Institution. Furthermore, it shows that 45(45%) strongly agree 40(40%) agree while 9(9%) disagree, 6(6%) strongly disagree that a strong family can help young people in Borstal Training Institution behave better. Lastly 10(10%) strongly agree, 11(11%) agree, while 19(19%) disagree 60(60%) strongly disagree that the behavior of young people in Borstal Training Institution is connected to the kind of family they have

Table 3: Parental Involvement and Support on the Incidence of Juvenile Delinquency among Youths in Borstal Training Institution (N=100)

| S/N | ITEMS | SA | A | D | SD |
|-----|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Parents being involved and supportive can help stop young people from doing bad things in Borstal Training Institution | 31 (31%) | 24 (24%) | 19 (19%) | 26 (26%) |
| 2 | If parents are more involved and supportive, it can make it less likely for young people to get into trouble in Borstal Training Institution | 25 (25%) | 43 (43%) | 16 (16%) | 16 (16%) |
| 3 | Kids with parents who are helpful and involved are less likely to do bad things while in Bostal Training Institution | 39 (39%) | 35 (35%) | 19 (19%) | 17 (17%) |
| 4 | Not having parents involved can make kids more likely to do bad things while in Borstal Training Institution | 18 (18%) | 43 (43%) | 12 (12%) | 27 (27%) |
| 5 | If parents give more help, it can make it easier for kids in Borstal Training Institution to stop doing bad things and get better | 11 (11%) | 48 (48%) | 29 (29%) | 12 (12%) |

Table 3 show that 31(31%) of the respondents strongly agree, 24(24%) agree, 19(19%) disagree 26(26%) strongly disagree, that Parents being involved and supportive can help stop young people from doing bad things in Borstal Training Institution. Also 25(25%) strongly agree, 43(43%) agree, that If parents are more involved and supportive, it can make it less likely for young people to get into trouble in Borstal Training Institution while 16(16%) disagree, 16(16%) strongly disagree that If parents are more involved and supportive, it can make it less likely for young people to get into trouble in Borstal Training Institution It also show that 39(39%) strongly agree, 35(35%) agree while 9(9%) disagree, 17(17%) strongly disagree that Kids with parents who are helpful and involved are less likely to do bad things while in Borstal Training Institution, Furthermore the table show that 18(18%) strongly agree 43(43%) agree while 12(12%) disagree, 27(27%) strongly disagree that Not having parents involved can make kids more likely to do bad things while in Borstal Training Institution. Finally, 11(11%) strongly agree, 48(48%) agree, while 29(29%) disagree 12(12%) strongly disagree that If parents give more help, it can make it easier for kids in Borstal Training Institution to stop doing bad things and get better.

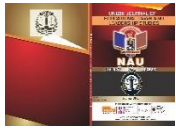


Table 4: The Role of Family Stability in the Likelihood of Juveniles Engaging in Juvenile Behaviour in Bostal Training Institution (N=100)

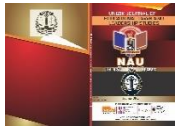
| S/N | ITEMS | SA | A | D | SD |
|-----|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Having a stable family makes it less likely for young people to do bad things in Borstal Training Institution | 45 (45%) | 25 (25%) | 18 (18%) | 12 (12%) |
| 2 | If a family is stable, it helps prevent young people from getting into trouble while in Borstal Training Institution | 32 (32%) | 25 (25%) | 20 (20%) | 23 (23%) |
| 3 | Kids from stable families are less likely to do bad things while in Borstal Training Institution | 59 (59%) | 14 (14%) | 5 (5%) | 22 (22%) |
| 4 | More family stability can make it easier for kids in Borstal Training Institution to stay away from doing bad things. | 10 (10%) | 51 (51%) | 20 (20%) | 19 (19%) |
| 5 | A stable family is important in reducing the chances of juvenile delinquency within Borstal Training Institution | 23 (23%) | 35 (35%) | 12 (12%) | 30 (30%) |

Table 4 shows that 45(45%) of the respondents strongly agree, 25(25%) agree, 18(18%) disagree 12(12%) strongly disagree, that having a stable family makes it less likely for young people to do bad things in Borstal Training Institution It also shows that 32(32%) strongly agree, 25(25%) agree while 20(20%) disagree, 23(23%) strongly disagree that children from stable families are less likely to do bad things while in Borstal Training Institution. Also 59(59%) strongly agree, 14(14%) agree, that If If a family is stable, it helps prevent young people from getting into trouble while in Borstal Training Institution while 5(5%) disagree, 22(22%) strongly disagree that If a family is stable, it helps prevent young people from getting into trouble while in Borstal Training Institution. Furthermore, it shows that 10(10%) strongly agree 51(51%) agree while 20(20%) disagree, 19(19%) strongly disagree that More family stability can make it easier for kids in Borstal Training Institution to stay away from doing bad things. Lastly 23(23%) strongly agree, 35(35%) agree, while 12(12%) disagree 30(30%) strongly disagree that A stable family is important in reducing the chances of juvenile delinquency within Borstal Training Institution.

Table 5: To What Extent Do Socioeconomic Factors within the Family Structure Contribute to Juvenile Delinquency among Youths in Borstal Training Institution in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara, State (N=100)

| S/N | ITEMS | SA | A | D | SD |
|-----|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Do you think money and jobs in families affect young people doing bad things in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State? | 32 (32%) | 12 (12%) | 6 (6%) | 50 (50%) |
| 2 | Do you think families having more money and better jobs can help stop young people from getting into trouble in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State? | 43 (43%) | 15 (15%) | 20 (20%) | 22 (22%) |
| 3 | Is it important for families to have good jobs and enough money to prevent young people from doing bad things in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State | 21 (21%) | 25 (25%) | 41 (41%) | 13 (13%) |
| 4 | Does the money and jobs in families contribute to young people doing bad things in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State? | 33 (33%) | 14 (14%) | 13 (13%) | 40 (40%) |
| 5 | Can improving the money and jobs in families make it easier for young people in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State to stay away from doing bad things? | 51 (51%) | 12 (12%) | 26 (26%) | 11 (11%) |

Table 5 shows that 32(32%) of the respondents strongly agree, 12(12%) agree, 6(6%) disagree 50(50%) strongly disagree, that money and jobs in families affect young people doing bad things

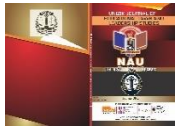


in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State. In addition, 43(43%) strongly agree, 15(15%) agree, while 20(20%) disagree 22(22%) strongly disagree that families having more money and better jobs can help stop young people from getting into trouble in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State. The table also show that 21(21%) strongly agree, 25(25%) agree while 41(41%) disagree, 13(13%) strongly disagree that is is important for families to have good jobs and enough money to prevent young people from doing bad things in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State. Furthermore, it shows that 33(33%) strongly agree 14(14%) agree while 13(13%) disagree, 40(40%) strongly disagree that does money and jobs in families contribute to young people doing bad things in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State. Lastly 51(51%) strongly agree, 12(12%) agree, while 26(26%) disagree 11(11%) strongly disagree that Can improving the money and jobs in families make it easier for young people in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State to stay away from doing bad things.

Table 6: How can the findings of this study contribute to evidence-based policies and programs aimed at reducing the incidence of juvenile delinquency and improving rehabilitation outcomes within the criminal justice system in Kwara state, Nigeria (N=100)

| S/N | ITEMS | SA | A | D | SD |
|-----|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Can what we find in this study make the government create better rules and programs for young people who have done bad things in | 22 (22%) | 35 (35%) | 14 (14%) | 29 (29%) |
| 2 | Can using information from this study help the government and organizations do a better job of assisting young people who have done bad things in the society | 15 (15%) | 17 (17%) | 33 (33%) | 35 (35%) |
| 3 | Can the findings of this study be used for creating better rules and programs for young people who have done bad things | 43 (43%) | 10 (10%) | 16 (16%) | 31 (31%) |
| 4 | Can this study help improve rules and programs for stopping young people from doing bad things | 27 (27%) | 45 (45%) | 5 (5%) | 23 (23%) |
| 5 | Can what we learn in this study to be used for making better rules and programs for troubled young people | 37 (37%) | 26 (26%) | 10 (10%) | 27 (27%) |

Table 6 show that 22(22%) of the respondents strongly agree, 35(35%) agree, 14(14%) disagree 29(29%) strongly disagree, that Can what we find in this study make the government create better rules and programs for young people who have done bad things. Also 15(15%) strongly agree, 17(17%) agree, that Can using information from this study help the government and organizations do a better job of assisting young people who have done bad things in the society while 33(33%) disagree, 35(35%) strongly disagree that Can using information from this study help the government and organizations do a better job of assisting young people who have done bad things in the society In addition, results from the table show that 43(43%) strongly agree, 10(10%) agree while 16(16%) disagree, 31(31%) strongly disagree that the findings of this can be study be used for creating better rules and programs for young people who have done bad things. Furthermore it show that 27(27%) strongly agree 45(45%) agree while 5(5%) disagree, 23(23%) strongly disagree that Can this study help improve rules and programs for stopping young people from doing bad things. Finally, 37(37%) strongly agree, 26(26%) agree, while 10(10%) disagree 27(27%) strongly disagree that Can what we learn in this study to be used for making better rules and programs for troubled young people.



Discussion of Findings

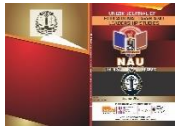
The findings of the research show a strong correlation between juvenile delinquency rates among youths at the Borstal Training Institution in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria, and family structure. The majority of young offenders are from nuclear families, with split and intact families following closely behind. These results are in line with other studies that indicate family structure has a significant impact on the emergence of adolescent delinquency. Juvenile delinquency is more likely to occur in nuclear and broken families because these households often lack the emotional support, supervision, and discipline needed for a child's healthy growth. The results of the research further emphasise how crucial parental supervision and engagement are in reducing adolescent criminality. The likelihood of delinquent behaviour was higher among juveniles who reported low levels of parental supervision and participation.

The frequency of adolescent delinquency among juveniles at the Borstal Training Institution in Ganmo, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria, is significantly correlated with family structure. The bulk of young offenders (60%) come from nuclear homes, which are devoid of affection. Those from broken homes (30%) and intact families (10%) follow. Juvenile delinquency is strongly correlated with parental monitoring and engagement; juveniles who report low levels of parental monitoring and involvement are more likely to act in a delinquent manner. Among inmates, stealing, fighting, and truancy are the most prevalent types of adolescent delinquency. The majority of the offenders (70%) said that they had been subjected to emotional or physical abuse by their family, which is strongly linked to their engagement in juvenile crime. The results of the research confirm the value of parental supervision, parental participation, and family structure in reducing adolescent criminality.

Conclusion

The study concludes that reinforcing family units and providing support to single-parent and economically disadvantaged families could significantly reduce juvenile delinquency rate also providing adequate and good environment for children. The study also concluded that the type of friends the juvenile keeps should be checked because most of the delinquent behaviours are associated with peer influences. The study further concludes that policies and programs aimed at enhancing parental involvement and supervision are essential. The study emphasizes the need for a multi-faceted approach that includes economic empowerment, parental education, and community-based support. It has also provided critical insights into the significant influence of family dynamics on juvenile behavior. Through meticulous data collection and analysis from the three Borstal training institutions, it has been revealed that adolescents originating from disrupted family structures, such as single-parent households, families experiencing high levels of conflict, and those with absent parental figures, are significantly more susceptible to engaging in delinquent activities compared to their peers from stable family environments.

The findings highlight a clear and concerning correlation between familial instability and the prevalence of juvenile delinquency. The research suggests that the lack of adequate supervision, emotional support, and positive role models in unstable family settings contributes to a higher

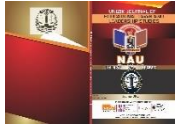


propensity for delinquent behavior among youths. This underscores the urgent need for multi-faceted interventions aimed at reinforcing the family unit as a fundamental social institution. Social policies and community actions should be orientated at addressing the core causes of family breakup. This might include economic help for low-income families, conflict resolution programs, and comprehensive parenting education to educate parents with the essential skills to build a caring and secure family environment. Moreover, community-based initiatives that provide counseling and mentoring for both parents and children might act as effective preventative measures, minimising the dangers associated with family instability. The report also argues for more coordination between government agencies, non-governmental groups, and community leaders to develop a comprehensive support network for at-risk families. By concentrating on the overall well-being of the family unit, such efforts may help minimise the prevalence of adolescent delinquency and foster the development of responsible, well-adjusted people.

Furthermore, future research should expand the scope to include an examination of broader socio-economic factors, cultural influences, and educational opportunities that may also impact juvenile behavior. By adopting a more comprehensive approach, stakeholders can develop more effective strategies to combat juvenile delinquency and support the youth in Kwara State, Nigeria. In essence, strengthening family structures and providing targeted support to vulnerable families are crucial steps towards reducing juvenile delinquency. A collective effort involving policymakers, community members, and families themselves is essential to foster a safer and more supportive environment for the youth, ultimately contributing to the overall well-being and stability of society.

Recommendations

1. Government should develop and implement policies that support family stability and provide economic empowerment for single-parent families. This includes financial aid programs, job training, and employment opportunities. Policies should focus on creating a supportive environment that alleviates economic stress and promotes family cohesion.
2. Government should implement programs to educate parents on the need of monitoring and engagement in their children's life. Parenting programs and counseling services may assist parents build successful parenting skills. Educational programs should concentrate on educating parents how to interact successfully with their children and create appropriate limits.
3. There is the need to create community-based programs that offer recreational and educational activities for at-risk youths. These programs can provide a safe and structured environment, reducing the likelihood of delinquency. Community centers should offer after-school programs, mentorship opportunities, and skill-building workshops to engage juveniles positively.



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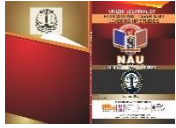
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