

EVALUATING THE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY: A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS

ABSTRACT

This study assessed the juvenile delinquency intervention programs in Barangay Tibal-og, Municipality of Santo Tomas, Davao del Norte, to inform enhanced strategies for addressing youth crime. It utilized qualitative approaches such as in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis to analyze the experiences, insights, and recommendations of program stakeholders. Eight themes emerged regarding experiences, highlighting procedural equity, trust-building, and individual growth. The insights on implementation revealed five key themes, emphasizing effective interventions and collaborative efforts. The recommendations highlighted on establishing separate detention centers, allocating adequate resources and rehabilitation centers, enhancing parental awareness, and adhering to guidelines. The study further stressed the significance of the guidelines and assisting with current programs, while pressing for more resources and rehabilitation institutions. Parental awareness had a crucial role in avoiding and dealing with delinquency, coupled with community engagement and the development of positive values. The results concluded the need for continuous improvements in the juvenile justice system, promoting cooperation among all involved and implementing strategies that are supported by empirical facts. By utilizing these observations, communities can aim for fairer and more efficient actions, promoting safer surroundings and more promising prospects for vulnerable young individuals.

Keywords: juvenile delinquency, intervention programs, effectiveness evaluation, qualitative methodology, stakeholder insights, parental awareness, community involvement, restorative justice, rehabilitation centers.

INTRODUCTION

Intervention in juvenile delinquency involves taking a calculated risk to address the root causes of a child's criminal activity. This method usually entails customized treatment plans that include education, skill-building, counseling, and other activities to improve the person's psychological, emotional, and socioeconomic well-being. Juvenile delinquency is still a major worry in modern cultures even after governments and other agencies have made great attempts to reduce it.

A multitude of hypotheses have been proposed to explain the underlying reasons for juvenile delinquency, and a variety of intervention strategies have been developed to address this conduct. The combination of these programs and theories has helped to better understand juvenile delinquency and has made it easier to create intervention measures that work better. Notably, social guidance and counseling—which prioritize rehabilitation over punitive measures—have emerged as essential elements in the reduction of adolescent delinquency.

Combating juvenile delinquency requires a multimodal strategy that blends theoretical understanding with focused intervention initiatives. Societies can work to mitigate the underlying causes of juvenile delinquency and promote the overall well-being of at-risk adolescents by placing a high priority on rehabilitation and proactive community participation.

Legislation to safeguard Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) has been passed in recognition of the critical role that youth and children play in nation-building on a national and international level. To carry out intervention programs, this legal framework requires the cooperation of the Department of Education (DepEd), the Local Government Unit (LGU), and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), among other governmental authorities. These initiatives, which are outlined in the Republic Act 9344, Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), are designed to address the underlying causes of juvenile criminality. Counseling, skill development, education, and other programs targeted at improving psychological, emotional, and psycho-social well-being are examples of such activities (Atianzar, 2022).

Rehabilitating CICL is the main goal of the Philippine Juvenile Justice System. To lessen the amount of violence that children are exposed to, a variety of preventative intervention programs are put into place. These programs include parenting classes, school-based interventions, social skills training courses, and media interventions

Furthermore, while previous research focused on juvenile delinquency and intervention programs, studies that evaluated these programs were needed. To close this gap, this study evaluated the intervention programs implemented among juvenile delinquents.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of the juvenile delinquency intervention programs in Barangay Tibal-og, Municipality of Santo Tomas. It attempted to ascertain the actual effect of these programs on the general decline in the rates of juvenile delinquency in the community through a sophisticated methodology.

Fundamentally, the study sought to evaluate the real impacts of these intervention programs on the lives of young people who are at risk. The study provided a thorough picture of the effectiveness of these programs by looking at qualitative insights obtained through interviews with program administrators, stakeholders, and participants.

Apart from assessing the effectiveness of current intervention endeavors, the investigation sought to pinpoint opportunities for enhancement within these schemes. The study aimed to provide practical recommendations targeted at improving the efficacy and sustainability of future intervention efforts by exposing the advantages and disadvantages of present initiatives. To effectively reach vulnerable young populations, these recommendations may cover topics including community engagement tactics and focused outreach initiatives.

Furthermore, the main objective of this research was to provide insightful information that will lead to the creation of more focused and effective strategies for dealing with juvenile delinquency in the Municipality of Santo Tomas. The project enabled stakeholders to bring about good and long-lasting change in the lives of at-risk juveniles and the community at large by critically analyzing the effectiveness of the intervention programs and making evidence-based recommendations.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The study aimed to critically evaluate the effectiveness of current intervention programs for juvenile offenders in Barangay Tibal-og, Municipality of Santo Tomas, Davao del Norte. Against the complex issues posed by juvenile delinquency and the imperative to enhance rehabilitation efforts, the study sought to evaluate the existing intervention programs.

Specifically, this sought to answer the following general questions:

1. What are your experiences with the intervention program of juvenile delinquency?
2. What are your insights about the implementation of an intervention program for juvenile delinquency?
3. What are your recommendations to strengthen the intervention programs for juvenile delinquency?

METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH DESIGN

This study evaluated the effectiveness of juvenile delinquency intervention programs in Barangay Tibal-og, Municipality of Santo Tomas, using a qualitative case study methodology and case study design. To investigate complicated phenomena in the context of real-world situations, qualitative methodology and case study design

were employed in various domains, including the social sciences. With this approach, researchers analyzed a single case or a series of examples in-depth to obtain a thorough grasp of the problems, procedures, and dynamics at play.

Barangay Tibal-og in the Municipality of Santo Tomas was specifically chosen as the research location for it offered a rich and pertinent environment for analyzing the efficacy of juvenile delinquency rehabilitation programs.

Semi-structured interviews, participant observation, and document analysis were utilized as data-gathering techniques. The study employed semi-structured interviews to gain varied perspectives on the intervention programs and their influence on juvenile delinquency in Barangay Tibal-og. To obtain insights into the experiences of participants and the dynamics of program delivery, participant observations entailed monitoring program activities, interactions between participants and facilitators, and the general implementation of the intervention programs. To complement and triangulate the data gathered from interviews and observation, program materials, reports, and pertinent papers, were reviewed as part of the document analysis process. In this study, seven people participated in the in-depth interviews and focused grouped discussions. Specifically, there were parents of the juveniles, Municipal Social Workers, Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC), and Women and Children Protection Desk (WCPD) officers. The Municipal Social Workers, VAWC, and WCPD Officers were chosen as participants as they are equally vital to

the Municipality of Santo Tomas's implementation and management of juvenile delinquency intervention programs. These experts possessed extensive knowledge of the planning, execution, difficulties, and results of these kinds of programs. Thereby, giving them a thorough grasp of their efficacy and influence on young criminals and their families.

In relation, different viewpoints on the intervention programs were also provided by having parents participate in the in-depth interviews. Juvenile offenders frequently rely heavily on their parents, who can offer insightful information about their experiences, difficulties, and opinions of the intervention attempts. To better meet the needs of juvenile offenders and their families, intervention programs needed to comprehend the views of parents to discover familial dynamics, support networks, and opportunities for change.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

The study protocol for the evaluation of juvenile delinquency intervention programs in the Municipality of Santo Tomas, Davao del Norte, followed a systematic and ethical step-by-step procedure.

For the data collection procedure, in-depth interviews (IDIs) were conducted individually through crafted questionnaires at participant-chosen locations to garner detailed insights. Subsequently, focus group discussions (FGDs) took place in a neutral locale within Barangay Tibal-og, Municipality of Santo Tomas. It fostered collective dialogue and interaction among participants with informed consent

that emphasized the study's nature, potential risks and benefits, and the assurance of confidentiality. A questionnaire is a common tool for collecting information, consisting of a set of questions for respondents to provide needed study information. It is versatile for gathering both qualitative and quantitative data, particularly effective for large sample studies. Additionally, relevant documents, including program reports and statistical records, were collected from local government offices and intervention program facilities for document analysis

DATA ANALYSIS

Thematic analysis is a qualitative technique that will be applied to the data gathered from in-depth interviews and focused group discussions. Its goal is to find, examine, and present any patterns or themes present in the data. The audio recordings of the talks and interviews will be transcribed, and then checked for accuracy . The first step in the coding procedure will then be to methodically assign codes to text passages that illustrate important concepts or ideas related to the study topics. The frequency, salience, and importance of the coded data will then be used to aggregate these codes into broad themes. To ensure accuracy and consistency, the research team will improve the theme through iterative discussion and refining (Ayre & McCaffery, 2022).

Following the establishment of themes, each theme's data were thoroughly examined and analyzed, taking into account the

circumstances behind their emergence and pointing out any discrepancies or subtleties. After that, a cross-case analysis was carried out to compare themes among diverse individuals, groups, or contexts, offering insights into how different aspects may affect participants' perceptions and experiences. Through member verification and data triangulation, attempts were made during the analytic process to improve the validity and dependability of findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 1. CICL Cases

Study group	CICL Case	Status
IDI 1	Serious Physical Injury Frustrated Murder	Case Dismissed On Going Hearing (Regional Trial Court Panabo) On Going Rehabilitation
IDI 2	Serious Physical Injury RA 9165	Case Dismissed Case Dismissed OnGoing Rehabilitation
IDI 3	Resistance Of Disobedience	Case Dismissed On Going After Care Program
FGD 4	Serious Physical Injury	Case Dismissed On Going After Care Program

FGD 5	Robbery	Case Dismissed Rehabilitation Complete
FGD 6	Murder	Case Dismissed Rehabilitation Complete
FGD 7	RA 9165	Case Dismissed On Going After Care Program

ON THE EXPERIENCES ON THE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

ADHERENCE TO PROCEDURAL EQUITY OF RIGHTS

Several attendees raised concerns about the adherence to procedural rights in juvenile delinquent cases. During the interview, participants in the in-depth interview shared their experiences.

For example, in IDI 1, a parent expressed concern over the sudden incarceration of their child without appropriate explanation or the provision of a valid warrant. This lack of openness and procedural justice may foster hostility between law enforcement and the community.

IDI 1 stated:

“When my child was detained together with the prisoners it took a long a time..” IDI 1

“They should ideally be detained outside - separated from adult detainees” IDI 1

Furthermore, there were reports of claimed coercion and physical confrontation, indicating possible violations of juvenile rights during arrest and detention. IDI 2 reiterated their experience in which police officers did not show any warrant of arrest and their child was immediately handcuffed,

IDI 2 stated:

“Upon arresting and detaining, Ma’am, it was not a good experience. I kept asking, ‘What was his fault? They said, ‘We’re just investigating,’ but he was immediately handcuffed, Ma’am. They didn’t show us any warrant or a small piece of paper. He was just playing basketball.” IDI 2

The result of the study was supported by Darden (2018) who investigated the effects of arbitral control and adherence to procedural rights on juvenile delinquents. The study discovered that teenagers who were arbitrarily imprisoned without legal warrants or explanations of charges were more prone to develop negative attitudes toward the court system and participate in further delinquent behavior. The first stage of the juvenile justice system is apprehension. Based on the guidelines, the youth offenders were arrested generally along the guidelines except for some isolated cases. However, some youth offenders experienced (1) physical distress; (2) there was no barangay intervention; (3) were not read or informed of their rights as accused children; and, (4) accused children were detained at the Police Station more than eight (8) hours.

The adherence to procedural equity of rights emphasized in the participants' responses was a problematic component of the juvenile

justice system. When children were held alongside adult convicts without sufficient protocols in place, their rights were compromised while also exposing them to potential injury and trauma. This incident emphasized the necessity of following due process norms, which are critical to providing fair treatment and protection for children involved in the legal system.

In summary, the participants' views illustrated the critical need for improvements in the juvenile justice system. Authorities can better protect the rights and well-being of adolescents involved in legal procedures by following due process norms and ensuring that they are treated fairly and respectfully.

ARBITRARY CONTROL

The arbitrary control in the juvenile justice system has emerged as a recurring and very troubling problem. Participants presented sad tales that shed light on the cruelty and intimidation that young people face, as well as cases of bribery to free incarcerated minors. These remarks, as reported in IDI 1, starkly demonstrate the scope of the problem:

"They tried to test how strong my child was. My child foughtback against them." IDI 1

"My son explained that he almost got burned by a cigarette. He said he was coerced." IDI 1

"When the police took my child from our house... My child was detained..." IDI 1

"Pagkuhanasakaning..sa police akonganak.. mao to didtogi detained siya" IDI 1

These tales presented a frightening picture of how juveniles were treated in the legal system, emphasizing young people's vulnerability to misuse of power. Such behaviors not only jeopardize the judicial process but also prolong a cycle of mistrust and dread among adolescents and their families.

Despite these limitations, there have been stories of efforts to foster trust and give beneficial solutions. These projects highlight the need to maintain juvenile offenders' rights and dignity while addressing the underlying causes of misbehavior. Despite structural flaws, such efforts demonstrate a dedication to building trust and delivering supportive interventions in the juvenile justice system.

The participants' accounts highlighted instances of arbitrary control within the juvenile justice system, with law enforcement agents allegedly engaging in forceful and intimidating behavior toward adolescents and families. Such actions not only violated the rights of those involved but also undermined trust in the legal system, perpetuating a cycle of fear and mistrust.

Research on arbitrary control in law enforcement highlighted the negative consequences of such behavior for individuals and communities. Pina-Sánchez and Brunton-Smith (2020) investigated the impact of perceived procedural justice on public perceptions of police legitimacy. According to the study, when people regard law enforcement agents as fair, respectful, and unbiased, they are more likely to comply

with the law and cooperate with authorities. In contrast, abusive behavior and abuses of rights damaged views of legitimacy and decreased faith in law enforcement organizations.

TRUST BUILDING MECHANISM

This theme stressed the importance of obtaining the trust of young people, as mentioned by IDI 4.

“You have to gain their trust. This way, you’ll know what interventions to provide that suit them and within their capabilities.”

IDI 4

Building trust serves as a foundation for knowing each juvenile's unique circumstances, allowing specialists to build tailored solutions that effectively handle their specific issues. The development of trust is an integral component of the juvenile delinquent rehabilitation process, and a multitude of mechanisms are critical in facilitating this development. The authors of this study, Valenti et al. (2020) collectively examined the importance of trust-building techniques from youth providers across the service array.

The effectiveness of mentoring programs as an additional trust-building mechanism for juvenile delinquents was investigated by O'Dwyer (2019). The research highlighted the beneficial effects of mentoring on delinquents by fostering a supportive atmosphere in which they feel valued, comprehended, and inspired to effectuate constructive transformations.

PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE

This theme highlighted that a person is presumed innocent as part of the juvenile justice system. Highlighting how the presumption of innocence serves as a crucial safeguard for the rights of juveniles involved in legal proceedings. It underscored the principle that young people should be treated fairly and afforded the same legal protections as adults. Furthermore, there is a determination to treat juveniles with dignity and respect, rather than stigmatizing them only as criminals, as highlighted by IDI 6.

“We treat them as innocent and guide them accordingly. We avoid treating them as criminals. We don’t want them to feel degraded or less than others” IDI 6

Throughout the process, there is a strong emphasis on protecting adolescents' rights. Professionals endeavor to treat adolescents as innocent and appreciate their rights, guaranteeing fair treatment and adherence to set norms, as highlighted by IDI 6.

A cornerstone of the justice system, the presumption of innocence for juvenile offenders was an indispensable element that guaranteed equitable treatment and protected the rights of such young offenders. According to Hildebrand (2020), it is crucial to safeguard juveniles from erroneous beliefs and prejudices that frequently result in an unwarranted assumption of guilt. The aforementioned prejudices may impede the reintegration and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders back into society. Hildebrand emphasized the significance of maintaining the

presumption of innocence to alleviate these adverse repercussions and afford juveniles the chance at equitable treatment and rehabilitation.

TAILORED PROGRAM APPROACH

This method sought to foster a supportive environment with aligned programs to the main goal of each implementor conducive to rehabilitation and positive development.

The interviews also emphasized the importance of tailored programs based on detailed assessments. By learning about each juvenile's background, motivations, and obstacles, professionals can build individualized techniques that enhance successful restoration, as expressed by FGD 3.

Effective communication emerged as an essential component of the tailored approach, especially in the function of social workers. According to FGD 3, building rapport and cultivating open discussion with juveniles helps professionals better grasp their experiences and viewpoints, allowing for more effective interventions.

"Everyone goes through the process. Some cases are directly reported to the WCPD." FGD 1

Overall, it emphasized the need for customized, respectful, and rights-based interventions aimed at promoting the holistic development and rehabilitation of at-risk adolescents. A tailored program approach for juvenile delinquents has surfaced as a potentially effective intervention and rehabilitation strategy. Walker et al. (2019)

emphasized the importance of tailoring intervention programs to address the distinct requirements and conditions of individual juvenile delinquents. Tailored programs, which may employ comprehensive assessment and individualized planning, strive to target the root causes of delinquent behavior to enhance their efficacy in diminishing recidivism rates. This approach may prioritize individualized support and intervention strategies by recognizing the varied backgrounds and experiences of juvenile offenders. By doing so, it may ultimately increase the likelihood of successful rehabilitation and successful reintegration into society.

PERSONALITY AND BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

The statements highlighted the strong positive influence of intervention programs on the personality and behavioral development of adolescents in conflict with the law. These programs served an important role in promoting positive change and aiding individuals' holistic development.

For example, IDI 1 described how the intervention program greatly improved a juvenile's academic performance, resulting in scholarship chances and exceptional school conduct. This transition not only emphasized academic performance but also demonstrated the program's good impact on the individual's character development.

IDI 1 observed, "He is focusing on his studies; my child has become even more well-behaved..."emphasizing the intervention program's excellent behavioral outcomes.

Furthermore, IDI 2 told a captivating story about a participant who, as a result of the intervention, not only improved her academic attention but also her behavioral attributes, such as responsibility and independence. This testimonial demonstrated how intervention programs help individuals not only achieve academic success but also grow and develop personally.

IDI 2 elaborated, "He has changed a lot. At home, he didn't do laundry or know how to cook, but now he knows all of that"emphasizing the program's tangible behavioral gains and life skills.

The statements emphasized the beneficial effects of intervention programs on the personality and behavioral development of juvenile offenders. These programs sought to impart discipline, encourage constructive behavior, and promote personal growth, ultimately helping juveniles' successful reintegration into society. These findings were consistent with previous literature on the subject, which highlighted the necessity of focused interventions in addressing behavioral disorders among kids.

GOAL ACHIEVEMENT AND SUCCESS

This indicated the real purpose and meaning of goal achievement, discussing how success can be measured not only by personal

accomplishments but also by the positive impact and contribution to others and society. The declarations of IDI 1 and IDI 4 highlighted the long-term impact of intervention programs on juveniles, with success stories ranging from pursuing further education to starting families.

“It was a big help, Ma'am. I am very grateful to Ma'am. My son got 3rd place in his class in Davao. There were no expenses; he's a scholar.” IDI 1 stated.

“We have many Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) who have succeeded, especially our graduating student. He was a beneficiary of our scholarship program, and we have been paying for his tuition every semester” IDI 4 stated.

These stories highlighted the transforming power of intervention programs on individuals, imparting qualities like responsibility, resilience, and determination that were essential for optimal behavioral development that led them to success. The study conducted by Ghayebi and Salehi (2023) examined the correlation between goal setting and achievement in intervention programs for juvenile delinquents. The findings of their study emphasized the effectiveness of goal-oriented methodologies in encouraging persistence, self-control, and motivation among juvenile delinquents. These programs enhanced engagement and promoted positive behavior modification by providing individuals with realistic and attainable objectives that were customized to their unique strengths and interests. As a result, these programs ultimately contributed to the success of rehabilitation endeavors.

INDIVIDUAL CHANGE AND GROWTH

The research participants described changes with positive experiences or turning points in their lives, reflecting on how these experiences catalyzed personal growth, shifted their perspective, or changed the trajectory of their lives.

“He attended school and also underwent assessments. The judge monitors him inside, he has no violations. It was seen that he changed. He was not a threat anymore to the community, so he was sent on vacation last December.” IDI 2

“Many young people have been restored, changed for the better, and become valuable community members. Some have even become successful, build families, and become responsible individuals...” IDI 7

Furthermore, IDI 6 story about a former participant launching a small bakery business exemplifies how intervention programs enabled people to become self-sufficient and positively contribute to their communities. This example demonstrated the larger societal advantages of intervention programs, which go beyond individual rehabilitation and promote community well-being and safety. Abeling-Judge (2021) illustrated this procedure through an investigation into the effects of therapeutic interventions on the personal narratives of juvenile offenders. The researcher identified themes of self-reflection, identity transformation, and resilience among delinquents participating in rehabilitation programs using qualitative analysis. The research outcomes underscored the profound impact that

interventions promoting introspection and self-awareness can have on juvenile delinquents. These results indicated that such strategies may enable substantial shifts in attitudes, behaviors, and life trajectories.

ON THE INSIGHTS ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

Participants' insights reflected the effectiveness of the interventions targeted at reducing juvenile criminality. For example, FGD 7 applauded the program's disciplined approach, indicating that protocols were strictly adhered to, creating an environment conducive to positive growth. This opinion is backed by the verbatim statement:

"Their improvement is evident, Ma'am. Compared to how they were before entering the program, their principles and what our children contribute are evident..." FGD 5

Similarly, IDI 3 expressed gratitude for the facilities that supported children's metamorphosis, indicating that the programs were quite beneficial. This view was echoed by the comment:

"It's very fortunate to have such facilities that can help the children" which validated the intervention programs' positive influence on juveniles.

The statements emphasized the perceived effectiveness of interventions in promoting positive transformation among juvenile offenders. These programs were aimed at addressing the underlying

issues that contributed to delinquent behavior while also providing assistance and direction to help adolescents effectively reintegrate into society. The good outcomes reported by participants indicated that these programs were meeting their objectives and making a significant difference in the lives of juvenile offenders.

TRANSFORMATIVE IMPROVEMENT

Transformative improvement of juveniles refers to significant positive changes in the behavior, attitudes, and life trajectories of young individuals, often within the context of the juvenile justice system or related intervention programs.

Participants reported actual improvements in numerous elements of juveniles' lives following an intervention. IDI 4 commented on the noticeable improvements in a child's conduct, saying:

“There have been a lot of changes. They have truly reformed, especially those who have completed rehabilitation.” IDI 4

This first-hand observation of behavioral alterations highlighted the intervention's effectiveness in promoting positive transformations in juvenile behavior.

The result of the study was supported by Javadi et al. (2019) which conducted a study to assess the effectiveness of juvenile delinquency intervention programs. The study looked at program outcomes as well as adolescents' personal growth after they had completed rehabilitation.

Marquez (2019) examined the notion of transformative improvement as it pertains to intervention programs designed to address juvenile delinquency. The researcher focused on how these programs strived to effectuate significant, constructive transformations in the lives of juvenile offenders, in addition to addressing delinquent conduct. The study underscored the profound impact that interventions with an emphasis on comprehensive development, individual progress, and societal reintegration can have. The study illustrated the processes and elements that contributed to transformative betterment in juvenile delinquents undergoing rehabilitation through an analysis of their narratives. These elements and processes encompassed the development of self-awareness, resilience, and pro-social skills. The research highlighted the significance of perceiving interventions for juvenile delinquency as prospects for substantial transformation, as opposed to solely punitive actions, to facilitate enduring favorable results for juvenile offenders.

POSITIVE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT

Juveniles may reflect on their experiences of personal progress and self-discovery, discussing how they have gained self-awareness, developed a sense of identity, and discovered their strengths, interests, and aspirations. These statements showed changes and positive progress and development of the juveniles:

IDI 3 elaborated; "He has undergone significant changes, especially in the spiritual aspect, because that really helped him. His performance at Bahay Pag-asa was commendable"

In addition, IDI 5 stated; "There have been many positive changes, especially in their outlook on life. It's no longer just about hanging out with friends like before..." The findings showed that intervention programs with comprehensive tactics, such as education, counseling, and vocational training that led to significant changes, were related to considerable improvements in juvenile behavior, attitude, and social skills, resulting in effective reintegration into society. The concept of positive progress and development was examined by Lugay (2019) in the context of intervention programs for juvenile delinquency. The primary objective of the research was to examine the application of positive youth development (PYD) frameworks. These frameworks prioritize the development of protective factors and strengths-based approaches among juvenile offenders. Lugay investigated how PYD programs foster optimism, self-confidence, and constructive social competencies, thereby facilitating constructive advancements and maturation among juvenile delinquents, via qualitative analysis.

ATTAINMENT OF GOALS THROUGH RELEVANT PROGRAMS

The relevance and tailoring of intervention programs emerged as crucial success factors. Participants stressed the rigorous creation of programs to meet the unique requirements and situations of

adolescents. FGD 3 emphasized the significance of aligning programs with juveniles' needs, noting:

"Yes, because these programs are intended for children's needs."

FGD 3

This emphasis on customization guarantees that therapies are effective at addressing the underlying causes of delinquency.

Participants also underlined the need to work together to monitor progress and ensure that objectives are met. IDI 5 emphasized the importance of teamwork in successful restoration, stating:

"As implementors, we monitored the progress of each child undergoing rehabilitation... a teamwork effort between the family, the child, and our office to achieve successful restoration." IDI 5. This collaborative approach maximized intervention effectiveness and promoted positive outcomes for juveniles.

The result of the study was supported by Pappas and Dent (2023) conducted a study that focused on relevant programs designed to improve juvenile behavior. The study looked into the importance of tailored intervention programs that addressed individual juveniles' distinct behavioral difficulties. Results showed that individualized programs that included cognitive-behavioral therapy, mentorship, and skill-building activities helped encourage positive behavioral changes in juveniles, supporting long-term rehabilitation, and lowering recidivism rates.

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Participants highlighted the joint efforts of numerous agencies and stakeholders to reduce juvenile delinquency. Effective coordination across numerous entities ensured that intervention initiatives were implemented correctly and had the most impact possible. IDI 7 GOLF highlighted the importance. Effective coordination across numerous entities ensured that intervention initiatives were implemented correctly and had the most impact possible.

IDI 7 emphasized the importance of collaboration and stated:

"Everything is now well-organized, and proper implementation will occur across all offices. The main purpose of this is the restoration of the child." This collaborative approach reflects a shared commitment to addressing underlying issues and promoting positive change in juveniles.

The statements have illustrated the joint efforts of diverse stakeholders in tackling juvenile delinquency, emphasizing the need for coordinated action to reduce delinquency rates and support the successful rehabilitation of young offenders. These collaborative approaches incorporated partnerships between government agencies, rehabilitation institutes, families, and the community to successfully address the underlying reasons for delinquent conduct and provide comprehensive support to juvenile offenders.

**ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY**

SEPARATE DETENTION CENTER

Participants emphasized the importance of constructing separate detention facilities for children in conflict with the law (CICL) to safeguard their safety and well-being. IDI 1 underlined the significance of isolating kids from adult detainees and advocated for a separate institution for juvenile offenders.

This advice was reinforced by the statement, "For me, minors should only be with minors, and they should be separated (from adult detainees)," which is what we are asking here at the station.

Furthermore, worries about overcrowding and inadequate facilities highlighted the significance of this approach. IDI 3 emphasized overcrowding and the need for more resources to appropriately accommodate juvenile offenders.

The line "The facility is overcrowded..." reinforces this notion.

ADEQUATE RESOURCES AND ADDITIONAL REHABILITATION CENTERS

Participants stressed the significance of allocating enough resources and opening new rehabilitation institutions to properly support intervention programs. IDI 3 emphasized the necessity of the resources in the rehabilitation centers. This recommendation was supported by the statement:

"The water supply and the facilities need to be expanded." IDI 3

Furthermore, participants emphasized the importance of comfortable and safe space in guiding their children. IDI 4 and FGD 6 stressed the importance of adequate resources and additional rehabilitation centers. This proposal was backed by the statement:

“Shelter and resources for their center are essential.” FGD 6

The result of the study was supported by Butts and Pfaff (2019) conducted a study to assess the demand for enough resources and more rehabilitation facilities for juvenile delinquency intervention programs. The study looked at how resource allocation, infrastructure development, and capacity-building efforts affected the success of juvenile offenders' rehabilitation programs. The findings revealed that investing in more rehabilitation centers, larger facilities, and increased staffing levels was critical for fulfilling the growing demand for juvenile delinquent services, assuring timely access to interventions, and enhancing overall program outcomes.

EMPHASIS ON PARENTAL AWARENESS

Participants also emphasized the need to provide support to children and raise parental understanding in managing juvenile delinquency. In interviews, one participant stated:

“We need to support the program, and it's also essential for parents to undergo seminars because discipline begins at home. So, aside from supporting the children, we also need to support the parents to ensure the effectiveness and success of the programs and services we provide to them...” Another participant highlighted:

“Support for the child and raising awareness among parents is crucial, as discipline starts within the family...” In focus group discussions, participants expressed similar opinions. One participant stated:

"As a parent, support is crucial. Some of us here are not informed and unaware of the programs in our locality." FGD 4

Another commented, "We must strengthen these programs and involve our parents, as they will guide their children after rehabilitation." The result of the study was supported by Carr (2019) conducted a study that emphasized child support and family knowledge in juvenile delinquency interventions. The study looked at how parental participation, education, and support services affected the rehabilitation results of juvenile offenders. Interventions that included parental engagement and awareness-raising initiatives were associated with improved familial relationships, stronger social support networks, and better long-term outcomes for juvenile offenders, highlighting the importance of holistic approaches to addressing juvenile delinquency.

ADHERING TO GUIDELINES AND EXISTING PROGRAMS

The participants emphasized the necessity of following standards and providing ongoing support for current intervention programs. IDI 7 stressed the importance of continuing to support current projects while also assuring their efficacy through regular assessment. This proposal was backed by the phrase:

"Just continue with the existing programs, and everyone should cooperate." Furthermore, the participants emphasized the need for continual development and benchmarking against successful programs to increase effectiveness. FGD 5 and IDI 7 stressed the importance of

continuous evaluation and adaption of intervention tactics. This recommendation was backed by the statement below:

"In assessing what other programs can still be done and supporting existing programs."

To summarize, recommendations for improving the implementation of juvenile delinquency intervention programs include establishing separate detention centers, allocating adequate resources, raising parental awareness, and ensuring adherence to guidelines while supporting existing programs through continuous assessment and improvement efforts.

The result of the study was supported by Gannon et al. (2019) who conducted a study to assess the importance of following rules and giving support in existing juvenile delinquency programs. The study investigated the impact of consistently adhering to established guidelines and providing continuing support to juvenile offenders engaged in intervention programs. These results showed that programs with rigorous adherence to rules and constant support mechanisms had greater rates of program completion, better participant outcomes, and lower recidivism rates among juvenile offenders.

IMPLICATION FOR PRACTICE

Based on the extensive insights obtained from numerous stakeholders involved in juvenile delinquency prevention, some major implications for practice emerged. Practitioners must prioritize

adherence to established principles when designing, implementing, and evaluating early intervention programs into place to identify and address risk factors for delinquency. This could be family support services, community outreach initiatives, or focused school interventions. Investing in preventive measures such as quality education, access to extracurricular activities, mentorship programs, and community engagement can create positive environments that reduce the likelihood of delinquent behavior.

Further, practitioners should promote collaboration and coordination, acknowledging the value of pooling additional resources from various stakeholders, including law enforcement, social services, schools, and community organizations. Investing in well-equipped facilities such as rehabilitation centers, youth shelters, recreational areas, and educational institutions can provide safe and constructive environments for at-risk youth. These spaces can offer opportunities for positive social interactions, skill-building activities, and mentorship programs. Working together, practitioners may create complete, integrated programs with available physical resources that address the various needs of at-risk children and encourage their healthy development.

Furthermore, interventions should be tailored to the specific needs, strengths, and circumstances of each juvenile offender. Practitioners should take a person-centered approach, taking into account the socio-cultural, psychological, and developmental aspects that influence delinquent conduct, and customize interventions accordingly to

address underlying causes and encourage long-term positive transformation. Additionally, practitioners should aggressively engage parents and communities as partners in the therapeutic process.

Moreover, efforts to increase awareness, improve capacity, and assist parents and communities can have a substantial impact on the success of intervention programs and juvenile offenders' long-term well-being. A child's behavior and decision-making process were greatly influenced by parental guidance, which in turn affected the possibility that the juveniles would commit crimes. Parents are often the first role models for children. By instilling strong moral and ethical values, parents can help children understand the difference between right and wrong. Teaching empathy, respect, and honesty may lay the groundwork for making positive choices and avoiding criminal behavior. Overall, by putting these implications into practice, stakeholders can strive toward more effective and long-lasting measures for combating juvenile crime and encouraging healthy youth development.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the insights gained from a thorough examination of numerous areas of juvenile delinquency intervention shed light on both the successes and shortcomings of the juvenile justice system. From grasping the significance of these programs to stressing child support and parental awareness, combating juvenile delinquency demands a complex and collaborative approach. The restorative justice policy is

concerned with four sectors that were affected by the crime: the victim, the offender, their families, and the community. Acceptance of the responsibilities of the offenders, repairing the harm, and doing no harm in the future are vital values that should be instilled among the offenders while they are still in the youth facility. This approach may deter the commission of future harm and provide a smooth transition for their eventual integration into the community.

The findings showed the necessity for adherence to recommendations and support for existing programs, emphasizing the necessity of ensuring consistency and efficacy in intervention efforts.

Furthermore, the request for additional resources and our rehabilitation center emphasized the importance of appropriately preparing systems to accommodate the different needs of at-risk adolescents within our community. Despite the progress made, issues remained, such as the establishment of distinct detention facilities for children in conflict with the law ensuring that these facilities are safe, humane, and conducive to rehabilitation. Providing appropriate educational, vocational, and recreational opportunities within these facilities can help prepare youth for successful reintegration into society. By strategically allocating additional physical resources and integrating them into existing intervention and prevention efforts, communities can create more comprehensive and effective responses to juvenile delinquency, ultimately promoting positive youth development and community safety.

Parental awareness plays a critical role in preventing and addressing juvenile delinquency. Parents are often the first and most influential agents of socialization for children. They shape their children's values, beliefs, and behaviors through direct interactions, modeling, and guidance. A secure attachment between parents and children provides a foundation of emotional security and stability. Children who have strong bonds with their parents are less likely to engage in delinquent behavior as they have a support system to turn to during times of stress or conflict. Parents who actively monitor their children's activities and whereabouts are better able to identify potential risk factors and intervene early to prevent delinquency. Parental awareness may empower parents to implement preventive measures to reduce the risk of delinquency. By staying informed, involved, and supportive, parents can play a central role in promoting the well-being and positive development of their children, ultimately reducing the likelihood of delinquent behavior.

Furthermore, the morals, values, and beliefs of the community are essential to the development of the children's positive behavior. To improve peaceful community relations, community leaders, elders, and other stakeholders have to demonstrate to the youth the attitudes and behaviors that are crucial. These can be achieved by using peaceful conflict resolution techniques including mediation, family conferences, and dialogue. All community members must work together cooperatively to achieve restorative justice. The institutionalization of the juvenile justice system in the Philippines is marked by a few lapses

in its implementation, further reforms are still required to fully understand what restorative justice entails.

Moreover, there is a clear mandate for ongoing study and action to improve the juvenile justice system, promote positive behavioral development, and encourage stakeholder collaboration. By harnessing these insights and implementing evidence-based techniques, members of the community can work toward a more fair and effective approach to juvenile delinquency intervention, resulting in safer communities and brighter prospects for the young generation.

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