



Effects of Correctional Services on Juvenile Delinquents: A Qualitative Study of Borstal Institutions & Juvenile Jails in Punjab, Pakistan

Rana Sumair Khalil¹, Dr. Sonia Omer²

1. Lecturer in Social work at Higher Education Department, Punjab, Pakistan, Email: sumairt.r@gmail.com
2. Associate Professor of Social work, at Quaid Azam Campus University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan, Email: sonia.dsw@pu.edu.pk

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Abstract

Juvenile delinquency is a social phenomenon affecting every society around the globe. The paper attempts to investigate the causes of Juvenile Delinquency (JD) and the effects of correctional services (CS) on Juveniles at Borstal institutions & Juvenile Jails of Punjab Pakistan. Interview guide as tool of data collection is used to collect information from juvenile and two focused group discussion were made to record the opinions of correctional staff. Reflexive Thematic analysis developed by Braun and Clerk (2006) was used to develop themes from interviews and Focus group discussions. The research found economic deprivation, peer group pressure and use of media as primary cause of juvenile delinquency. Furthermore, correctional services like religious education, ethical and moral rehabilitation are imparting resilience, effective time management attributes in juveniles. The research suggested the establishment of correctional laws and criminal victim mediation mechanisms for effective and sustainable rehabilitation of juveniles in Punjab Pakistan.

Keywords: Corrections, Juvenile Rehabilitation, Juvenile Delinquent, Borstal Institutions, Social Work with Juvenile

Introduction

Juvenile delinquency is an important issue that continues to effect every society around the globe. This phenomenon of engaging young offenders in criminal acts not only possess challenges for themselves, but effects the social organization of society. (Abbas and Mehmood, 2022) Juveniles delinquency is defined as, “criminal behavior committed by individuals under the age of 18 years” (Baglivio and Wolff, 2016). Many factors like poverty, broken families, illiteracy , and bad company of peer are involved behind their involvement in delinquent behavior (Amber, 2015). Juvenile delinquency is a complex issue that require a multifaceted approach to be addressed, while some preventive measures such as incarceration may serve as deterrent to juvenile delinquency, but it often fails to find out the actual causes of juvenile delinquency and do little to rehabilitate the individuals(Ambreen and Fayyaz, 2017). The response to curb juvenile delinquency as social problem is to form the institution that serves rehabilitation services to juvenile delinquents (Calley, 2012). The main purpose of rehabilitation programs in form of correctional services are provide them necessary support and socializes them to reintegrate and lead a productive life after release(Jamil, 2021). As for as the philosophical background of corrections is concerned, In reformatory approach of corrections it is believed that a person is sent to the prison as punishment not for punishment(Barrett and Katsiyannis, 2016). This aspect shows the importance of rehabilitation services for juvenile offenders during their detention. This highlights the under study

phenomenon, the detention period must positively impact the life of a delinquent, as juvenile delinquency require comprehensive programs of rehabilitation(Riaz and Zia, 2023). In the general context of Pakistan, it is believed that parole and probation are the only methods to reform an imprisoned character. These both are pre and post sentence release mechanisms to shorten the burden of overcrowding and facilitation misdemeanors (Saeed and Khushhal, 2020). The period which juvenile spent in the prison goes unattended to meet the needs of sustainable rehabilitation. That’s why the prisons and Juvenile detention facilities should provide such a reformatory accommodation to the juvenile which can be helpful for them rapidly integrate into society. Reformatory approach in corrections advocates that this reformation must restore his worth and dignity provide him social and economic independency (Kausar and Nadeem, 2012). Punjab is the largest province of Pakistan with highest density of population and resources as well. The 64 percent population of Punjab is residing in villages and rest of 36 % residence in cities of Punjab¹. Juvenile delinquency had become a major concern of rural and urban population in Punjab Pakistan. Scholarly efforts along with social protection initiatives had been taken by Government in Punjab but the issue is being increased at the pace of 13% per annum (Table 1).

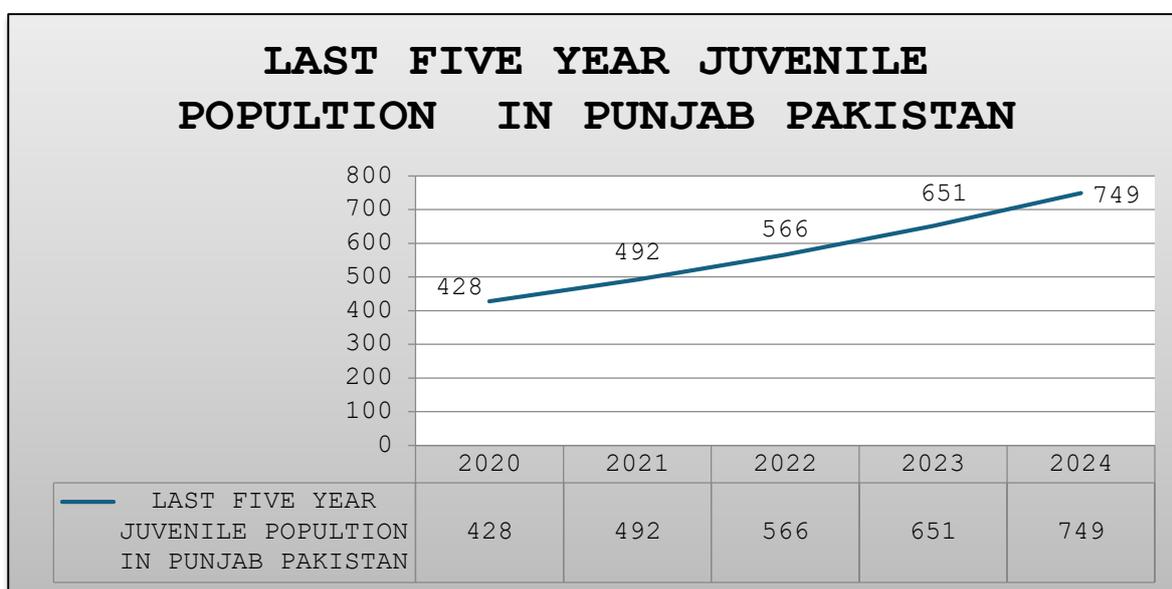


Table I. Source: Society of Human rights and Prisoner Aid (SHARP) Annual Report 2024.

The recent Statistics of Prison Department in Punjab reflects, at present, there are total 856 juvenile offenders incarcerated in the prisons of Punjab¹. These juveniles are categorized in different categories of crime and majorly segregated as Sentenced or under trial juvenile. Most of the juvenile are housed in Borstal institution and Juvenile Jails in Punjab Pakistan. In Punjab, there are total 43 prisons, all of the prisons have separate accommodation to keep juvenile aside from the adult criminals(Sajid and Ahmad, 2021). There are only two Juvenile prisons in Punjab who are mandated, by Juvenile Justice System act 2018 to house the juvenile delinquents. These Juvenile detention facilities are known as Borstal Institution and Juvenile Jails situated in the cities of Bahawalpur and Faisalabad.

Literature Review

Juvenile delinquency is an escalating social concern in developing regions like Punjab, Pakistan, where overpopulation, illiteracy, and fragile family structures are common(Murtaza et al., 2021). High population density places intense pressure on social and economic systems, resulting in limited educational and employment opportunities for youth. Illiteracy further isolates juveniles from understanding societal norms, making them more vulnerable to criminal influence. The breakdown of the family unit whether due to domestic violence, neglect, or

¹www.prisons.punjab.gov.pk/statistics/prisoners.

parental absence removes the emotional and moral support children require, pushing many toward peer groups that normalize deviant behavior (Mushtaq and Shahid, 2023). These conditions often contribute to a sense of alienation, where delinquency becomes a misguided path to recognition or survival (Nisar, 2015). Efforts to rehabilitate juvenile offenders in Punjab have historically been shaped by colonial-era policies, particularly the Punjab Borstal Act of 1926 (Hinton, 2012). This act introduced the concept of Borstal Institutions aimed at rehabilitating young offenders through training and moral education rather than punishment (Noor, 2020). Following independence, legislative changes like the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance (JJSO) of 2000 aimed to modernize juvenile justice through reforms such as separate trials and protections against capital punishment (Bhuta, 2010). However, implementation has remained largely ineffective. Many juveniles still continue to be detained with adult offenders under harsh and unsupervised conditions, often lacking basic educational or psychological support (Ahmad and Wassan, 2022).

In 2018, the Juvenile Justice System Act (JJSA) was enacted to bring Pakistan's legal framework closer to international standards, emphasizing rehabilitation over incarceration. This included the establishment of Juvenile Justice Committees (JJs) and certified institutions meant to provide correctional services to the juveniles (Amber, 2015). At present, Punjab operates only two juvenile specific institutions: Borstal & Juvenile Jail Faisalabad and Bahawalpur. These facilities are governed by outdated prison laws and are under resourced (Saeed and Khushhal, 2020). Earlier vocational training programs like tailoring and carpentry, once part of rehabilitation efforts, have been discontinued since the enactment of JJSO 2000 (Rose, 2017). Although probation and parole options exist under older laws, these alternatives are rarely used due to weak administrative capacity and lack of coordination (Jamil, 2021). Research on juvenile rehabilitation remains limited. Jamil (2021) found that most juveniles in Borstal Jail Bahawalpur receive inadequate education and counselling, and that socio economic hardship and parental neglect are common among offenders. This aligns with findings from Sajid, (2009) and others, who argue that the juvenile justice system remains more punitive than reformative. Despite some legal advances, there is a clear gap in ethnographic research exploring the lived experiences of these youth. Qualitative insights are essential for understanding the social, emotional, and institutional forces shaping juvenile delinquency and the real world impact of existing correctional services (Barrett and Katsiyannis, 2016).

Research Objectives

- To find out the causes of Juvenile delinquents in Borstal institutions of Punjab.
- To investigate the effects of correctional services on juvenile offenders.
- To inquire the perceptions of other stakeholders (correctional staff) about correctional services for juvenile delinquents.

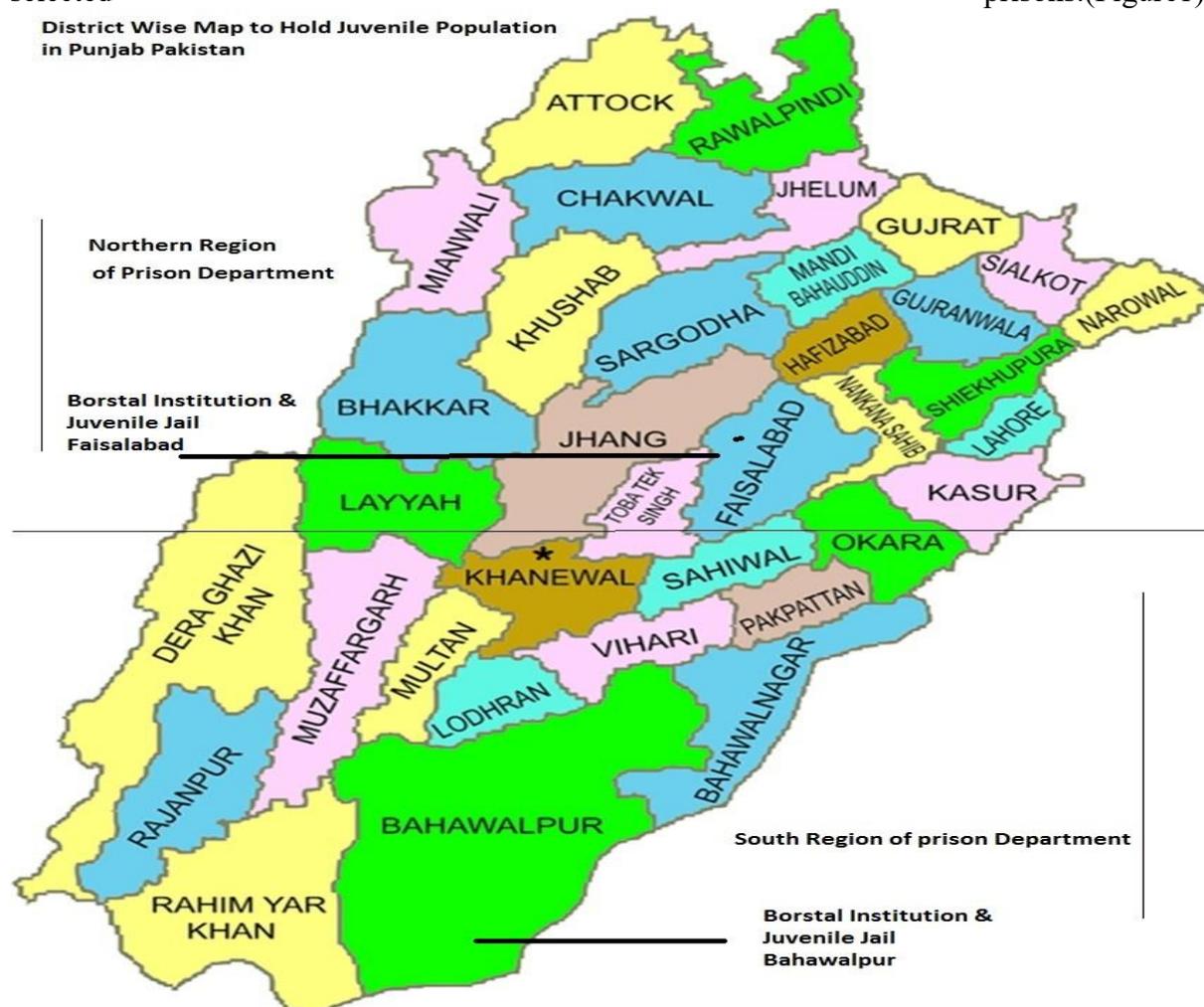
Methodology

For this research, an ethnographic methodology was adopted to gain an in depth qualitative understanding of the lived experiences of juvenile delinquents in Punjab's Borstal institutions. Ethnography has become a crucial qualitative approach for understanding correctional settings, especially regarding juvenile offenders (Kamal et al., 2014). Researchers use methods like participant observation and interviews to uncover the lived experiences of young inmates and the institutional forces shaping behavior and rehabilitation.

Universe

Punjab is the most populated province of Pakistan, universe of the study of this research consists of Juvenile Detention centres, officially termed as Borstal institutions and Juvenile Jails, of Prison Department Government of Punjab Pakistan. At present in the Province of Punjab Pakistan, there are two Borstal institutions & juvenile Jails working under the administrative control of prison Department Government of the Punjab (HRCP, 2014). These Borstal Institutions & Juvenile Jails are in the cities of Faisalabad and Bahawalpur. The Borstal

Institution and Juvenile Jail Faisalabad can house the prison population belongs to Central and Northern Region of Punjab Province, where as the Borstal institution and Juvenile Jail Bahawalpur deals with the Juvenile population of Southern and Western region of Punjab Pakistan. The Human universe of the research are the sentenced juvenile delinquents from selected prisons.(Figure1).



[Figure-1]

Selection Criteria of the respondents.

- **Inclusive criteria of Juvenile respondents**

The respondents of this research study was categorized is two groups. The first group of respondents were the 25 Juveniles (12 from Juvenile jail Faisalabad and 13 from Juvenile jail Bahawalpur) who were interviewed and imprisoned in the Borstal institutions of study. The research adopted a three point inclusive criteria of juvenile in this study.

1. The juvenile must be a sentenced juvenile.
2. He must be enrolled in any correctional service (program) at Borstal institution.
3. He, Juvenile must be incarcerated at Borstal Institution since last 6 months.

- **Inclusive criteria for the participants of Focus group discussion**

The researcher applied a purposive sampling technique to select the participants of Focus group discussion.

The inclusive criteria for the participants of Focus group discussion were based on the following conditions.

1. The Participant of Focus Group discussion must have direct interaction with Juvenile.
2. The Participant have at least minimum three years of employment experience in prison department.
3. The participant must have a role assigned to him for the care/ custody / rehabilitation of juveniles.

Sample Size.

According to the statistics provided at official web site of prison department at present there are 861 juvenile delinquents are present in the all 43 prison of the Punjab. From these 43 prisons there are total 311 sentenced juveniles, 71 Sentenced juveniles are kept in Borstal Jail Faisalabad and 94 in Borstal jail Bahawalpur. The available statistics provide the sufficient sample size to conduct the study. (Table –II)

Juvenile population statistics at Borstal institutions and Juvenile Jails in Punjab, Pakistan					
Sr no	Name of Prison	Under trail / un-convicted	Sentenced/ convicted	total	Sample Size taken from convicted
1	Borstal Institution and Juvenile Jail Faisalabad (North Region)	107	71	178	12
2	Borstal Institution and Juvenile Jail Bahawalpur (Southern Region)	39	94	133	13
	Total	146	179	311	25

Table –II **Source:** www.prisons.punjab.gov.pk/prisoners/statistics. Accessed on 05-08-2025.

A purposive sample of 25 participants (convicted Juveniles), was selected to participate in interviews guided by a structured interview protocol, enabling an exploration of their personal experiences and perceptions. Moreover, two focus group discussions (one in each institution) was conducted with staff members of the correctional institutes to incorporate their opinions on the effectiveness of the facilities and the rehabilitation process offered to juveniles.

Process of interviewing

To conduct the interviews, researcher was provided a separate room in the hospital of concerned Borstal Institution and juvenile jail, where a Warden (Security official) of Prison was calling the participants and sending them towards interviewer for interview. Each interview was conducted in Urdu language as this language was easy to understand by the participant of the researcher. Each interview of the participant consumed 30-45 minutes and the research kept on interviewing the participants of study till he reaches to the point of saturation.

Focus group discussion

The researcher was provided a room in the vocational school of each borstal institution for the focus group discussion with ten members of correctional staff and security staff. The researcher firstly writes down the question related to his research objective, then keep asking the question to the security and correctional staff and keep managing handouts for further analysis. The session of focus group discussion covered the participant personal experience about the cause of juvenile delinquency, the impact of correctional services on juvenile and their expert opinion about the betterment of correctional services. Each session of Focus group discussion continues about 90 minutes. During that time research recoded their perceptions and opinion in the shape of handouts. Which were further re arranged and compiled to drive themes and locate supporting statements.

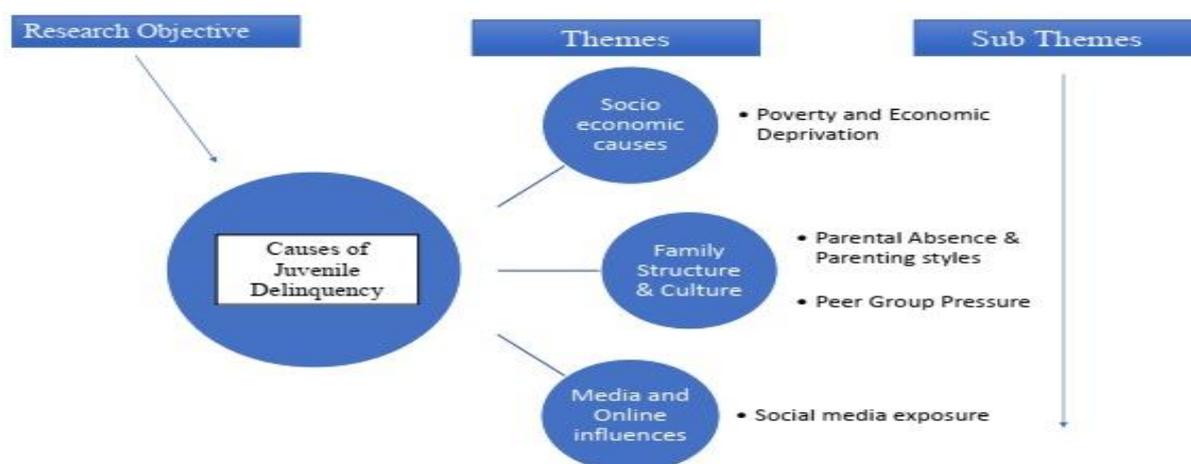
Data Analysis

Reflexive thematic analysis approach developed by Braun and Clerk (2006) is used to drive themes from the interview schedules and focus group discussion the following table discussed the research objectives, proposed themes and Sub themes collected during the phase of data collection. (Table III)

Codes and sub codes from the interview schedule of juvenile delinquents			
Sr no	Research Objective	Domain of themes	Final Codes and Themes
1	Causes of Juvenile Delinquency	Socio Economic Reason of juvenile delinquency	Sub theme-1: Poverty and Economic Deprivation (PED)
		Family Structure / Dynamics and Parenting Styles	Sub theme -2: Parental Absence & Parenting styles Domestic Instability (PA&PS)
2	Effects of Correctional Services	Individual effects of correctional services	Sub theme-3: Peer group pressure PGP
			Sub theme - 4: Social Media Exposure EOP
			Sub theme - 5: Access to Adult and Semi Adult Materials ACAM
			Sub theme-6: Resilience
			Sub theme-7: Conflict Resolution
			Sub theme-8: Effective Time Management.
			Sub theme-9: Reconstruction of ethics and morality.
			Sub theme-10: Analytical reasoning

Causes of Juvenile delinquency

The research depicted that Socio-economic factors, family structure and Media influences are primary reasons of juvenile delinquency in Punjab. These themes are further supported with the sub themes reflected in the Figure 2.



[Figure 2]

- **Poverty and Economic Deprivation**

The researcher found that Poverty and economic hardship are key drivers of juvenile crime in Punjab. Many children from low-income families are pushed into criminal behavior due to

hunger, lack of education, and absence of social support. This theme is reflected in the narratives of juveniles detained in prisons.

A boy (ID 14) states that he began stealing after his father lost his job.

“There was no food at home. My mother borrowed money from neighbors, but it wasn’t enough. I used to sell vegetables, but we earned too little. One day, I took a phone from a man’s pocket. I planned to sell it and buy food. I knew it was wrong, but I didn’t see another way.”

This narrative shows how survival needs can lead children into theft. The act was not out of greed, but desperation caused by ongoing poverty.

Another boy (ID 15) shares a similar experience.

“My younger brother was sick, and we didn’t have money for medicine. I was working in a workshop, but they paid me very little. I stole a mobile phone from a shop. I thought I could sell it and help my family. I was caught and brought here. I regret it, but at that time, I felt helpless”.

This account highlights how financial pressure forces juveniles to make risky choices, often to support their families.

A correctional officer at a juvenile facility explains:

“Most of the boys here are from very poor families. Many of them never went to school. They work from a young age and often get involved in petty theft or gangs. They don’t see any future, so crime becomes a way to survive.”

This insight confirms that poverty is a common background factor among the youth in detention.

- **Parental Absence and Parenting styles**

The research depicted that Parental Absence and parenting styles are also one of the major reasons of Juvenile delinquency in Punjab whether due to death, separation, migration, or neglect—has a strong influence on juvenile delinquency in Punjab. In many cases, children lack guidance, emotional support, or supervision, which increases their vulnerability to criminal behavior. Poor or harsh parenting styles also contribute to aggression and poor decision-making in youth.

A boy (ID 13) shares that he grew up without his father, who left the family when he was six:

“My mother worked in homes all day. No one checked what I was doing. I stayed out late with older boys from the street. They drank and stole things. I started going with them. At first, I was scared, but they said it was normal. No one ever stopped me or told me it was wrong.”

This shows how a lack of parental supervision and role models can lead to involvement in harmful peer groups and criminal acts.

Another boy (ID 16) describes growing up with a violent father:

“My father used to beat me and my mother. He shouted all the time. I was always angry. One day I got into a fight at school and broke a boy’s nose. Then I started fighting on the streets too. I was arrested after a serious fight where a boy got hurt.”

These narratives reflect how harsh parenting and domestic violence can create emotional instability, leading to aggression and eventual delinquent behavior.

Correctional official (ID 7) states:

“A lot of these boys either have no father figure or have experienced abuse at home. Some are raised by single mothers who are too busy earning. Others come from broken families where no one cares what the child is doing. Without strong parenting, these boys are more likely to fall into crime.”

Parental absence and unhealthy parenting styles play a critical role in shaping the behavior of juveniles. Without love, attention, and moral guidance, children often turn to the streets for identity and support, where they are easily influenced by criminal elements.

- **Peer Group Pressure**

The research depicted that peer group pressure is a significant factor influencing juvenile delinquency. Many juveniles in Punjab report that they were influenced or encouraged by friends or older youth to engage in illegal activities. For children growing up in poverty or without parental guidance, peer groups often become a substitute family sometimes with damaging consequences.

A boy (ID 10) explains how he was influenced by older boys in his area:

“I used to play cricket in the street. Some older boys gave me money to hide something in my school bag. Later I found out it was drugs. They said I’d get into trouble if I told anyone. After that, I started delivering for them. They treated me like a younger brother. I felt respected.”

This case shows how peer pressure can begin with manipulation and gradually turn into criminal involvement, especially when emotional needs like belonging and respect are being fulfilled by the group.

Another boy (ID 05) was arrested for robbing a shop with his friends:

“I didn’t even want to go. But all my friends were going, and they said I was scared. I wanted to prove I was brave. I didn’t think we’d get caught. But now I’m here. None of them even came to visit me.”

His statement reflects how peer expectations and fear of rejection can lead children to commit crimes they wouldn’t consider on their own.

A correctional official (ID-12) explained:

“Many of these juveniles are not the main criminals. They follow others. The older boys use them because they’re minors, and the punishment is lighter. These kids just want to fit in or earn respect from their peers.”

Peer pressure plays a significant role in juvenile crime. Children seeking acceptance or identity may fall into dangerous circles where crime is normalized. Without proper guidance or safe social spaces, they become easy targets for exploitation.

- **Exposure to social media, Adult and semi-Adult Material**

The study explored that increasing use of smart phones and unregulated internet access among youth in Punjab has made juveniles more vulnerable to harmful content online. Social media platforms often expose children to violence, criminal behavior, and adult or semi adult content. These platforms not only influence their thinking but also create unrealistic desires, leading some to commit crimes to imitate or attain what they see.

A boy (ID 18) share:

“I started watching short videos online. Some showed boys with bikes, money, and girls. They said stealing phones was easy money. I thought I could do the same. I stole a phone from a shop, but I was caught. I just wanted to be like them.”

This narrative shows how glamorized crime on social media can influence juvenile behavior.

Another boy (ID 06) reveals:

“I watched videos and movies online; some were not for kids. I became more aggressive. I started teasing girls at school and later got into a fight when someone stopped me. I didn’t realize it was wrong at the time—it felt normal because I saw it online so often.”

These facts show how repeated exposure to inappropriate content affects behavior, especially when there's no parental monitoring or digital literacy.

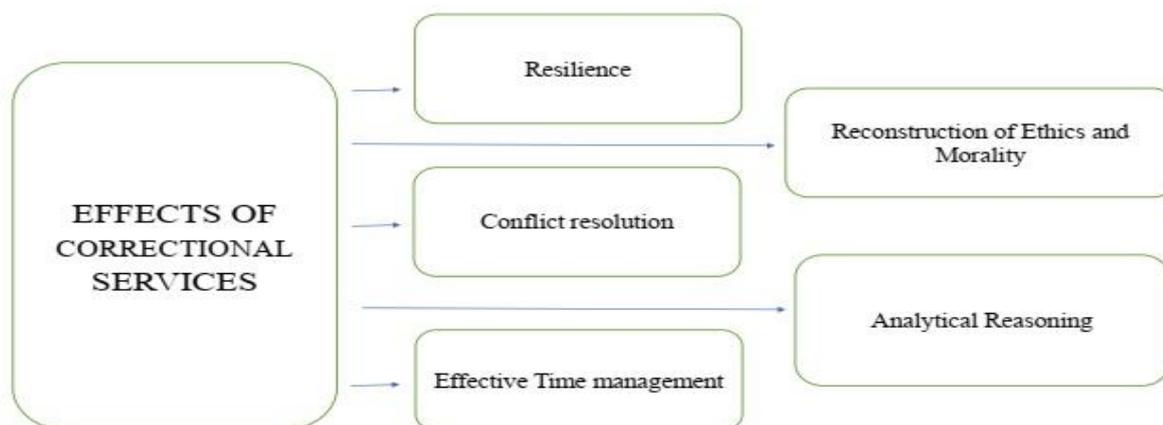
A correctional official (ID 02)share:

“Many juveniles say they learned things from TikTok, YouTube, or adult websites. Without control at home, they copy what they see. Social media has become a silent teacher for better or worse.”

Uncontrolled exposure to social media and adult content shapes juvenile attitudes and behavior in negative ways. These platforms often become a source of imitation and misguidance, especially in the absence of parental supervision. Digital awareness and content regulation are essential to prevent this form of influence.

Effects of correctional service

It is observed that Vocational training, Religious and moral education, psychological help and health services are being provided to the juveniles as correctional services to the juvenile incarcerated in Borstal institutions of Punjab. This section of the research interprets the effects of correctional services on the behavior of juvenile delinquents. This research found that resilience, conflict resolution strategies, effective time management, analytical reasoning to routine interactions and reconstruction of ethics and morality are being learned by juveniles.[Figure3]



[Figure3]

- **Resilience**

The researcher found that correctional services are significantly impacting the juveniles as these services are building resilience in juveniles. An inmate From Borstal and Juvenile Jail Bahawalpur, (ID 16) reported that before committing this offence ,

“I use to fight with others, Because of my angry nature”. That time I felt that if my friends or anyone else had asked something against my Expectations. “ I Must have right to Fight /Quarrel with him”

another Inmate(ID-18) of Borstal Jail Bahawalpur reported the same thing about his aggressive nature, that before commission of offence

“I feel that negativity or thing against our expectation must be tackled with power and control her remarked as“ I had to put down other voice with power that I had”

Respondent (ID-8)expressed now I had spent there almost one and half year and the change that I feel in my personally is that

“Correctional Service had imparted resilience in my behavior”.

Another respondent (ID-05) expressed that.

“A person can also live a happy live being resilient to his misfortune , economic losses and anger as well”.

A Participant of Focus Group discussion (ID-02) at Borstal institution and Juvenile Jail Faisalabad, reported that.

“Many offenders are extremely violent, when they enter in Borstal institutions. They remain fighting with others. But as they are Socialized herewith ethical and moral activities makes them calm and, they let things to be decided by fate”.

Based on narratives of respondents and correctional official, the researcher concluded that correctional services are building resilience in the behavior’s of juvenile delinquents.

- **Conflict resolution through correctional services**

The research depicted that correctional services are playing a positive role in developing conflict resolution skills among juveniles through structured programs, including moral and ethical education. Religious teachers conduct regular sessions focused on patience, empathy, and non-violence, helping juveniles manage anger and resolve disputes peacefully.

A juvenile (ID 21) state:

“Since attending the ethical and moral education classes by the religious teacher, I’ve started thinking before reacting. I’ve learned that forgiving others and staying calm is better than fighting. This is helping me build peace in my personality.”

On the other hand, in a Focus group discussion, when a police official (ID-19) was inquired about why Juvenile commit offence. Official replied.

“They are Child, at this age, They are not mentally mature enough to take appropriate decisions. It might be because of this young Energetic Blood, Illiteracy, or anger, But Wrong decisions brought them here. So, the correctional psychologist must work on telling them how to react in a particular situation, especially when you elders are there to solve the disputes.”

The above mentioned reflection of respondents and correctional staff reflects that religious education is being utilized as an effective tool to re-socialize and change the negative though patterns of juvenile delinquents.

- **Effective Time Management**

Research has found that correctional services in Borstal institutions and juvenile jails in Punjab are actively imparting time management skills to juveniles. Through structured daily routines, vocational training, and scheduled educational sessions, juveniles are learning how to organize their day productively. This disciplined environment helps them develop habits of planning, responsibility, and goal setting for life after release.

A Respondent (ID-6) of District Kasur, incarcerated in case of Robbery, at Borstal institution and Juvenile jail Faisalabad since 2022, said that

“Here in Borstal institution we remain busy in different tasks and activities whole day from 7.00 am to 5.00 pm. This brings a message to us that we should also have managed our time before the commission of offence. We had learned from this time schedule that how Slow and steady, we can pursue are goals in life. Because life had no short cut for success”

Alongside this statement a Correctional staff member from Borstal institution and Juvenile Jail Bahawalpur (ID-17), reported the same thing.

“The Philosophy behind a scheduled reformation of juveniles is to learn, how to use effective time management. Sometime new inmates of correctional facility here got late in joining drill , Prayer and other activities . But we strictly compel them to join these activities well in time. Because our Religion and Ethical code of conduct, instructs us the punctuality of time”.

- **Reconstructing of Ethics and morality**

Research indicates that correctional services in Borstal institutions and juvenile jails are helping juveniles reconstruct their ethics and moral values. Through religious education, counselling sessions, and character-building programs, juveniles are guided to differentiate between right and wrong. These interventions promote socially acceptable behavior and support their reintegration into society with a reformed mindset.

A Respondent (ID-14) from Borstal institution and Juvenile jail Bahawalpur, stated that before incarceration.

“I see the world through material means, As I have the opinion that who have money, can have almost everything in life”.

But religious classes at Borstal institution, I had witnessed another side of picture, here we had learned that money cannot bring happiness to life.

“It is Care, resilience and our pious behavior that can bring happiness to life”.

Supporting the same stance another Correctional Staff (ID-19), from Borstal Institution Bahawalpur, said

“I think that people commit crime because of disturbed morality and ethical malfunctioning, we the prison departments must keep trying to strengthen the ethics and morality through religious education and moral support. This will ultimately help the juveniles to get rid of criminality”.

- **Analytical reasoning**

The researcher found that Correctional services are also working to build analytical reasoning skills among juveniles to help them recognize and avoid trap strategies used by criminal groups. Educational workshops and group discussions focus on identifying manipulation tactics, peer pressure, and deceptive promises. Juveniles are taught to think critically before making decisions and to question the intentions behind risky offers. This approach empowers them to protect themselves from exploitation and make informed, responsible choices.

A respondent from Borstal institution and Juvenile Jail Bahawalpur (ID-14), who had the opinion that I had committed a murder being pumped by friends. He reported that when

“I told the story of my criminality to parole officer at Borstal jail, he realized me that I had been used for others motive. So, I understand that Borstal Institution helps us to understand the social construction of criminality.

A Correctional official at Borstal Institution Bahawalpur (CS-15) share the similar stance that

“A child cannot make the decision of right and wrong, we have to tell him moral lesson, that always keep awake, keep open your eyes, observe the things with open mind and eyes, never believe in others observations. People around these offenders are much clever. Always look at all aspects of a phenomena before taking any step-in life”

Discussions

This article was an attempt to explore the causes of juvenile delinquency and the effects of correctional services on juveniles in Borstal institutions of in Punjab Pakistan. Through in depth interview of juveniles, and focus group discussion with staff of these institution, it is explored that Religious and Moral Education, Vocational training, psychological help and recreational services are being provided to juvenile as correctional services to impact the incarcerated life of respondents. The observations of the researcher find that these services are provided to all the respondents including convicted and under trial. It was also observed that juveniles are incarcerated more than the sanctioned capacity. Moreover, the vocational training facilities like wood working workshop, knitting unit are also consist of small units that cannot engage all of the juveniles at a single point of time. A rotation policy is observed to get the juveniles engaged at this learning platform. Religious education is a primary tool for moral reform in juvenile prisons(Gul, 2018). However, this study makes addition that vocational training units (woodworking, knitting) are insufficient and operate on a rotation policy due to limited capacity making this effort a valuable contribution to the gap which is not extensively discussed in prior work. Furthermore, these aspects of findings align with international critiques like UNODOC, (2019) annual report in South Asian countries highlight that many juvenile facilities lack adequate vocational infrastructure. Furthermore, psychological challenges are another prominent feature of incarcerate life. The available psychological help service are insufficient as observed and reported to the researcher. Some of the respondents were unaware about the role of psychologist in juvenile detention center. Majority of the inmates in Borstal institution and juvenile jail Faisalabad and Bahawalpur reported that they have limited interactive sessions with psychologist. A Few addicted inmates confirm that jail psychologist visit their barracks. Inmates with social issues and entry stage of imprisonment, seldom finds a psychologist for interactive session. The ethnographic observation of his study reflects that psychological services are underutilized mirrors findings from Pakistan’s Jail Reforms Committee Report (2019), which noted a severe shortage of psychologists in prisons. Similar issues are reported in India Justice Verma Committee, and in Bangladesh, where mental health support in juvenile detention is often reactive rather than preventive(Hasan, 2016).

The research finds out the effects of correctional services at incarcerated life of juveniles, the thematic findings of this research objectives depicted that learning and interaction with offered correctional facilities are building resilience, conflict resolution, effective time management, reconstructions of ethics and morality providing analytical reasoning to bear this misfortune. The first theme originated from the findings, explore that correctional services are building resilience, changing their habits, whereas juveniles are being capable for learning conflict resolution strategies to stop recidivism. Furthermore, the research highlights the positive outcomes of correctional services as these services are building resilience, conflict resolution, ethical reconstruction in juveniles. Correctional programs teaching conflict resolution align with restorative justice models used in Western juvenile systems(Dwivedi, 2017). Moreover, Ethical, and moral education is imparting skills related to time management and reconstruction of ethical behavior. Furthermore, analytical reasoning is being taught to juveniles to understand the occurrence of misfortunes. This research depicted that contact with family, supportive attitude of correctional staff vocational training facilities are paramount features that are contributing to effective rehabilitation of respondents.

Lastly the research finds out the perceptions of correctional staff regarding effects of correctional services on juvenile. These stakeholders were correctional staff deputed, to provide correctional services to the inmates. It is depicted that majority of the correction staff

excluding Psychologist, Parole officer and Superintendent of Borstal institution does not have suitable qualification, required for the rehabilitation and reformation of juveniles. They do not possess the training and qualification to impact the incarcerated life inmates. To collected observations of researcher reflects that majority of the correctional staff believe that the offered correctional facilities are insufficient to reform a deviant character. A few believe that joint venture programs of vocational training boards can speed up rehabilitation among juveniles. Superintendents of Both subjected institutions of the study reflect that existing Borstal institutions and Juvenile Detention laws need reconsideration. They have the opinion that decentralization of powers in required to involve the civil community to reform the juveniles in less harmed crimes is the need of hour. The findings of this study explore that family contact and supportive staff aid rehabilitation supports prior work done by Hinton (2012), on the importance of pro social bonds in juvenile reform. However, the lack of trained staff undermines these benefits a critical gap compared to models like Germany's youth prisons, where staff undergo specialized training.

Study recommendations.

This study was designed to observe the situation of Borstal institution and Juvenile jails of Punjab. After a detailed qualitative and thematic analysis of the subject under study, the researcher had concluded finding from his ethnographic observations that needs to be address on priority by the state.

1. Travelling distance from Native Districts of offenders is creating obstacles in the positive reformation of juveniles, because of long distance, poor and economically indigent families cannot visit juvenile frequently at Borstal Jail Faisalabad and Borstal Jail Bahawalpur. There must be at least one Borstal Institution and juvenile jail in each division of Punjab, Pakistan.
2. Pakistan does not have any correctional law to be observed while offering services to the juveniles. Prison rules of 1978 are being observed for the delivery of services to juvenile. It is utmost need of the time to develop a correctional services department based on legislative proposal to form a concrete structure of correctional services to impact the incarcerated life of juveniles.
3. Government of Punjab must appoint the Professionals from the field of social science, like social workers, Psychologist and case managers who possess the special knowledge and skills in human relations to impact the incarcerated life of juveniles.
4. Borstal and Juveniles institutions are governed under the umbrella of Prison department of Punjab, there should be a specific section of correctional services in prison department, who must incorporate the latest trends in juvenile rehabilitation and involve case managers to systematically diagnose the issues and challenges faced by juvenile during imprisonment.

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ⁱ Bauru of Statistics , Census report 2023 Govt. of the Punjab Pakistan