



Effects of Distracted Parenting and Housing on Juvenile's Bullying Children

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: This study aimed to find out the effect distracted parenting and housing that lead towards Juvenile's Bullying children.

Methodology: Qualitative research design was used to study the impact of broken family, and housing factors on juvenile delinquency. Researcher used a Non – probability (purposive) sampling technique and selected one hundred juvenile offenders from Juveniles Bullying Station for data collection belonged to the age range between fourteen to eighteen years from 3th April to 10th November 2023. Present study explored various effects of juvenile delinquency related with broken family, and housing factors on juvenile. Reliability of instrument was determined through the use of Alpha Cronbach approach and the instrument validity was determined through a panel of experts. The analysis of the data was used descriptive statistics frequencies, percentages, mean, standard deviation and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA). In order to assess the effect distracted parenting and housing on Bullying children.

Results: The findings of the present study reveal that indicate to high percentage theft (29%), drug abuse (21%), murder (16%) and rape (14%); while there is positive association among types of offenses committed by the juveniles with residence area ($r=0.219$), father married another woman ($r=0.224$), mother married another man ($r=0.289$), divorce ($r=0.225$), father death ($r=0.257$) and mother death ($r=0.246$).

Conclusion: The study concluded that there is positive association among types of offenses and misdemeanor committed by the juveniles with distracted parenting and housing.

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INTRODUCTION

Various changes in political climates and the harsh conditions that the country has witnessed in recent years, with an increase in the population rate and an increase in demand for housing with a lack of appropriate solutions for it, these factors led to the creation random population gatherings for the poor neighborhoods of low-income families, that are surrounded by unequal conditions, with founds some problems that facing individuals, that result from low

average income due to high unemployment rates. These environmental conditions conducive led to erosion and distortion of family morals and principles and consequently have led to a decrease in adolescents' ability to adapt and ward off negative consequences of social pressures with high crime rates ⁽¹⁾.

A house is considered to be a place that contains objects and properties that are specified in

an area inhabited by the family, and which is considered as a repository of memories. As for the broken home, it is the home in which one or both parents are absent for a long or permanent period of time, as a result of divorce, separation, or death. While the family is the first and most important social institution to which the child is connected and that monitors, directs and develops the child's personality. The child lives and learns through the family, so the thoughts and behavior of the child are a product of the family. Children that arise in a poor, deprived, deviant, unstable, and turbulent family environment that face internal and external problems or have a criminal history. These factors can generate, establish, originate, develop, behaviors, and deviant negative thoughts and actions that are adjacent to the child's personality or are vulnerable to involvement in criminal activity ⁽²⁾.

Most families who live in areas with high poverty rates as slums are more likely to have family members associated with crime-related activity as either an accused or a victim or a witness or arrested person. Juveniles in this unstable home environment, they face many challenges from a lack of family support with a lack of the necessary skills and get involved in a huge range of behaviors that are not subject to legal legislation in varying degrees. With the inability of the family to provide the support and guidance that the child seeks from providing the basic needs, and to help in social formation and development of identity, and to transfer the values and customs of value to children ⁽³⁾.

Therefore, a child who will not get these things will not develop properly, and juvenile misconduct and deviant patterns becomes a possible outcome. And that the most important and more issues related to delinquency are sabotage and infringement on public and private property, sexual and moral deviation, alcohol and drug abuse, traffic offenses, theft and robbery ⁽⁴⁾.

The family considers and still retains all its traditional characteristics and is one of the most

dominant aspects in the life of the individual and society in our society. Therefore, each member of the family shares a bond of cooperation, harmony and interdependence that dominates the values and customs inherited from several centuries. So, children depend on their parents and families for love, care, guidance and discipline ⁽⁵⁾.

Often slums areas associated with extreme levels of poverty, overcrowding, bad housing, and a severe lack of recreational facilities. Therefore, juveniles who reside in economically deprived families, and who suffer from poverty, which acts as a crucial link, or as a catalyst, for many behavioral problems that are closely and heavily related to crime and delinquency, with parents are overly involved in their work; they are unable to supervise children properly ⁽⁶⁾.

Changes in lifestyle and instability in the home environment, and insufficient financial resources in the disjointed family can contribute to poor educational outcomes and aggressive behavior and engage in bullying behavior, with the difficulty of searching for positive social interactions or engaging in developmentally beneficial activities ⁽⁷⁾.

the event that juveniles are deprived of love, care, good education, and present neglect, abuse with severe parental discipline weakened, with weakened the ability to supervise by parents that associated with inappropriate parenting style, and domestic violence all those as main reasons behind the development of violent behavior of juveniles. In addition to the non-friendly environment, so juveniles find it difficult to socialize and make true friends easily with good people. This paves the way and provides opportunities for juveniles to make friends with people who are anti-social because juveniles feel that they belong to them to compensate for the lost importance and care, addition to lack of understanding the problems and finding appropriate solutions to them, they push juveniles to seek advice from their peers ⁽⁸⁾.

The family members and the type of family affect the most basic matters of feelings of security

and stability, and the child is raised through an effect on the growth and type of relationship that they share with the various family members. In addition to the personal and social adaptation of children, and anything that conflicts with these feelings can be considered dangerous for children ⁽⁹⁾.

Greater the number of family members, this leads to a lack of supervision and control by parents, as no opportunities for giving feelings of love and affection are equally given to all children, with difficulty in providing appropriate education with the inability to fulfill and provide basic social and financial needs to them. Thus, creating a distance between the parents and the children, it gives the children great opportunities to indulge in anti-social activities to meet their needs, because there is not enough good interactive time with the children to help them solve their problems ⁽¹⁰⁾.

Children who are in the middle of the rank suffer more than others as a result of excessive stress and problems and the scarcity or lack of resources that the family suffers to meet their needs and thus engage in the activities of delinquents ⁽¹¹⁾.

Having a happy and healthy family is the dream of every person, many families have not been able to succeed to achieve that goal. Therefore, the family lives a harsh life in search of happiness as a result of the presence of various and different problems, when things appear tragic or undesirable to face life that leads to breaking families or its disintegration with the separation of its members. Further, one or both parents not being able to manage the family and its directions, with a loss of confidence and the ability to solve unexpected crises in many aspects of life. On the other hand, the mother plays an important role in caring for the child during the first formative years of life. But as children get older, losing a father is often more dangerous than losing a mother, especially for children, with the loss of a mother who lacks the time and energy to give the children the care they need, mother bears the double burden of making a home and earning a living. But if

children lose both parents, the effects are doubly dangerous. Therefore, children with a distracted parenting are greatly affected physically, emotionally and socially, tend to be mischievous and create problems ⁽¹²⁾.

The distracted parenting permanently changes family interactions and roles based on new living arrangements, so children perform more tasks and perform additional roles or tasks in the basic performance of a new family that they may not want, and they may also encounter difficulties in focusing and understanding the tasks of the living arrangements. In addition, older children may take on the role of a parent when interacting with younger siblings ⁽¹³⁾.

Living without a mother will create the difficulty for the child to deal with change and the child does not feel that their emotional needs are met, and they show little emotional response in fact to mobilize their negative feelings. Therefore, it expresses feelings through anger, resentment, confusion, and jealousy, and this can bring loneliness, isolation, depression and low self-esteem with fear, shyness, insecurity, suspicion of self and lack of confidence, which in turn makes the child vulnerable to immersion in crimes, drugs and alcohol ⁽¹⁴⁾.

poverty means not meeting, possessing or obtaining the basic needs of the family's social, cultural and infrastructure in society, depriving it of many things such as basic human capabilities such as education and the lack of health conditions for the family to lead a human life. A lack of money causes the problem of the family's existence instead of the subsistence problem i.e. poor families are recognized as long as they have the money and nobody considers them in society when they have no money. A poor, distracted parenting may lose its identity, as it suffers from negative problems as a result of suffering, backwardness and deprivation, with housing in a dirty, flawed and bad environment that lacks the simplest elements of life, which can lead its members to deviate or fall into crime ⁽¹⁵⁾.

Low family income leads to pressures and struggles over the family, which leads to the creation of negative feelings as well as lack of commitment to social standards or participation in traditional activities with the lack of basic needs that may affect the child's personality and behavior becomes inappropriate. On the other hand, the harmful environment and the lack of basic needs affect the child physically, psychologically, morally and spiritually, causing the child to become ineligible or conscious to understand his true capabilities ⁽¹⁵⁾.

Low income of family with large family size and unfavorable living conditions with the parent's inability to provide their children the attention, care, affection and love. These are key factors that lead to the development of a feeling of deprivation in juveniles. Sometimes juveniles commit a negative activity or behavior in order to draw parents' attention or to compensate for what was lacking like homicide, assault, robbery, burglary, threats, extortion, kidnapping, terrorism, rioting, and sexual offenses ⁽¹⁶⁾.

Many juveniles come from homes that suffer from turmoil, neglect and misbehavior towards children, which motivate children to join and integrate or form gangs to get what they do not get from their families to search for acceptance, companionship, love, leadership, recognition, encouragement, respect, self-esteem, role model, security, and a

sense of belonging, when those families do not provide or meet these needs for children. Therefore, the children think it is a positive gain for their lives ⁽¹⁶⁾.

METHODOLOGY

A descriptive analytic study design was carried out at juvenile delinquency Juveniles Bullying in Basrah Governorate years from 3th April to 10th November 2023. Non – probability (purposive) sample of 100 juveniles who were Juveniles Bullying Station were selected. These prisoners were selected according to the following criteria: both sexes of prisoners (males and females); delinquent who were temporarily detained in bullying station convicted of crime, felony, or misdemeanor who is awaiting trial; juveniles who were at 14-17 years. For the purpose of the present study a questionnaire was designed and developed by the researcher. Reliability of instrument was determined through the use of Alpha Cronbach approach ($r = 0.94$), and the instrument validity was determined through a panel of (19) experts. In order to achieve the early stated objectives, the data of the study were analyzed through the use of Statistical Package of social sciences (SPSS) version 24 through statistical procedures that includes: frequency, percentage, and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA).

RESULTS

Table (1): Distribution of the samples by their sociodemographic characteristics of delinquent

No.	Variables (N=100)	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
1	Age	14-16	41	41%
		16-18	59	59%
		Total	100	100%
2	Gender	Male	82	82%
		Female	18	18%
		Total	100	100%
3	Residence	Rural	23	23%
		Urban	77	77%
		Total	100	100%
4	Residence Area	Slum Houses	51	51%
		Legal Houses	49	49%

		Total	100	100%
5	Type owner of Housing	No owner(rent, shared)	74	74%
		Owner	26	26%
		Total	100	100%
6	Socio-Economic Status	High	0	0%
		Middle	79	79%
		Low	21	21%
		Total	100	100%

Table (1) The results revealed that the majority of the samples (59%) at age 16-18 year; were male (82%); were living in urban area (77%) at (51%) slum houses; the majority of the samples (74%) at family's juvenile did not own houses and middle socioeconomic status (75%).

Table (2): Distribution of the samples by their family characteristics of delinquent

No.	Variables (N=100)	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
1	Type of Family	Nuclear Family	78	78%
		Extended Family	22	22%
		Total	100	100%
2	Family's Membership	1-3	4	4%
		4-6	17	17%
		7-9	43	43%
		10-12	28	28%
		13-15	8	8%
		Total	100	100%
3	Do Juveniles Live with the Parents	Yes	53	53%
		No	47	47%
		Total	100	100%
4	Reasons for the Juvenile not to live with Parents (Broken Family) N= 47	Father Married	17	36.2%
		Mother Married	2	4.2%
		Divorce	10	21.3%
		Father Death	12	25.5%
		Mother Death	6	12.8%
		Total	47	100%

Table (2) The results revealed that the majority of the samples (78%) at nuclear family; the family's membership is (43%) of seventh to ninth; more than half sample (53%) is juveniles live with parents; while more reasons of distracted parenting is father married another woman (36.2%), and father death (25.5%).

Table (3): Association among types of offenses and misdemeanor committed by the juveniles with residence area and types family.

No.	Types of Offenses and Misdemeanor	Residence Area	F(%)	Types Families	F(%)
1	Theft	Slum Houses	19(19%)	Broken Family	10(10%)
				Non Broken Family	9(9%)
		Legal Houses	10(10%)	Broken Family	2(2%)
				Non Broken Family	8(8%)
2	Rape	Slum Houses	9(9%)	Broken Family	5(5%)
				Non Broken Family	4(4%)
		Legal Houses	5(5%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	4(4%)
3	Drug Abuse	Slum Houses	13(13%)	Broken Family	7(7%)
				Non Broken Family	6(6%)
		Legal Houses	8(8%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	7(7%)
4	Murder	Slum Houses	12(12%)	Broken Family	8(8%)
				Non Broken Family	4(4%)
		Legal Houses	4(4%)	Broken Family	2(2%)
				Non Broken Family	2(2%)
5	Beatings	Slum Houses	2(2%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	1(1%)
		Legal Houses	2(2%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	2(2%)
6	Kidnapping	Slum Houses	2(2%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	1(1%)
		Legal Houses	0(0%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
7	Threat	Slum Houses	1(1%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
		Legal Houses	0(0%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
8	Vagrancy	Slum Houses	5(5%)	Broken Family	3(3%)
				Non Broken Family	2(2%)
		Legal Houses	0(0%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
10	Forgery	Slum Houses	5(5%)	Broken Family	3(3%)
				Non Broken Family	2(2%)
		Legal Houses	0(0%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
12	Betrayal	Slum Houses	2(2%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	1(1%)
		Legal Houses	0(0%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
13	Sabotage	Slum Houses	1(1%)	Broken Family	1(1%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)
		Legal Houses	0(0%)	Broken Family	0(0%)
				Non Broken Family	0(0%)

		Non Broken Family	0(0%)
14	Total	100(100%)	100(100%)

Table (3) The results revealed that the majority of the samples are theft (29%), drug abuse (21%), murder (16%) and rape (14%); while the majority of the sample of each variable are living in slum houses with broken family.

Table (4): Association between broken family, residence and area and types of offenses committed by the delinquents

	Residence	Residence area	Father married	Mother married	Divorce	Father death	Mother death
Residence							
Residence area	.510**						
Father married	.110	.141					
Mother married	.053	.061	-.393**				
Divorce	.092	.146	-.009	.119			
Father death	-.018	-.131	-.594**	.173	.167		
Mother death	-.062	-.089	.015	-.210*	.036	.295**	
Types of offenses	.206	.219*	.224*	.289*	*.225	.257*	.246*

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table (4) indicates that there is a positively significant association between residence area, father married another woman, mother married another man, divorce, father death, and mother death with types offenses committed by the delinquents that appear in residence area ($r=0.219$; $P<0.05$), father married another woman ($r=0.224$; $P<0.05$), mother married another man ($r=0.289$; $P<0.05$), divorce ($r=0.225$; $P<0.05$), father death ($r=0.257$; $P<0.05$) and mother death ($r=0.246$; $P<0.05$).

DISCUSSION:

The results revealed that more than half of the samples (59%) at age 16-18 year, while the rest (41%) were 14-15 year; more than four-fifths (82%) the samples were male; more than three-quarters (77%) were living in urban area; while were little more than half (51%) living in slum houses; about third sample (74%) of family's juvenile have not owner houses; while more than two-third (79%) were middle socio-economic status. This finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done by indicates to slum houses (78.3%) while disagree with age (20%) at 16-17 year. While this finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done

by indicates to male (89.3%) and middle socio-economic status (69.9%).

This result is because this stage is characterized by instability with disturbances of instinctive tendencies, emotion, mood swings and imagination, and a love for adventure to experience the unfamiliar. In addition, poor self-control and discernment of what is true. While the percentage of the males more than females in the study sample is due to the masculine nature, which tends to violence and the making and imitation of combat movements, with what is characterized by more freedom and less control by parents. While housing in the slums, due to the fact that poor families have very little choice in choosing where to live. Therefore, these families resort to in slum areas, whose living conditions are

usually difficult, with low financial revenues for these families, with the inability to rent or own a house in the regular areas. While the high percentage of middle socio-economic status due to destitution, unemployment, and poverty.

Concerning the results of the type of family were more than two-third (78%) were nuclear family; while family's membership of seventh to ninth were (43%); the juveniles did not live with parents were (47%) due to father married another woman were (36.2%). This finding disagrees with results obtained from study done by indicates to juvenile live with parents (71%); also this finding disagrees with results obtained from study done by (Linton, 2020) it indicates to distracted parenting (70%). This result is due to the distracted parenting that may lead to the loss of the juvenile a sense of security and stability, in addition to the weakness or lack of parental supervision and control, which leads to depriving the juvenile of sympathy, love and tenderness.

Concerning the results of the types of offenses and misdemeanor committed by the Juveniles indicate that theft (29%); drug abuse (21%); murder (16%); and rape (14%); while the majority of the sample of each variable are living in slum houses with broken family. This finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done by (Tan et al, 2017) it indicates to high percentage of study were theft (75%); rape (21.4%); drug abuse (66.3%) and murder (20.9%) of broken families. This result is due to enter into a life of offense or indulge in delinquent behavior, which is reinforced by the existence of externals and motivations that surround family members from each side, with juvenile's love of adventure and suspense, which is a great motivation for them to carry out unbalanced actions and behaviors without prior thinking about the consequences of these actions.

The results revealed that positively significant association between residence area, father married another woman, mother married another man, divorce, father death, and mother death with types offenses committed by the juveniles that appear in

residence area ($r=0.219$; $P<0.05$), father married another woman ($r=0.224$; $P<0.05$), mother married another man ($r=0.289$; $P<0.05$), divorce ($r=0.225$; $P<0.05$), father death ($r= 0.257$; $P<0.05$) and mother death ($r=0.246$; $P<0.05$). This finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done by it indicates to present association between distracted parenting with types offenses committed by the juveniles. This result is due to disharmonious families, the feelings of inadequacy, insecurity, destitution, poverty and overcrowding in the dwelling can engender antisocial activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Government through mass media should strengthen the sensitization of guardians and parents on their roles and responsibilities toward juveniles and with the establishment of a mechanism for obligating parents to fulfill the main parental responsibilities as available the basic needs. Finding radical solutions to tackle unemployment, raise the economic level of families, and address educational problems related to the culture of poverty.

Author Contributions

Each of the authors made contributions to the study by engaging in data collection, analysis, and discussion of the findings. The authors engaged in a discourse regarding the outcomes and made contributions to the ultimate document.

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