



## ASSESSMENT AND COMPARISON OF FRUSTRATION IN JUVENILE DELINQUENTS AND NON-DELINQUENTS

Richa Chaturvedi<sup>1</sup>, Ph. D., Prof. Anjali Srivastava<sup>2</sup>, Ph. D. & Deepa Saxena<sup>3</sup>, Ph. D.

<sup>1</sup>Guest Faculty, M.A. Psychology, Department of Psychology, A.P.S. University, Rewa (M.P.)

<sup>2</sup>Professor and Head, Department of Psychology, A.P.S. University, Rewa (M.P.)

<sup>3</sup>Guest Faculty, Department of Business Administration, A.P.S. University, Rewa (M.P.)

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### Abstract

*Since the industrial revolution, delinquency has been a societal and massive concern, particularly in emerging countries such as India. Delinquent behavior by minors in their teen or pre-teen years is known as juvenile delinquency. In this study, juvenile delinquents and non-delinquents were tested and contrasted in terms of various modes and total frustration. It was assumed that delinquents would score higher than non-delinquents on various modes of total frustration. Furthermore, significant differences between delinquents and non-delinquents' frustration mean scores would be found. In addition, delinquency's major effect on frustration would be revealed to be strong. A total of 400 male subjects (N=400) were included in the study, out of which 200 of them being juvenile delinquents and the remaining 200 being non-delinquents. The frustration test devised by Chauhan and Tiwari (1972), was administered on the sample and the data was then statistically analyzed using suitable statistical tests. The findings supported with the hypothesized predictions, and the complete findings are discussed in great detail in the full paper.*

**Key words-** Frustration, Modes of Frustration, Delinquency and Juvenile Delinquents.



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### Introduction

Since the industrial revolution, delinquency has been a societal and enormous concern, particularly in emerging countries such as India. When a person deviates from the path of regular life, it is considered a crime of abnormality. Delinquency affects not just the victims of crime, but also the delinquent's family, future, and society as a whole. Adolescents today encounter a more challenging environment than those of previous generations. Science and technology advancements, industrialization, rising divorce rates, and greater family morbidity are exposing adolescents to a complicated menu of lifestyle choices. Adolescents are exposed

to a multitude of temptations (drugs, smoking, automobiles, weapons, and sexuality), all of which put them in risk and inflict harm to others. Some juvenile criminals engage in antisocial conduct and commit significant crimes. Youth are destroying their lives by committing crimes.

Delinquency is a type of abnormality that occurs when a person deviates from the usual course of social life. Delinquency affects not just the victims of crime, but also the delinquent's family, future, and society as a whole. Juvenile delinquency refers to a child's breaking of the law. It's an antisocial and clinical conduct that a person under the age of 18 engages in. Juvenile delinquency, also known as juvenile offending is a type of delinquency that occurs in children. They are frequently classified as youngsters aged 10 to 17 who have committed a crime. Repeat offenders and age-specific offenders are the two most common sorts of offenders.

Juvenile delinquency is defined as "wrongdoing by a child or a young person who is under the age prescribed by the legislation (now in force) of the location concerned." Delinquency is defined as behaviour by youngsters under the age of 18 that is not acceptable in society and is often considered as requiring admonition, punishment, or remedial action (Coleman, 1981).

Frustration is a common emotional response to life's occurrences. As a result of the circumstances of its arousal and the repercussions of the reactions that occur to it, it results in patterns of resolves. With relation to the frustration consequence, there have been suggested methods of dealing with stress (Cofer and Appley, 1980). Frustration conduct lacks goal direction and is inextricably linked to emotions. Frustration is based on emotion (Sargent 1948). It may be viewed as a hypothetical construct that is formed either by an inhibitory circumstance or by a competing excitatory tendency that is aroused concurrently with an already enjoying excitatory propensity to strength (Brown and Farber, 1951). It describes the situation in which a motivated organism's goal-directed action is impeded. Physical barriers between the organism and the objective, the elimination of directional cues, or a conflict of action proclivities, goals, or reasons may all contribute to this blocking.

### **Review of Literature**

Physical, cognitive, and social-emotional capacities all expand at a fast pace throughout adolescence (Erikson, 1951). The obstacles that adolescents face, as well as the dangerous behaviours that they engage in, are many. There is a substantial health risk when a number of behaviours are involved. According to the asset model, contextual characteristics of young people's lives, such as family, school, and community factors, have a protective effect against

health-risk behaviours in children and young adults (Brooks, Magnusson, Spencer and Morgan, 2012).

It has been shown that youth who are unable to manage with the stress caused by these changes have an increased risk of developing mental health issues, notably depression, according to Rushton et al. (2002a). Individuals under the age of 18 account for about one-third of all arrests and nearly one-quarter of all arrests for the seven offences included in the uniform crime index, although making up just about one-sixth of the country's total land area . According to statistics, between 30 and 40% of criminally inclined teenagers grow up in urban areas, despite the fact that they constitute a small proportion of the overall population. Criminal activity is on the increase, and this is evident. It is still lower than the rates in most other nations, but India has a higher crime rate than most of them.

In the opinion of Kury and Ferdinand, the level of criminality has increased considerably during the course of the transition process (1999). The media has overstated the amount of juvenile criminality in the nation, according to research (Haines and Haines, 2001). Until recently, little research has been done on public views of adolescent delinquency. Previous studies have concentrated on measuring teenagers' fear of criminal action, public opinion on the death penalty (Keil et al., 1999), and general delinquency (Ionescu, 2000). A tendency for fury and frustration, as well as a lack of self-control in one's behaviour, have been connected to individual variances in conduct challenges, according to research (Deckard et.al. 2007).

The characteristics of delinquents are more likely to be impulsive, rebellious, indifferent to authority, lack accomplishment motivation and be resentful, aggressive, suspicious, and destructive. Delinquents are more likely than non-delinquents to have attention issues, be rebellious, indifferent to authority, lack accomplishment motivation, and to be resentful, aggressive, suspicious, and destructive (Ahlstrom and Havighurst, 1971). Many of these qualities are defensive in nature, reflecting a lack of self-esteem and feelings of inadequacy, as well as difficulties in interpersonal connections and discontent with the demands of one's own personal expression (Ahlstrom and Havighurst, 1971).

### **Aim and Objectives:**

The aim of the present study was to assess and compare the various modes of frustration and total frustration in juvenile delinquents and non delinquents.

The following hypotheses were formulated:-

- (i) Delinquents would score high on various modes and total frustration than non delinquents.
- (ii) There would be a significant difference between the mean scores of the juvenile delinquents and non delinquent.
- (iii) The main effect of delinquency would be found to be significant for frustration.

**Juvenile Delinquents:**

This was a group of people who had committed crimes and had been classified as delinquents. They were obtained from Raipur's Balapradh Kendra and Rewa's Samprekshan Grih.

Non-Delinquents: This category comprised of ordinary people who had never committed a crime in their life and had never been convicted of a serious crime. They were gathered from Raipur and Rewa City secondary schools.

**Methodology:**

**Sample:-** The research had 400 male volunteers, 200 of them were juvenile delinquents and the other 200 were not. The individuals were between the ages of 14 and 16, with a mean age of 14.8. Purposeful sampling was used to choose the sample.

**Data Collection:**

The frustration level of juvenile and non-juvenile delinquents was measured using the Chauhan and Tiwari (1972) test. The test was given to juvenile delinquents at Balapradh Kendra and Samprekshan Griha, as well as non-delinquents in a school environment, one at a time.

**Results and Discussion**

The results are systematically presented in Tables and discussed in detail.

**Table – 1: Showing Means and S.D. values of four modes of frustration and total frustration**

Delinquents/Non Delinquents		Regression	Fixation	Resignation	Aggression	Total frustration
Juvenile Delinquents N=200	M	27.86	28.39	26.84	27.04	110.14
	SD	6.46	6.86	5.92	6.24	18.43
Non Juvenile Delinquents N=200	M	17.33	18.16	18.33	18.23	72.06
	SD	4.85	3.64	4.66	4.42	6.94

It is clear from Table-1 that the mean scores obtained by the juvenile delinquents are greater in comparison to non delinquents for all the four modes of frustration i.e regression fixation, resignation and aggression and also for total frustration.

**Table – 2: Showing the t-values for various modes of frustration and total frustration**

Modes of Frustration / Variances		t-test for Equality of Means			
		t	df	Sig.(2 tailed)	Mean Difference
Regression	Equal variances assumed	18.385	398	.000	10.5283
	Equal variances not assumed	18.398	369.234	.000	10.5283
Fixation	Equal variances assumed	18.625	398	.000	10.2300
	Equal variances not assumed	18.625	302.809	.000	10.2300
Resignation	Equal variances assumed	15.960	398	.000	8.5100
	Equal variances not assumed	15.960	377.413	.000	8.5100
Aggression	Equal variances assumed	16.267	398	.000	8.8100
	Equal variances not assumed	16.267	358.584	.000	8.8100
		27.273	398	.000	38.0797
<b>Total Frustration</b>		27.325	254.630	.000	38.0797

The results of t-test analysis presented in Tables 2 shows that the both groups of delinquent to differ on the different modes of frustration. The t value for regression (t=18.39, p<.01) is found to be significant, for fixation mode of frustration (t=18.63, p<.01) is significant, for resignation mode of frustration (t=15.96, p<.01) is found to be significant and for aggression mode of frustration (t=16.27, p<.01) is also significant. The t value for overall mode of frustration (summation of regression fixation resignation and frustration) is significant (f = 27.32, p<.01). It indicates that delinquent children were found to be higher on frustration than non-delinquent children.

**Table – 3: Showing on way ANOVA results for different modes of frustration and total.**

Modes of Frustration	Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	Between Groups	11056.817	1	11056.817	338.017	.000
	Within Groups	12986.191	398	32.711		
	Total	24043.008	399			
Fixation	Between Groups	10465.290	1	10465.290	346.886	.000
	Within Groups	12007.350	398	30.169		
	Total	22472.640	399			
Resignation	Between Groups	7242.010	1	7242.010	254.732	.000
	Within Groups	11315.100	398	28.430		
	Total	18557.110	399			

<b>Aggression</b>	Between Groups	7761.610	1	7761.610	264.603	.000
	Within Groups	11674.550	398	29.333		
	Total	19436.160	399			
<b>Total</b>	Between Groups	144642.92	1	144642.919	743.831	.000
	Within Groups	77199.356	398	194.457		
	Total	221842.28	399			

A close perusal of Table 3 indicates that the main effect of delinquency of fixation a mode of frustration was significant ( $F=346.89$ ,  $p<.01$ ). The between groups mean square ( $M=10465.29$ ) was higher than within groups mean square ( $M=30.17$ ).

The main effect of delinquency on resignation a mode of frustration was significant ( $F=254.73$ ,  $p<.01$ ). The between groups mean square ( $M=7242.01$ ) was higher than within groups mean square ( $M=28.43$ ).

The main effect of delinquency on aggression, a mode of frustration was significant ( $F=264.60$ ,  $p<.01$ ). The between groups means square ( $M=7761.61$ ) was higher than within groups mean square ( $M=29.33$ ).

The main effect of delinquency on overall frustration (summation of regression, fixation, resignation and aggression) was significant ( $F=335.48$ ,  $p<.01$ ). The between groups mean ( $F=743.83$ ,  $p<.01$ ).

The findings backed up the hypothesised correlations. It was expected that delinquents would score higher on various kinds of frustration and overall frustration than non-delinquents, with substantial differences between their scores (H1). It was discovered that juvenile delinquents had higher mean scores on the four modes of frustration than their non-delinquent counterparts (Regression  $M=27.86$ , Fixation  $M=28.39$ , and Aggression  $M=27.04$ ), whereas non-delinquents' mean scores were 17.33, 18.16, 18.33, and 18.23, respectively. The overall frustration mean score for delinquents was 110.14, whereas it was 72.06 for non-delinquents. For all four forms of frustration, as well as the total, all t ratios were shown to be extremely significant. This is in support of H2.

Overall dissatisfaction was shown to be strongly adversely linked with the regression, fixation, resignation, and aggressive modes of frustration scores of delinquents and non-delinquents. The findings of the analysis of variance revealed significant F ratios between groups for several kinds of dissatisfaction as well as overall frustration. A variety of evidences might be used to interpret the findings on frustration. Britt and Janus (1940) explored frustration in the context of a frustrating circumstance or inciting state, as well as the impact of

such instigations on the person (e.g., changes in tension, disruption of homeostasis, and maladaptation), as well as the influence on the individual's response system (e.g. anger, aggression, withdrawal regression). The major effect of delinquency would be shown to be substantial for frustration, according to the hypothesis (H3). In the current study, it was discovered that juvenile delinquents are more frustrated than non-delinquents. The main effects of the one-way ANOVA between the two groups have likewise given significant results, as has the mean difference between the two groups' scores. The findings support the frustration leads to aggressiveness theory proposed by Dollard and Miller. It is common knowledge that criminals are more aggressive than their peers and engage in aggressive behaviour. In a classical conditioning paradigm, Berkowitz (1971) investigated the role of frustration and evoking stimuli. Any arousal-inducing stimulus combined with aggressive signals might result in impulsive violent action, according to him. Bandura (1973) claimed that, while much aggressiveness happens in the absence of an emotional state, any unpleasant input (like goal blockage, or environmental stress) might encourage violent responses due to its typically stimulating qualities. The frequency of juvenile delinquency was investigated using psychological perspectives by Acharya (2017).

According to reports, juveniles who commit significant crimes put their futures in jeopardy in order to protest perceived mistreatment, which causes them psychological despair and leads to them committing additional crimes. As a result, it's important to look at the reasons of adolescent delinquency from a psychological standpoint. In reality, several research back up the stereotype that delinquents are less able to bind tensions, behave impulsively, and are less likely to wait gratification than non-delinquents (Mischel and Gilligan, 1964). Hornum et al (1977); Rosenquist and Megargee, 1969). In addition, their temporal horizon is less than that of non-delinquents (Barndt and Johnson, 1955; Brock and Del Guidice, 1963; Matulef, 1967; Stein, Sarbin and Kulik, 1968; Barabasz, 1968; Black and Gregson, 1973). However, there are some discrepancies in the findings. When Losel (1975) used self-reported delinquency to compare delinquents with non-delinquents, he found no difference in delay capacity. Schneidermann is a well-known figure in the (1964). Delinquents are more focused on the future than the past, according to Howenstine (1969) and Megargee et al (1970). Foulds used the Rosenzweig Picture frustration test to study frustration kinds among mentally deficient juvenile delinquents in 2011 and discovered that they were more frustrated. According to Mishra (1981), delinquents have insufficient social adjustment, which is suggestive of paranoid

tendencies, exhibit ego fragility, and overemphasise the solutions of the irritating situation as compared to normal youngsters. Julian indicated in a recent study that the hyper arousal (fight or flight state) associated with traumatic memories causes mood disruption. It might be stated that criminal behaviour is a clinical manifestation of ego and superego deficiency. The ability to minimize youthful delinquency may be enhanced by ego maturity.

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