

Changing the Course of Delinquency

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CJJR's Mission

- The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform supports leadership development and advances a balanced, multi-systems approach to reducing juvenile delinquency that both holds youth accountable and promotes positive child and youth development.

The Ecological Model

- Families
- Communities
- Schools
- Peer groups
- Individual

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Risk and Protective Factors

- Risk factors are predictors of problem behaviors such as:
 - substance abuse
 - teen pregnancy
 - dropping out of school and youth violence
- Protective factors are predictors that counterbalance the effects of risk such as opportunities for pro-social activities and the influence of a positive adult to whom the child or youth has bonded.
- Risk and protective factors are related to the domains in which a child or youth lives their life - family, peer group, school, community and within their own individual characteristics.
- The body of research around risk and protective factors and their relationship to delinquency has greatly informed the work of the Causes and Correlates Study Group.

Application of Risk and Protective Factors in the Causes and Correlates Study

- The Study Group studied the impact of risk and protective factors on middle school age youth in their Rochester site.
- Youth were surveyed on both the risk and protective factors in their lives.
- Delinquency histories were tracked for the same youth. Based on study criteria:
 - Youth with 5 or more risk factors were “high risk.”
 - Youth who had five or more risk factors and who had 5 or fewer protective factors offended at a rate of almost 80%.
 - High-risk youth with 9 or more protective factors offended at a rate of just over 22%.
 - The presence of these 4 additional protective factors reduced offending rates by 75%.

Application

- The Causes and Correlates Study found two key risk factors for delinquency:
 - Child abuse and neglect, and
 - Gang involvement
- In today’s presentation, I will focus on child abuse and neglect.

Crossover Youth: Key Definitions

- Crossover Youth=Youth who have experienced maltreatment and engaged in delinquency.
- Dually-Involved Youth=A subgroup of crossover youth who are simultaneously receiving services, at any level, from both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- Dually-Adjudicated Youth=A subgroup of dually-involved youth, encompassing only those youth who are concurrently adjudicated by both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

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Brief Description of Covariates "Risk and Protective Factors"

- Placement Instability
 - Number of Placements: The more substitute care placement, the greater the risk for delinquency.
 - Type of Placements: Congregate care increased the risk more than foster care settings.
- Age at Time of Maltreatment
 - Maltreatment that begins and ends in childhood less problematic.
 - Persistent maltreatment and adolescent limited maltreatment is more problematic for a range of problem behaviors.
- Social Bonds
 - Attachment to positive adults can reduce the likelihood of delinquency.
 - Commitment to school and possibly religious organizations can reduce the likelihood of delinquency.

Brief Description of Covariates

- **Gender**
 - There is an increased prevalence of females crossing into delinquency compared to the general population.
 - Females have an increased prevalence of mental health problems.

- **Race**
 - African-Americans are disproportionately represented in the child welfare system.
 - African-Americans are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system.
 - African-Americans are disproportionately represented to an even greater extent in the crossover population.

The Pathway to Delinquency

- The average age at which juveniles took their first step toward delinquent behavior was approximately 7.
- Moderately serious behavior began at about age 9.5.
- Serious delinquency began at age 12.
- The average age at which youth first came in contact with the juvenile court was 14.5.
- This means that there is a seven year window of opportunity to intervene and interrupt their pathway to delinquency.
- So how do we take those first steps that many would call prevention or early intervention—and create a full continuum of interventions?

Source: Research from Causes and Correlates Study

The Need for a Comprehensive Approach

Changing the Footprint of Juvenile Justice in the United States

- **Data driven/evidence based approaches**
- **Elements:**
 - Prevention/Early Childhood
 - Prevention/Early Intervention
 - Integrated Court Systems
 - Juvenile Detention Reform
 - Effective System Interventions
 - Juvenile Corrections
 - Aftercare/Parole

Prevention/Early Childhood

Bringing Systems Together for the Short and Long View

- **Nurse-Family Partnership**
 - An evidence based community health program that focuses on first-time mothers.
 - **Goals:**
 - Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good preventative health practices, including prenatal care and reducing the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs.
 - Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care.
 - Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

Source: Overview. Nurse-Family Partnership. August 2008.

Prevention/Early Childhood

Bringing Systems Together for the Short and Long View

- **Nurse-Family Partnership**
 - **Results**
 - 48% reduction in child abuse and neglect
 - Delay in second births to teen mother
 - 59% reduction in arrests of child at age 15
 - 67% reduction in behavioral and intellectual problems at child age six
 - 72% fewer convictions of mother at child age 15
 - Net benefit of \$34,148 to society per family served, which equals a \$5.70 return per dollar invested.

Source: Overview. Nurse-Family Partnership. August 2008 and "It's about changing lives." Nurse-Family Partnership. 2009.

Prevention/Early Childhood

- **HighScope/Perry Preschool Program**
 - High quality preschool program for low-income African American children aged 3 to 4 years who were at high risk of school failure.
 - Part of the program included home visits by the teachers to discuss the child's development and support parents in the education of their children.

Source: Schweinhart, PhD. The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 40: Summary, Conclusions, and Frequently Asked Questions. 2005.

Prevention/Early Childhood

- **HighScope/Perry Preschool Program**
 - **Long term outcomes:**
 - 65% completed high school, compared to 45% in control group
 - 76% employed at age 40, compared to 62% in control group
 - Average 1.3 arrests by age 19, compared to 2.3 arrests in control group
 - 36% arrested 5 or more times (lifetime up to age 40), compared to 55% in control group
 - Economic return to society is \$244,812 per participant, which equals a \$16.14 return on each dollar invested.

Sources: Schweinhart, PhD. The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 40: Summary, Conclusions, and Frequently Asked Questions. 2005, and Parks, Greg. The High/Scope Perry Preschool Project. OJJDP Juvenile Justice Bulletin. October 2000.

Prevention/Early Intervention

An Alternative to Zero Tolerance Policies

- **School Referral Reduction Program (Georgia)**
 - To reduce the number of referrals to juvenile court for minor offenses (school fights, disrupting public school, disorderly conduct, etc.) so that school resource officers can focus on the more serious problems in the schools.
 - First offense: warning
 - Second offense: referral to workshop
 - Third offense: complaint filed
 - Designed to return school disciplinarian function to school officials

Source: Powerpoint by Judge Steve Teske of Clayton County, Georgia.

Prevention/Early Intervention

An Alternative to Zero Tolerance Policies

- **School Referral Reduction Program (Georgia)**
 - School referrals down from a high of over 1200 per year (before program implementation), to approximately 400 per year now.
 - Reduction in weapons cases in schools from a high of over 60 per year (before program implementation) to less than 20 per year now.
 - Reduction in felonies from a high of 200 per year, to less than 100 per year now.
- **Benefit of youth graduating from high school**
 - Increasing male graduation rates by 5 percent can lead to a savings of \$8 billion each year due to crime savings and additional wages.

Sources: Powerpoint by Judge Steve Teske of Clayton County, Georgia and "Saving Futures, Saving Dollars: The Impact of Education on Crime Reduction and Earnings." Issue Brief, August 2006. Alliance for Excellent Education.

Prevention/Early Intervention

Diversion - A Way to Do No Harm

- **Civil Citation Program - Miami, Florida**
 - Diversion program for eligible juvenile misdemeanor offenders.
 - Youth are referred to services based on their needs.

Prevention/Early Intervention

Diversion - A Way to Do No Harm

- **Civil Citation Program**
 - 19% reduction in arrests
 - 83% successful completion rate
 - 3% recidivism
 - 7% reduction in arrest rates for Blacks, 9% reduction in arrest rates for Hispanics
 - \$5000 cost savings per child

Source: Miami Dade County.

Integrated Court Systems

- All child serving agencies (including juvenile justice, child welfare, behavioral health, and others) should work together in an integrated court approach to interrupt the pathways youth follow into the delinquency system.
- Coordinated assessments
- Coordinated case management
- High quality legal representation
- Service integration

Juvenile Detention Reform

A Gateway Approach

- **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative**
 - Front “door”
 - Detention criteria
 - Detention alternatives
 - Case flow management
 - Data management
- **The relationship to disparate treatment and disproportionality.**

Source: Two Decades of JDAI: A Progress Report. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. 2009.

Juvenile Detention Reform

A Gateway Approach

- **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative**
 - 35% reduction of detention population in JDAI sites without an increase in offending prior to trial
 - 23% reduction in commitments to state custody in JDAI sites
 - 22% reduction in the number of youth of color in detention in JDAI sites

Source: Two Decades of JDAI: A Progress Report. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. 2009.

Effective System Interventions

- Common traits of effective system interventions
- Effective system interventions help to:
 - Help youth develop a positive self image
 - Reduce influence of negative role models
 - Support youth in engaging in pro-social behavior

Effective System Interventions

- **Functional Family Therapy**
 - FFT is a short-term program that has been applied successfully to a wide range of problem youth and their families in various contexts and treatment systems.
 - Participating youth attend 12 one hour sessions over 3 months.
 - There are three treatment phases:
 - Engagement and motivation (addresses maladaptive perceptions, beliefs and emotions)
 - Behavior change (clinicians develop and implement intermediate and long-term behavior change plans tailored to the unique characteristics of each family member)
 - Generalization (clinicians help family apply positive family change to other problem areas and/or situations, maintain change and prevent relapse)

Source: Sharon Mihalic, Katherine Irwin, Delbert Elliott, Abigail Fagan, and Diane Hansen. Blueprints for Violence Prevention. OJJDP Juvenile Justice Bulletin, July 2001. http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojdp/ijbul2001_7_3/contents.html

Effective System Interventions

- **Functional Family Therapy**
 - Controlled studies of FFT with follow up periods of 1, 3, and 5 years found significant long term reductions of youth re-offending and sibling entry into high-risk behaviors.
 - 80% of families completed the treatment.
 - Of those completing the treatment 19.8% committed an offense in the year following completion, compared with 36% in the control group.

Source: Sharon Mihalic, Katherine Irwin, Delbert Elliott, Abigail Fagan, and Diane Hansen. Blueprints for Violence Prevention. OJJDP Juvenile Justice Bulletin, July 2001. http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojdp/ijbul2001_7_3/contents.html

Effective System Interventions

- **Multi-Systemic Therapy**
 - Treatment program to reduce risk factors and strengthen protective factors on an individual and comprehensive basis by using the ecological model.
 - Family-based
 - Lasts approximately four months with multiple sessions per week.

Source: http://www.mstservices.com/executive_summary.php

Effective System Interventions

- **Multi-Systemic Therapy**
 - 25% to 70% reduction in long term re-arrest rates
 - 47% to 64% reduction of days in out-of-home placements

Source: http://www.mstservices.com/complete_overview.php

Effective System Interventions

- **Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care**
 - Goal is to decrease problem behavior in children who require out of home placement, accomplished by:
 - close supervision
 - fair and consistent limits
 - predictable consequences for rule breaking
 - a supportive relationship with at least one mentoring adult
 - reduced exposure to peers with similar problems

Source: <http://www.mtfc.com/overview.html>

Effective System Interventions

- **Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care**
 - Spent 60% fewer days incarcerated at 12 month follow-up;
 - Had significantly fewer subsequent arrests;
 - Ran away from their programs, on average, three time less often;
 - Had significantly less hard drug use in the follow-up period;
 - Had quicker community placement from more restrictive settings (e.g., hospital, detention); and
 - Had better school attendance and homework completion at 24 months follow-up.

Source: Blueprints, <http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/modelprograms/MTFC.html>

Effective System Interventions

- **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy**
 - A method to help individuals deal with their situation and problems in a better way—even if those situations do not change.
 - Based on the notion that thoughts control our feelings and actions, not external things.
 - Reduces recidivism by 25% to 50%
- **Application to corrections**
- **Application to parole/aftercare**

Sources: Mark W. Lipsey, Nana A. Landenberger, Sandra J. Wilson. Effects of Cognitive-Behavioral Programs for Criminal Offenders. The Campbell Collaboration, 2007; and Lowenkamp, Hubbard, Makarios and Latessa. A Quasi-Experimental Evaluations of Thinking for a Change: A "Real World" Application. Criminal Justice and Behavior, Vol. 36, No. 2, February 2009.

Juvenile Corrections

Moving to a Community-Based Model

- **Missouri Model**
 - **Hallmarks of Missouri's approach include:**
 - The opening of nearly three dozen residential programs, most of which enroll fewer than 35 offenders. Nearly all the youths live within 50 miles of home, so parents can participate in therapy.
 - Conditions of confinement
 - Effective treatment and a wide range of programs so that violent offenders are kept separate from those guilty of less serious crimes.
 - Numerous day-treatment centers to help recent inmates make the transition to life outside.

Source: Matthew Franck, Juvenile justice in Missouri serves as model for nation, International Child and Youth Care Network

Juvenile Corrections

Moving to a Community-Based Model

- **Missouri Model**
 - **Comparing recidivism rates with jurisdictions that count recidivism in a similar way show how effective Missouri has been.**
 - Missouri FY 2008: 9.6%
 - Florida: 29%
 - Maryland: 30%
 - Louisiana: 45%

Source: Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Newsletter, Annie E. Casey Foundation, December 2008

Aftercare/Parole

- Institutional confinement has historically failed to adequately prepare youth for return to the community and lessons and skills learned in secure confinement are neither monitored nor reinforced outside the institution.
- Instead, best practices now focus on Overarching Case Management.
 - Risk assessment and classification for establishing eligibility.
 - Consolidated case plan that incorporates a family and social network perspective.
 - A mix of supervision and service delivery focused on risk and protective factors.
 - A blend of graduated incentives and consequences coupled with the imposition of realistic, individualized and enforceable conditions.
 - Service brokerage with community resources and linkage to non-correctional youth serving agencies and groups.

Source: Altschuler, Stangler, Berkley, and Burton. Supporting Youth in Transition to Adulthood: Lessons Learned from Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice. Center for Juvenile Justice Reform and the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative. April 2009.

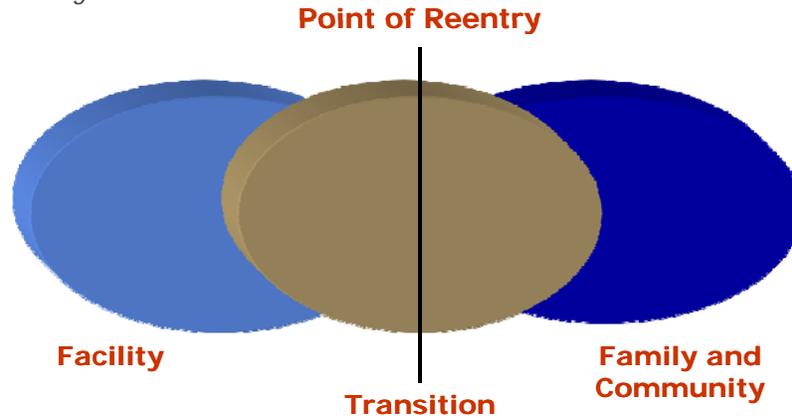
Aftercare/Parole

- Parole does not reduce recidivism for non-high risk and non-sex offender juveniles.
 - 32.7% of the juveniles released on parole were convicted of a felony within 12 months of release, compared to 30.2% of the juveniles who were not put on parole.
 - 55% of the juveniles released on parole were convicted of a felony within 36 months of release, compared to 50% of the juveniles who were not put on parole.
 - Neither are statistically significant.

Source: The Effects of Parole on Recidivism: Juvenile Offenders Released from Washington State Institutions: Final Report. Washington State Institute for Public Policy, 2006.

Reentry

Reintegrative Continuum



Source: Altschuler, David and Shay Bilchik. 2010. Juvenile Reentry in Concept and Practice. PowerPoint Presentation. Council of State Governments Justice Center.

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“A human being is a part of a whole, called by us ‘universe,’ a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings, as something separate from the rest – a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal decisions and affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole nature in its beauty.”

-Albert Einstein

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