

THE RELATIONSHIP OF FAMILY STRUCTURE, GENDER AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE WITH DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR OF JUVENILES

Miranda Gashi

European University of Tirana - UET

ALBANIA

ABSTRACT

This study examines the correlation of the family structure, gender, and place of residence with delinquent behaviours of juveniles. A total of 372 students of secondary school of the town of Pristina with vicinity, of age 14-17 years, of which 229 male and 143 female students, participated voluntarily in this study. The instrument we used for the collection of data on delinquent behaviours was adapted from *Section 28: Delinquency Scale of Wave II* questionnaire. The value of Chronbach alpha for the questionnaire was .612. The questionnaire contained one part of the questions related to the gender of the students, the structure of their families, their grade level and their place of residence. The Chi-square test showed differences of statistical significance for the gender of the participants, their place of residence and the structure of their family. The differences related to their grade level were of no statistical significance. In order to see the differences among the responses we received, we used the chi-square goodness-of-fit test, while in order to discover potential correlations between demographic variables and delinquent behaviours we used the Pearson's chi-square of association test. The results of our research sample showed no statistically significant correlations of the family structure, their place of residence, and their grade level with delinquent behaviours of juveniles. The correlation of statistical significance was found only with the gender of the juveniles. Such results indicate that the cultural factor should certainly be treated as a variable in future studies.

Keywords: Impact, family structure, juveniles, delinquent behaviour.