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PREDICTORS ON DELINQUENCY TRAJECTORIES OF CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW: BASIS FOR PROPOSED INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the predictors of delinquency trajectories among children in conflict with the law (CICL) as a basis for intervention strategies. It analyzed CICL profiles in terms of age, sex, education, socioeconomic status, group membership, and offense committed, as well as factors influencing delinquency, including sociological influence, cultural transmission, family disorganization, and peer influence. Preventive measures such as parenting skills, informal control, social services, and community mobilization were also assessed. Using purposive probability sampling, data were gathered from CICL, BPCCOs, CSWDOs, and P/Gs CICL through a normative survey questionnaire based on Sprinthall and Collins (2014) and analyzed using frequency count, percentage, mean, one-way ANOVA, and SPSS. Findings showed that most CICL were near-matured males from impoverished backgrounds, often affiliated with fraternities or sororities, and commonly engaged in vandalism. Peer influence ($\bar{x}$=3.37) was the strongest predictor, followed by family disorganization ($\bar{x}$=3.01), cultural transmission ($\bar{x}$=2.89), and sociological influence ($\bar{x}$=2.82). Prevention strategies, including parenting skills ($\bar{x}$=2.61), informal control ($\bar{x}$=2.86), social services ($\bar{x}$=2.97), and community mobilization ($\bar{x}$=3.07), were found effective, with no significant differences in respondent assessments. The study recommends strengthening barangay-operated youth institutions, conducting social investigations, and implementing localized intervention strategies per R.A. No. 9344 and R.A. No. 10630.

KEYWORDS: *Juvenile Delinquency, Children in Conflict with the Law, Peer Influence, Intervention Strategies, Community Mobilization*

INTRODUCTION

Typically, children in conflict with the law follow a trajectory similar to that of normal adolescent development. In other words, children and youth tend to follow a path toward delinquent and criminal behavior rather than engaging randomly. Research has shown that there are two types of delinquents: those in whom the onset of severe antisocial behavior begins in early childhood, and those in whom this onset coincides with entry into adolescence. In either case, these developmental paths give families, communities, and systems the opportunity to intervene and prevent the onset of antisocial behaviors and justice system involvement. In essence, intervening early "not only saves young lives from being wasted," but also prevents the onset of adult criminal careers and reduces the likelihood of youth becoming serious and violent offenders. This in turn reduces the burden of crime on society, and saves taxpayers billions of government's financial resources (Akers and Sellers, 2009).

During adolescence, delinquency is closer to being normative than at any other point in the life course. It is also the case, however, that adolescents demonstrate dramatically different patterns or trajectories of deviant behavior during this period. These trajectories vary with regard to onset, seriousness,and desistance of delinquent behavior. Explaining these differing patterns of externalizing behavior problems is important because there is strong evidence that some portend negative consequences during adulthood. The likelihood of criminal behavior persisting from childhood and teenaged years into adulthood can be predicted in part by an individual's trajectory of delinquent behavior (Abderhalden and Evans, 2016).

There are five distinct delinquency trajectories differing in both level and change in seriousness over time: a non-delinquent, minor persisting, moderate desisting, serious persisting, and serious desisting trajectory. More serious delinquents tended to more frequently engaged in delinquency, and to report a higher proportion of theft. Proportionally, serious persistent delinquents were the most violent of all trajectory groups. Hence, controlling for demographic characteristics and childhood delinquency, neglectful parenting was more frequent in moderate desisters, serious persisters, and serious desisters, suggesting that parenting styles differentiate non- or minor delinquents from more serious delinquents.

During childhood, the family environment constitutes the basic social ecology in which the child's behavior is manifested, learned, encouraged or suppressed. Criminologists have long since acknowledged the association between parenting and delinquency and various criminological theories have included

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parenting behaviors among their explanatory variables (Siegel, Welsh and Senna, 2017).
While delinquency is a common characteristic of the period and the process of becoming an adult, it is very important to note that juveniles often create stable criminal groups with a corresponding subculture and start to engage in the activities of adult criminal groups, in effect choosing delinquent careers. Different juvenile groups adopt what amounts to a heterogeneous mix or synthesis of predominant values, which are spread by the tri-media and intergenerational values. The peer group plays an important part in the construction of gender roles and relations, including delinquent behavior.

Youth gangs reflect the gender-based power relations in society and the related discourse and practices by which they are reproduced. Consequently, differences in male and female behavior in this context are partly a product of the social construction of gender dominance and subordination in gang arrangements (Bynum and Thomson, 2012). The utility of psychopathic traits predicting various forms of antisocial behavior has been demonstrated extensively. However, there are mixed results concerning which of the three psychopathic personality dimensions, callous and unemotional traits, grandiose and manipulative interpersonal style, impulsive-irresponsible behavior, is the best predictor of antisocial behavior in adolescence. In this study, we examined developmental trajectories of antisocial behavior over four years in adolescence and psychopathic traits as predictors of these trajectories. Results showed that four trajectories described the development of antisocial behavior from early to middle adolescence in the current sample. Both grandiose-manipulative traits and impulsive-irresponsible behavior were significant predictors of the high and elevated trajectories whereas callous-unemotional traits were not (Salihovic and Stattin, 2017).

Children's behavior problems have long been considered precursors of juvenile delinquency and adult criminality. The development of these behavior problems during the elementary school years was the object of intensive investigations over the last quarter of the 20th century. A number of large-scale longitudinal studies in different industrialized countries used repeated measurements over many years to trace the development of behavior problems. Hence, a determination of whether physical aggression is a distinct risk factor for later physical violence is important for both conceptual and practical reasons. Conceptually, the nature of the link between childhood aggression and adult physical violence is a central issue in developmental theory and research on violence (Nagin, Bates physical and Dodge, 2013).

Relatively with the delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law, in the local setting, the age of criminal responsibility under the Revised Penal Code is over nine years of age. Therefore, a person under nine years of age is exempt from criminal liability. The exemption is absolute, thus a child who commits an offence shall instead be committed to the care of his or her parents, guardians, nearest relatives or friends under the discretion of the court and subject to its supervision. On the other hand, a person over nine and under 15 years of age is likewise exempt unless he or she is proven to have acted with discernment. The Supreme Court interpreted discernment to mean the mental capacity of the person to understand the difference between right and wrong and to fully appreciate the consequences of his or her unlawful act (Ateneo Human Rights Center, 2014).

From the preceding paragraphs, and by the alarming increase of the frequency of occurrences of children in conflict with the law in the different provinces, cities, and municipalities of the country, the researcher has conceptualized of conducting this study, purposely to identity the predictors on delinquency trajectories, and to formulate a proposed action of action plan in the prevention deviant behavior from among adolescents, as the country's precious jewels and future of the nation. Hence, this was come into being.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study determined the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law, as basis for proposed intervention strategies.
Specifically, it sought to answer the following problems:
What is the profile of children in conflict with the law in terms of:
1.1 age;
1.2 sex;
1.3 education;
1.4 social status;
1.5 group membership; and
1.6 offense committed?

2. How may the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law described by the respondents in terms of:
2.1 sociological influence;
2.2 cultural transmission;
2.3 family disorganization; and
2.4 peer influence factor?

3. Is there a significant difference in the assessment between and among the different groups of respondents on the predictors of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law?

4. How may the prevention of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law described by the respondents in terms of:
4.1 parenting skills;
4.2 informal control;
4.3 social services; and
4.4 community mobilization?

5. Is there a significant difference in the assessment between and among the different groups of respondents on the prevention on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law?
6. What proposed intervention strategies can be formulated as an outcome of the study?

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METHODS

This research study used the descriptive method of research. Descriptive type of research was defined by Binder and Geis (2013), as a study that finds answer to the questions who, what, when, where and how. This type of research method described a situation or given state of affairs in terms of special aspects or factors. To better understand what the descriptive type of research is, it is also defined by Best and Khan (2013), as involving collection of data in order to answer questions concerning the status of the subject of the study. Typically, this answer the question "what is?"

This study used the quantitative type of research by assigning numerical values in the analysis of each of the variables, purposely to study the problems at hand. Typically, as stated by Good and Scates (2004) this answers the question, "what is?" Likewise, as mentioned in the work of Soriano, Caño and Loñez (2017), this research study also follows the ethical standards that require that researcher not to put participants in a situation where they might be at risk of harm as a result of their participation. Harm can be defined as both physical and psychological.

Based on the data coming from the research locale, the population of the study includes 240 children in conflict with the law and other 290 adult respondents composed of 15 barangay protection center for children officers (BPCCOs), 35 rank and files of the Molave Center for Youth (CSWDO), and 240 parents or guardians (P/Gs) of children in conflict with the law. Using the purposive probability sampling technique, the respondents of the studyinclude 44 children in conflict with the law, 10 barangay protection center for children officers (BPCCOs), 15 rank and files of the Molave Center for Youth (CSWDO), and 19 parents or guardians (P/Gs) of the CICL.

This study uses a questionnaire checklist that was devised with the help and guidance of an adviser, and using the work of Sprinthall and Collins (2014) as reference. The reliability and validity of the instrument were determined through the conduct of test-retest as postulated by Hagan (2010), to the ten (10) respondents in each of the group of respondents. The reliability which refers to the consistency of measuring instrument, often used to describe a test-retest was determined by administering the instrument to the same groups of respondents in an interval of one (1) month. The reliability coefficient was computed by using the Pearson r or machine formula.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As to the profile in regards with age, ranked first and obtained a frequency of 18 and percentage distribution of 40.41% are 13 to 14 years of age, ranked second and obtained a frequency of 14 and percentage distribution of 31.82% are 17 to 18 years of age, and ranked third and obtained a frequency of 12 and percentage distribution of 27.27% are 15 to 16 years of age. These findings are likewise related with the findings in the study of Bocar (2014) which found out that the majority of children in conflict with the law are near matured, and they are in their age brackets that the court has to determine whether they have acted with discernment or not, but still they have been accorded with the intent, purpose, objectives and procedures of juvenile justice system. As to their sex, ranked first and obtained a frequency of 33 and percentage distribution of 75.00% are male, and ranked second and obtained a frequency of 11 and percentage distribution of 25.00% are female. As to education, 47.33% are high school graduate, ranked second and obtained a frequency of 14 and percentage distribution of 31.82% are elementary graduate, and ranked third and obtained a frequency of 9 and percentage distribution of 20.45% are senior high school graduate. On the other hand, 40.91% are below poverty line, ranked second and obtained a frequency of 12 and percentage distribution of 27.27% are poor family, ranked third and obtained a frequency of 8 and percentage distribution of 18.18% are middle level family, and ranked fourth and obtained a frequency of 6 and percentage distribution of 13.64% are affluent family. In addition, 73.73% are members of fraternity and sorority, ranked second and obtained a frequency of 8 and percentage distribution of 18.18% are members of delinquent street gangs, and ranked first and obtained a frequency of 4 and percentage distribution of 9.09% are out of school youth.

These findings are similar with the findings in the work of Urminita (2018), which suggest that majority of them are members of fraternity or sorority. Hence, taking into considerations their educational profile, this also impliedly and explicitly suggest that the children involved in the committing crimes or offenses are affiliated with an association which is not duly recognized by the school, or even the community. Moreover, this fraternity and sorority are locally based organizations, and that was formed in their respective turfs. Lastly, 25.00% committed vandalism, ranked second and obtained a frequency 8 and percentage distribution of 18.18% committed petty street crimes, ranked third and obtained a frequency 7 and percentage distribution of 16.91% committed violation of curfew hours, ranked fourth and obtained a frequency 6 and percentage distribution of 13.64% committed violation of drug laws, ranked fifth and obtained a frequency 5 and percentage distribution of 11.36% committed malicious mischief, ranked sixth and obtained a frequency of 4 and percentage distribution of 9.09% committed bullying, and ranked seventh and obtained a frequency of 3 and percentage distribution of 6.82% committed physical injuries.

Predictors on Delinquency Trajectories of Children in Conflict with the Law

The respondents described the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to sociological influence, based on the following: exposing to other criminogenic influences, such as the frequent changes in the residential environment, with a weighted mean of 2.87, agree or predisposing; community's variations that is responsible to the varied effects on delinquency in different society, with a weighted mean of2.84, agree or predisposing; environment offering opportunities and examples of criminal behavior through differential association, with a weighted mean of 2.82,agree or predisposing; places in which criminal activities are common and

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tends to establish deviant behavior as acceptable, with a weighted mean of 2.80, agree or predisposing; and neighborhoods influencing children's behavior by providing examples of the values that people hold, with a weighted mean of 2.75, agree or predisposing. The grand weighted mean is 2.82, with a weighted ranging from 2.75 to 2.87, and the overall verbal description is "Agree" while the overall verbal interpretation is predisposing.

As can be deduced from the findings, the different groups of respondents assessed the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to sociological influence as predisposing. This assessment is similar with the assessments made in the study of Blanc and Kaspy (2018), which stated that the characteristics of social areas contribute to the explanation of individual delinquent conduct and individuals living in areas characterized by weakened family units and peer influence and less attachment and commitment to school than do individuals living in more organized areas.

Furthermore, the respondents described the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to cultural transmission, based on the following: learning the culture that allows adolescents to acquire the skills of delinquency in the neighborhood, with a weighted mean of 3.06, agree or predisposing; growing-up in an adverse cultural environment thatincrease the likelihood to develop deviant behavior, with a weighted mean of2.97, agree or predisposing; exposing the adolescents to deviant behavior, especially at a young age, through enculturation, with a weighted mean of 2.96, agree or predisposing; institutionalizing the process that is introduced to adolescents the deviant behavior of the social system, with a weighted mean of 2.82, agree or predisposing; and influence adolescents' development in a culture that is exposed within the social disorganization contexts, with a weighted meanof 2.50, agree or predisposing. The grand weighted mean is 3.90, with a weighted mean ranging from 2.50 to 3.06, and the overall verbal description is "Agree" while the overall verbal interpretation is predisposing. As can be surmised from the findings, the different groups of respondents assessed the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to cultural transmission as predisposing. These findings are similar with the work of Simons and Simons (2017), which mentioned that cultural transmission is the way a group of people within a society or culture tend to learn and pass on information. Hence, it is believed that cultural learning differences may be responses to the physical environment in the areas in which a culture was initially founded.

Additionally, the respondents described the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to family disorganization, based on the following: children who are born and raised in asingle-parent family resulting to an increased risk of delinquency, with a weightedmean of 3.08. agree or predisposing; consequences of broken homes which isrelated to the family conflict prior to the separation of parents, with a weightedmean of 3.07, agree or predisposing; growing-up of children in a type of familythat has experienced separation that is producing delinquency, with a weightedmean of 3.00, agree or predisposing; negative experience from disruptive parenting practices and antisocial personality of the parents, with a weightedmean of 2.97, agree or predisposing; and family relationships influencing thedevelopment of anti-social behavior and delinquency of children, with a weightedmean of 2.93, agree or predisposing. The grand weighted mean is 3.01, with a weighted mean ranging from 2.93 to 3.08, and the overall verbal description is "Agree" while the overall verbal interpretation is predisposing.

As can be gleaned from the findings, the different groups of respondents assessed the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to family disorganization as predisposing. These findings are similar with findings in the study of Krupa and Childs (2015) which discussed that various aspects of family functioning can influence children's involvement in deviant behavior by promoting resilience and by increasing the risk of delinquency. This It is also considered that disorganized families are more likely to have children who are in conflict with the law, or juvenile delinquents.

Lastly, the respondents described the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to peer influence factor as strongly predisposing, based on the following: involvement with anti-social peers that had a direct effect on subsequent delinquency and behavior,with a weighted mean of 3.39, agree or predisposing; peer approval of deviant ordelinquent behavior that are associated with adolescent anti-social behavior, witha weighted mean of 3.38, agree or predisposing; increasing admiration of defiantand anti-social behavior from influential peers within the locality, with a weightedmean of 3.36, agree or predisposing, and existence of street gangs that provides positive reinforcement on the deviant behavior of adolescents, with a weighted mean of 3.34, agree or predisposing. The respondents described the same variable as predisposing with regard to the association with deviant peers that ishaving strong influence on the onset of delinquency and criminality, with aweighted mean of 3.29.

As can be inferred from the findings, the different groups of respondents assessed the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law as to peer influence factor as predisposing. These findings are the same with the findings in the work of Chiu (2014), that peer relationships influence the growth of problem behavior in youth. That peer influence suggests that the desired positive effects of interventions may be offset by peer influences.

Prevention of Delinquency Trajectories on Children in Conflict with the Law

As can be inferred from the findings, the different groups of respondents assessed the prevention of on delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law as to parenting skills as effective. These findings are the similar with the work of

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Vitaro, Bredgen and Tremblay (2016) which suggested that parenting skills have been shown to positively affect both parents and children. Often, only short-term effects have been demonstrated, which, rather than indicating parenting does not matter, suggests that programs must do more to have a lasting impact on parenting behavior, vis-à-vis with the adolescent behavior. Furthermore, the different groups of respondents assessed the prevention of on delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law as to social control as effective. These findings are the similar with the work of Vitaro, Bredgen and Tremblay (2016), that social control has been associated with community-level theories such as social disorganization, systemic theory, and collective efficacy. Together, these perspectives provide the basis for the specification of mechanisms that reflect how social control can prevent the predisposing factors of children in conflict with the law. Additionally, similar with the statement made by Howell (2015), that if the prevention of children in conflict with the law are to be truly effective, social services must be given to marginalized, vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in society, and issues relating to children in conflict with the law should be a central focus of the social services policies. Lastly, the different groups of respondents assessed the prevention of on delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law as to community mobilization as effective. These is similar with the concepts and principles presented by Burns (2013), that community mobilization plays the primary role in preventing the problems on children in conflict with the law and juvenile delinquency and the criminal victimization of juveniles. With national and local governments' support, communities can successfully change local conditions to help youth become law abiding, productive citizens; hence, when all members of the community will work together to achieve common goals, everyone benefits from the strength of a working partnership.

Significant Difference in the Assessments of Respondents on the Predictors on Delinquency Trajectories of Children in Conflict with the Law

Table 1 presents the summary of the significant difference in the assessments of the different groups of respondents on the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law.

As reflected in the table, the summary of significant difference in the assessments of the different groups of respondents on the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law are as follows: mean square between: sum of squares - 0.2315, degree of freedom - 2, and mean square - 0.1157; mean square within: sum of squares - 4.946, degree of freedom - 57, and mean squares - 0.0868; p-value - .05; F-table value - 3.16; F-computed value - 1.33; total sum of squares - 5.178; total degree of freedom - 59; and total mean square - 0.2025. The F-computed value is lower than the F-table value, not significant at 0.05 level.

Table 1
Summary of Significant Difference Matrix on the Predictors on Delinquency Trajectories of Children in Conflict with the Law

Source	SS	DF	MS	P	FTV	FCV	Interpretation
MSB	0.2315	2	0.1157	.05	3.18	1.33	**Not Significant**
MSW	4.946	57	0.0868				
T o t a l	5.178	59	0.2025				

Legend:

MSB - Mean of Square Between
MSW - Mean of Square Within
SS - Sum of Squares
DF - Degree of Freedom
MS - Mean Square
P - P-Value
F-TV - F-Table Value
F-CV - F-Computed Value

As can be extracted from the findings, the different groups of respondents have the same perceptions on the predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law. The similarities of the perceptions of respondents are basically derived from their first-hand experience on the existence of the problems of involving the adolescents in their respective neighborhoods. The respondents agreed from among themselves that the most predisposing factors producing the phenomenon of children in conflict with the law within the contemporary society are the following: sociological influence, cultural transmission, family disorganization, and peer influence factor.

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Significant Difference in the Assessments of Respondents on the Prevention Delinquency Trajectories of Children in Conflict with the Law

Table 2 presents the summary of the significant difference in the assessments of the three groups of respondents on the prevention of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law

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Table 2
Summary of Significant Difference Matrix on the Predictors on Prevention Trajectories of Children in Conflict with the Law

Source	SS	DF	MS	P	FTV	FCV	Interpretation
MSB	0.0494	2	0.0247	.05	3.18	0.38	**Not Significant**
MSW	3.6847	57	0.0646				
T o t a l	3.7341	59	0.0893				

Legend:
MSB - Mean of Square Between
MSW - Mean of Square Within
SS - Sum of Squares
DF - Degree of Freedom
MS - Mean Square
P - P-Value
F-TV - F-Table Value
F-CV - F-Computed Value

As stipulated in the table, the summary of significant difference in the assessments of the different
groups of respondents on the prevention of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law are as follows: mean square between: sum of squares - 0.0494, degree of freedom - 2, and mean square - 0.0247; mean square within: sum of squares - 3.6847, degree of freedom - 57, and mean squares – 0.0646; p-value - .05; F-table value - 3.16; F-computed value - 0.38; total sum of squares - 3.7341; total degree of freedom - 59; and total mean square - 0.0893. The F-computed value is lower than the F-table value, not significant at 0.05 level. As can be obtained from the findings, the different groups of respondents have the same perceptions on the prevention of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law. The union in the views of respondents is due to their respective involvement in preventing the occurrence of the problem involving children in conflict with the law in their respective communities.

Proposed Intervention Strategies

The proposed intervention strategies aim to prevent juvenile delinquency through mentoring programs, school-based programs, after-school programs, job-training programs, and community-based programs, implemented by barangay protection center officers in coordination with youth centers and parents. Mentoring programs provide at-risk youth with guidance from volunteers who act as supportive role models. School-based programs focus on student safety and structured interventions in high schools and early college years to prevent delinquency. After-school programs, such as tutoring, sports, and community activities, engage youth in positive outlets, reducing anti-social behavior under the supervision of barangay officials and social workers. Job-training programs help young individuals develop employable skills, fostering financial independence and reducing their likelihood of criminal involvement. Community-based programs analyze delinquency trends, identify local resources, and adapt successful models to address youth issues. Research supports the effectiveness of these comprehensive approaches in reducing juvenile delinquency. However, these programs receive significantly less funding than punitive measures in the juvenile justice system, as prevention is often viewed as wasteful spending. Despite this, delinquency prevention has demonstrated financial and social benefits, proving to be a valuable investment. The future of these programs depends on increasing public awareness and advocacy to shift policy perspectives toward proactive interventions rather than punitive responses. With continued efforts from local and national governments, along with growing evidence of successful prevention strategies, these initiatives show promise in reducing juvenile delinquency and fostering youth rehabilitation.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above findings, the following conclusions were deduced:

1. Majority of children in conflict with the law are near matured in their age, male gender which is more susceptible to delinquency, high school graduate, which clear shows lack of disposition, below poverty line which manifest sub-culture, members of fraternity and sorority that influenced their behavior, and committed vandalism, which is common in impoverished places.
2. The predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law with regard to the following variables were described by the different groups of responses as follows: sociological
influence was predisposing; cultural transmission was predisposing; family disorganization was predisposing; and peer influence factor was predisposing.
3. The prevention of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law with regard to the following variables were described by the different groups of respondents as follows: parenting skills was effective; informal control was effective; social services were effective; and community mobilization was effective.
4. Based on statistical data, the hypothesis of no significant difference in the assessments of the different groups of respondents on the predictors of delinquency trajectories on children in conflict with the law, with regard to the following variables: sociological influence, cultural transmission; family disorganization; peer influence factor, was accepted.
5. Based on statistical data, the hypothesis of no significant difference in the assessments of the different groups of respondents on the prevention on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law with regard to the following variables: parenting skills, informal control, social services, and community mobilization, was accepted.

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6. The program, projects, and activities of the proposed intervention strategies such as mentoring programs, school-based, after-school programs, job-training programs, and community-based programs will be able to minimize if not totally addressed the existence of delinquency trajectories that predisposes the adolescents in deviant behavior.

Recommendations

From the above conclusions, the following recommendations were made:

1. Full operations of day care centers and youth public institutions to be operated by the barangay protection center for children that will cater the moral development needs of adolescents through positive early socialization that will help develop self-esteem, self-concept, and self-control; guided by the theoretical principles of "parens patriae" and "in loco parentis."
2. Conduct of social investigation to determine the social, economic, political, and cultural conditions prevailing in the locality purposely to know the root causes of neighborhood decay which consequently producing the existence of predictors on delinquency trajectories of children in conflict with the law, and using it as reference in addressing the problem.
3. Institutionalization of education model programs that will assist the families and children by providing them with information, which involves some programs to inform parents on how to raise

healthy children; teach children about the effects of dangerous drugs, and delinquent street gangs, and aimed to express to the youth the innate worth they have.

4. Observance of the periodic and regular programs that consistently demonstrated positive effects on youth to include those programs, projects and activities which will strengthen the institutions of school and family in the life of the youth, such as parent training or family counseling; and youth employment on vocational training programs.
5. Adoption and subsequent implementation of proposed intervention strategies at the barangay level, the barangay protection center for children officers serving as the office personally responsible, in close coordination with center for youth, taking into consideration the role of the different sectors as provided for by R.A. No. 9344, as amended by R.A. No. 10630.

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