

An Empirical Analysis of the Factors Pushing the Educated Youth in Crimes: Evidence from Pakistan

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ABSTRACT

Education is the foundation of economic, social, political, spiritual and cultural development of a country and education youth is the future of every nation. But unfortunately there are some forces and factors which influence educated youth to commit crimes in the context of Pakistan. These forces may be social, socio-economic, political or cultural etc. This study identified these forces and causes of crimes in the educated youth which may be helpful for the parents, teachers, employers, planners, policymakers, police, courts and also for the criminals themselves to know what are the forces pushing them in the hell of crime and how they can get rid of such forces. In this study, data were collected from jails/prisons of different cities of Pakistan through questionnaire and interview. Data analysis comprised on chi-square testing method. Results indicated the weaknesses and flaws in planning, organizing, and controlling public sector, due to which a great number of people indulge in criminal activities.

Key Words: Factors, Educated Youth, Education, Crimes

INTRODUCTION

There is a strong relationship between substance abuse and criminal activity, the more serious the substance abuse problem; the more likely the youth will be involved in serious crime. These are the forces and factors which demonstrate the intensity, type and nature of crime in youth of a nation. The examinations of Karachi University, Liaqat Medical College, Chandka Medical College and Agriculture University in Sindh were late for three to four years and the reason is the riots and terrorists activities in the educational institution (Shaker, 2000).

The dignitaries of Sindh and their sons are found involved in criminal activities. The governor of one province was also involved in drug trafficking. The children of elite class involved in corruption, robbery and gang raping. Their parents are resourceful and they save them from police actions (Mehmood, 2003)

Population of Pakistan is divided into two major sets, the Sunnis and the Shias. The Sunnis are further divided into numerous sub sects while violent confrontation is not unknown amongst the Sunni sub-sects, the major conflict is between the Sunni and Shia militant groups. They receive support from politico-religious parties inside the country, and use mosques and religious seminaries for indoctrination

and inculcating mutual hatred. Sectarian violence is most common in the Punjab. The way of life of heroin users as filling the void created by jobless youngsters lift weapons and a beast starts to run in them. It is hard to control crimes caused due to economic disparity (Pearson, 1987). Unemployment to be most strongly associated with high juvenile 14-17 years arrest rates, but under employment (inadequate pay and hours) with high young adult 18-24 (Steffenmeier et. al, 2001).

The main objective of the study is to investigate the nature and causes of crimes in educated youth which may be helpful for the parents, teachers, employers, planners, policymakers, police, and courts and also for the criminals themselves to know what the forces are pushing them in the hell of crime and how they can get rid of such forces. Study was focused to the prisoners according to qualification i.e. Matric, Intermediate, Graduation and Post Graduation.

This study can be helpful for the planners and policy makers to discover the solutions and minimize the crime rate of the valuable youth.

It is the paramount need of the time to know that what are the forces and factors responsible of the destruction of our future assets.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter the researcher reviewed the nature of crimes and causes of crimes in young educated people in developed and under-developed countries specifically in Pakistan. The researcher focused the literature on societal factors political, religio-political forces, human right conditions and psychological factors of crimes in youth. The very first thing to be noticed is that we have rejected God's law. And we are paying a painful price (Bryant, et al. 2000).

Absolute Moral Values

The primary cause for our youth on the rampage is our modern deficit in moral teaching. It is virtually nonexistent. As a society we no longer believe that there exists absolute right and wrong. As a people, we have forgotten that education is more than reading, writing, math and science

Societal Factors

Society also has the great impact on the youth and channeling the behavior of young people. Many studies show the role of society in criminal behavior as follows:

Employment in the government sector is frequently based on political affiliations and corruption is widespread. The result is crime, drug abuse and urban violence. This circumstance fueled an unparalleled measure of youth involvement with pacifism and associated ideological movements, particularly among college

youth, but other developments also affected the youth subculture. Among these were a marked increase in the use and acceptability of drugs of various kinds, predominantly marijuana; an intensification of the degree of ideological content in popular music directed at youth; increased stress on sexual freedom and an expanded acceptance of sex relations before marriage; intensified concern with social justice as it affects blacks and other categories of Americans; a heightened emphasis on the value of “inner experience” and the value of warm interpersonal interaction, and a concomitant devaluation of the “Protestant ethic” emphasis on achievement, material success, and technological orientation associated with the “middle-class values” of the adult generation (Short, 2006).

Weakening of Social Control

The greater impersonality of the urban setting has increasingly produced a weakening of the social controls over youth that are ordinarily exercised through the family, the neighborhood, or the community. As a result, an increasingly distinct youth subculture has developed, with its own styles of dress, music, and forms of recreation and excitement. Attitudes favorable to crime are acquired primarily through companions and through participation in small, intimate groups such as youth gangs (Windlesham 2007).

Personal Freedom and Crimes

It has been said that countries that give their citizens a large degree of personal freedom have the greatest incidence of deviant or criminal behavior. Durkheim, on the other hand, pointed out that a high crime rate is almost always a product of rapid economic development and social change. A sudden rise in prosperity and technology creates what he called “overweening ambition”; that is, people develop unreasonably high expectations. In their rush for material gain, Some play by the rules while others ignore them (Julain, 2001).

Marital Life and Crimes

To illustrate from the Pakistani culture, particularly that of low socio-economic strata of society in the villages, girls are married early and most of these marriages are arranged. The studies have discovered that usually the marriages are not well matched and most of the girls get distasteful husbands who are usually old in age. In some cases, however, the husbands are too young to bear the responsibility of married life. The marriages usually take place without the consent of the girls, and sometimes even against the wishes and interests of them. This causes a lot of social problems. The result is tension, conflict, disputes and brawls, which cause to the frustrated girl a further unhappiness. Sometimes passion of jealousy, particularly the sexual one, leads many a woman to maddening moments of their lives in which they commit crime like murder and serious hurts (Tariq, 2009).

Association with Criminals

A study titled "A sociological study of Juvenile Delinquency", selected a sample of 110 delinquents. The hypothesis of the study was 'more the interaction of the teen anger with non conformist more will be the Juvenile delinquency'. The researcher found that majority of them i.e. nearly ninety one percent committed crime under influence of association with non-conformist person. He further concluded that one of the factors which was affecting the phenomenon was the disparity of income among the respondents (Aslam, 2004).

People of the Street

Young people around in the streets all day, with nothing to do and nowhere to go together in-groups and the 'successful' criminal has a story to tell. So one evil has bred another, and as unemployment has grown in both older and younger generation's crime has become more commonplace and more acceptable. This is a vicious circle to which there is no present end in sight (Holdaway, 2008).

Opportunity to Crime

Crime is disproportionately committed by unmarried people, by people living in large cities, and by people who have moved house often, and live in areas of high residential mobility. Young people who are strongly attached to their parents or to their school, or who have high educational and occupational aspirations, are less likely to commit crime; young people who do poorly at school, or have friends who are criminals, are more likely to do so. (Smith, 2001).

Economic Factors

Economic Conditions and Monetary needs also pushing the educated youth in the hell of crimes:

The relationship between crime and unemployment (or poverty) is probably complex, not simple we might discover that as unemployment rates go up, crime rates go up. Philip Cook followed 325 men who had been released from Massachusetts prisons in 1959 and found that parolees who were able to find "satisfactory" jobs (not just any job) were less likely than other parolees to have their parole revoked because they committed a new crime during an eighteen-month follow-up period (Cox, 2007).

Future of Graduates

It is rather unfortunate that many of our higher educational programs are not career-oriented. Even those programs, which are career-oriented, for example,

education in medicine, lack measures for the adjustment and absorption of the professionals in the economy of the country (Deeba, 2010).

Get Rich Quickly

More than seventy percent of the sample observed that causes of crime, in their own words, were (a) Nowadays people feel they can get something for nothing and not have to work for it; (b) There is so much emphasis today on getting rich quick that people feel money is the most important thing; (c) Parent do not have enough authority over children today (Majeed, 2011).

Youth groups often look upon crime as an exciting adventure, particularly because it involves the risks of danger and the challenge of breaking the law.

Socioeconomic Status

Class variations, as indicated by statistics, are spectacular. Arrests and convictions are conspicuously rare in the upper classes and frequently in the lower classes. Sheldon Glueck and Eleanor Glueck found that of 1,000 juvenile delinquents, about three-fourths were from families. below the “level of comfort” (defined as having resources to survive four months of unemployment without going on relief). Psychological factors also cause the criminality in educated youth.

Theft for Pleasure

An act common to juveniles is auto theft for pleasure rather than profit. In the United States we distinguish between “joyriding” and “Grand theft auto”. Juveniles far more often than adults steal cars for the quick thrill of possession and “cruising “. Adults far more commonly steal a car in order to sell it or its parts (Mednick et. al, 2001).

Gender’s Criminality

Men retain a monopoly over weapons and training for war. With respect to crimes based on personal victimization, such as robbery, assault, burglary and rape, female criminality can hardly be compared to criminality among men (Gibbons, 2002).

Neurotic Sufferings

Some crimes, especially those of a compulsive nature, are committed by people diagnosed as neurotic. The obsessive-compulsive neurotic suffers from an inability to stop him or herself from thinking irrational thoughts (obsessions) or performing irrational actions (compulsions). Kleptomania (compulsive stealing) and pyromania (compulsive fire setting) are examples of behaviors, which often

have a forced quality-the person seems to have no control over them (Lillyquist, 2010).

Powerlessness and delinquency success can be achieved by legal or illegal means. Similarly, Talbot Parsons suggests that delinquency is a symptom of youth's economic and political powerlessness in a culture which derogates stupidity and attaches great significance to educational credentials (Platt, 2011).

Emotional Maladjustment

Arson for vengeance is more common---by angry employees, jealous lovers, embittered enemies, or hostile neighbors. In the psychopathic class fall all criminals who are unable to 'control their behavior in a legally acceptable way because of a major emotional maladjustment. This includes not only the legally insane but also all others with more or less permanent complexes, phobias, manias, and other instabilities or disturbance that result in criminal acts. In some cases the behavior is wildly erratic and may result in any of a wide of crimes (Hortan, 2000).

Political Maladjustment

The political dimension of upper-world malpractice cannot be overlooked. In some Third World and Comecon nations, fraud and corruption may be endemic, but beliefs about their prevalence are damaging not only for the personal standing of politicians but also because of their effect on economic motivation and social morale (Levi, 2012).

Political Nurseries

There are some well-known political student organizations at the campuses working as nurseries for different political parties and are patronized by them. The political parties support these student organizations with money, literature and arms. These parties use students for their own aims and purposes without taking into consideration their future. Moreover, students are aware of their strength and under the support of political parties they use it to the best of their abilities. This indirect involvement of students in politics has disrupted educational process and peace of the institutions (Deeba, 2010).

Trends of Movies, Computer Games and Literature

Before closing this article, we must consider one final factor contributing to the rise in youth violence-our entertainment industry. Our 90s television shows, movies, computer and video games depend on violence to create excitement and action. If we stand back and look objectively at our television, movie and computer screens, it is not hard to see that our children are being fed a steady diet of fighting, blood and gore.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Descriptive research method was adopted for this study. The researcher himself has visited the prisons / jails in Rawalpindi, Lahore, Peshawar, Nowshera, Multan, Bahawalpur, Karachi and Hyderabad, to collect data. The records of the Department of the Police, the Prison Department, FIA (federal investigative bodies) have been studied; Questionnaires have been developed for educated criminals, Experts, educators, policy-makers to control crime and students to discover the causes of the crimes in the educated youths. Structured interviews of educated prisoners and prison officials have been conducted to know the real causes and the reasons for youth crimes.

Population

The population consisted on the prisoners educated in prisons/jails of Pakistan, including Punjab, KPK, Sindh, Balochistan and Fata. We investigated criminals educated both sexes aged 15 to 25. Research has been extended to the views and opinions of educators, experts and officials to control crime, judges of the courts, scholars religious, politicians and govt. high-ups and lawyers. Learn about trends and attitudes, the students of schools, colleges and universities have also been studied.

Sample

Because of the constraint of time and resources, research sample was taken from Rawalpindi, Lahore, Multan, Bahawalpur, Nowshera, Peshawar, Karachi, Hyderabad and Quetta prison.

Research Instruments

Questionnaires for criminals of education, Justice of the courts, educators; control agencies, experts and students from crime was developed.

Data Collection

As the research topic is related to social sciences, the researcher collected data from human beings alive. The researcher himself visited prison holds of prisons/ establishments Rawalpindi, Lahore, Multan, Bahawalpur, Karachi, Hyderabad. The questionnaire to Quetta, prison was administered by the Prisons Department. The delivered researcher educator himself and collected questionnaire reply in person. The researcher also met with religious scholars, politicians, psychologists, NGO staff, master tutors and officials Government and collected relevant data.

Observation

The researcher used his observation as a research tool when he visited prisons/prisoners. He observed living facilities granted to prisoners and food conditions. It also observed classes where the different NGOs professors taught the prisoners. The researcher also visited the workshops where the trainers are trained prisoners to different skills. A checklist was used for this purpose. The researcher spent several days with the detainees in the prisons of Rawalpindi, Lahore, Bahawalpur, Multan, Nowsera, Peshawar, Karachi and Hyderabad.

Interviews

The researcher did informal interview with fifty prisoners and asked the questions open-ended. Established relationships with detainees and prisoners researcher therefore agreed to express their opinion. "Questions raised by the researcher in media, movies, games, music, videos, literature, friends, family and forces pushed on crimes." An interview was also taken fifteen officials of the prison include the Superintendent of the prison, Superintendent Jail, the prison psychologist and prison doctors.

Data Analysis

Have analyzed the data collected through Questionnaires using the statistical tool of the chi-squared for each element, and also the percentages were calculated. The Chi-square formula (χ^2) is set out as follows:

$$\chi^2 = \sum [(f_o - f_e)^2]$$

FO = frequency of occurrence of the facts observed or experimentally determined

Fe = frequency expected on an assumption

Data collected from a structured interview for educated prisoners and prison officials were analyzed and interpreted by taking their percentages.

On the basis of the analysis of the study, the conclusions were drawn and recommendations have been made to develop strategies and measures to overcome crimes in youth educated in Pakistan.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Hypothesis: Educated criminals hold responsible different factors equally to contribute in their crimes.

Table 1 Educated criminals make responsible to parents, teachers, society, economic factor and political factors

	Male	Female	fo	%	fe	(fo-fe)/(fo+fe)
Parents	22	12	238	20	241.60	0.05
Teacher	0	0	0	0	241.60	241.60
Society	46	7	53	4	241.60	147.23
Economic factor	753	42	795	65	241.60	1267.60
Political factor	122	0	122	10	241.60	59.21
Total	1147	61	1208			1715.68

It is observed from Table 31 that the value of χ^2 (Calculated) 1715.68 is greater than the value of χ^2 (Tabulated) 9.49, hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Further, Table 31 shows that sixty five percent of educated criminals held responsible for their crime to economic factors and none of them held responsible to the teachers. However twenty percent of the educated criminals blamed parents for their crime. The statement “Educated criminals hold responsible different factors equally to contribute in their crime” is disapproved by the observed group.

Madinnus had also the similar results, “In comparison with non-offenders, delinquents are more likely to say that their childhood experiences with their parents were unpleasant and that they rejected the parents as models while they were young” (Medinnus; 1965).

Hypothesis: The educated criminals equally belong to posh area, dense populated (urban) area, and rural area.

Table 2 Criminals Belong To Different Areas Equally

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	(fo-fe)/(fo+fe)
Posh Area	219	0	219	18	402.67	83.78
Dense populated	503	21	524	43	402.67	36.56
Rural Area	425	40	465	39	402.67	9.65
Total	1141	61	1202			129.98

Hypothesis: Half of the population of criminal frequently watches X movies and half do not.

Table 3 Educated Criminals Watch X Movies

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	(fo-fe)/(fo+fe)
Yes	1083	27	1110	98	604.00	423.90
No	64	34	98	2	604.00	423.90
Total	1147	61	1208			847.80

Hypothesis: Half of the population of educated criminals has the connections with political parties and half has not.

Table 4 Connections With Political Parties

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Connected with Political Party	312	Nil	312	26	604.00	141.17
Not connected with Political Party	835	61	896	74	604.00	141.17

Hypothesis: Half of the population of educated criminals has the relation with gangs and half has not.

Table 5 Educated Criminals Have The Relation With Some Gang

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Related to gang	659	14	673	56	604.00	7.88
Not related to gang	488	47	535	44	604.00	7.88
Total	1147	61	1208			15.76

Hypothesis: The size of family educated criminals is equal.

Table 6 Criminal Belong To Small and Large Size of Families

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Smaller	329	17	346	29	604.00	110.21
Larger	818	44	862	71	604.00	110.21
total	1147	61	1208			220.41

Hypothesis: Educated criminal population equally like simple and lavish life.

Table 7 Educated Criminals Like Simple or Lavish Life

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
SIMPLE	415	4	419	35	604.00	56.66
LAVISH	732	57	789	65	604.00	56.66
TOTAL	1147	61	1208			113.33

Hypothesis: Half of the population of educated criminals always seeks pleasure and half does not.

Table 8 Educated Criminals Always Seek Pleasure

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Yes	227	36	263	22	604.00	192.52
No	920	25	945	78	604.00	192.52
total	1147	61	1208			385.04

Hypothesis: Half of the educated criminals are stronger in love and affection and half are weaker.

Table 9 Educated Criminals Stronger in Affection and Love

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Yes	144	53	197	16	604.00	274.25
No	1003	8	1011	84	604.00	274.25
total	1147	61	1208			548.51

Hypothesis: Half of the educated criminals had mental shock and half had not.

Table 10 Educated Criminals Had Mental Shock

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Yes	17	12	29	2	604.00	547.39
No	1130	49	1179	98	604.00	547.39
total	1147	61	1208			1094.78

Hypothesis: Half of the educated criminals want independence without check and half do not.

Table 11 Educated Criminals Want Independence Without Check

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Yes	118	7	125	10	604.00	379.87
No	1029	54	1083	90	604.00	379.87
total	1147	61	1208			759.87

Hypothesis: Half of the educated criminals are revengeful and half are not.

Table 12 Educated Criminals Are Revengeful

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	$\frac{(fo-fe)(fo-fe)}{fe}$
Yes	178	0	178	15	604.00	300.46
No	969	61	1030	85	604.00	300.46
total	1147	61	1208			600.91

Hypothesis: Half of the educated criminals are emotional and half are not.

Table 13 Educated Criminals Are Very Much Emotional

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	(fo-fe)/(fo+fe)
Yes	987	59	1046	87	604.00	323.45
No	160	2	162	13	604.00	323.45
total	1147	61	1208			646.90

Hypothesis: Half of the educated criminals are bold and half are not.

Table: 14 Educated Criminals Are Bold

	Male	Female	fo	%	Fe	(fo-fe)/(fo+fe)
Yes	861	18	879	73	604.00	125.21
No	286	43	329	27	604.00	125.21
total	1147	61	1208			250.41

DISCUSSION

This study was focused on examining the nature and causes of crimes prevailing in our society and involvement of our educated youth. It is the fact that crimes rate among educated youth is skyrocketing. Educated youth is involved mostly in the crimes of murder, docility, hadood and narcotics. The social, political, sectarian, media and mal-psychological adjustments are the forces purring the educated youth in hell of crimes. Government efforts to reduce the crimes in educated youth are nowhere.

The reasons for crimes among the educated youth most of then pointed out enmity, property, need for money and association of friends. 46 percent of the educated prisoners in various jails accepted that Jail’s crew provides them smoking material to the prisoners.

Recommendations

Local youth clubs should be formed. The crime preventing offices and social services personnel should speak on specific topics in the youth clubs program.

1. Excessive urban growth also encouraging crimes. Restructuring of existing towns and new urban districts may also reduce crimes.
2. There should be a communal council, which should have a complete record of youth and have a constant contact with them. A school or college may fulfill this purpose.
3. Fictitious barriers or glass screen should be broken between parents and children and between teachers and taught. Teachers should feel their responsibilities as character builders, they should be healer of problems and should act as counselor. Teacher can make the dishonest as honest” or a traitor as loyal. Teacher should recognize his power as an agent of change.

4. Adults should also be very careful about their criminal behavior like tax evasion, frauds, breaking traffic regulations and other laws because children follow the adults and when they are 'grown-ups' they do the same practice.

5. Migration from rural areas to the urban areas should be stopped by industrialization in rural areas. Because the policy should be jobs are available for people, not people for jobs.

6. For reducing the sectarian violence a culture of tolerance should be developed

The breakdown of the family poses serious problems for society. Parents and other family member should try then best to unite the strong family setup.

7. Parents should pay love and affection to the young children as should not neglect them; it will help the youngsters in their psychological development.

8. Youth wings of all political parties should be banned.

9. Obscene material or literature should be banned.

10. Poverty eradication program should be started by the Government, which should provide basic technical and entrepreneurial skills to the rural poor in the age group of 15-25 years to enable them to take up self-employment. It will reduce crimes, which are due to poverty.

11. Afghan refugees in Pakistan should also be limited because their intermingling with Pakistanis will promote addiction, weapons and prostitution.

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