



A Sociological Analysis of Combined Jail Life of Juvenile and Adult Prisoners in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

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Abstract

This study examines the outcomes of frequent relations between juvenile and adult prisoners at the populous prisons of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan in districts Mansehra, Dera Ismail Khan, Peshawar, Swabi and Mardan. According to SPARC (2015), there were total of 199 juvenile prisoners out of them 132 were taken as a sample size through Sekaran (2010) sample size table. The primary data was collected through interview schedule, with major aim to see association of joint dwelling of adult prisoners and juvenile inmates in the selected prisons. For measuring the association between adult and juvenile inmates, a Chi-square test was applied by using Microsoft Excel. It was found that there exist a strong association of adult with juvenile inmates; which resulted in reinforcing the delinquent behaviour of juvenile by supporting them financially, providing them with various kinds of drugs and persuading them to join their networks after they were released. Such situation was directly contradictory to the well-being of juvenile inmates at jails, where they were supposed to rehabilitate their offending behaviour. The study recommends establishment of separate jails for juvenile inmates, being inclusive part of the JJSO-2000.

Keywords: Juvenile, Adult Prisoners, Jail Life, Delinquent Behaviour, Well-being of Juvenile

1. Introduction

Any person younger than eighteen years, if associated with any unlawful activity which is against the existing law of the country is considered a juvenile. Minor persons who face social problems in their life may mostly indulge in unlawful activities. Sometimes, they develop a relationship with adult criminals (Murugesan & Ramakrishnan, 2000). Any child who has negative peer group easily gets involved in unlawful activities and may face more severe problems. Such children, if become prisoners, are more vulnerable to join various gangs of adult prisoners. Majority of the young children who commit petty crimes do not know the consequences of their crime. When imprisoned, they find themselves in the unfamiliar environment of criminals, which is completely different for them. They slowly start interacting with adult criminals at jail and becomes member of that adult criminals' group (Rauschnig, Wiesbrock, & Lailach, 1997). The motivating factors of joining criminal groups include financial support, illegitimate power, and terror for exerting influence in the jail environment. Moreover, the neglected, marginalized, and delinquent juvenile also join these adult groups. They want to develop friendship and a good relationship in which they could spend a luxurious life (Ochola, Dzikus, & Vanderschueren, 2000).

Prisons are set up mostly for rehabilitation, counselling and for the reintegration of prisoners. However, in Pakistan, the prisons play the role of an industry where criminals are produced. In Pakistan, there are no separate prisons for minor inmates. They are housed along with women and adult inmates. Juvenile prisoners meet adult inmates and indulge in their negative groups in jails. Juvenile inmates learn new methods of wrongdoings from adult criminals. Adult inmates supply drugs to juvenile inmates also. They physically exploit them. The prison system and the administrative people do not play their positive role to take care of these juvenile so that they should not be involved in negative activities anymore (CGAR, 2011). According to Dawood & Zafar (2003), in Pakistan, the involvement in any unlawful group is increasing among elite children who are attracted to have guns as well as other sophisticated arms (Akbar & Bhutta, 2012). This study investigates the social impacts of joint imprisonment of the juvenile inmates with the adult and women prisoners in the prisons of Pakistan. Based on the primary data collected from selected jails, the researchers have evaluated the impacts of non-existence of separate jails for juveniles. Moreover, the collected data has been analysed in line with the available literature and findings have been presented in the conclusion.

2. Literature Review

The event of wrongdoing is an omnipresent phenomenon with shifted typology and degrees over the world. The laws put the offenders behind the bars on the charge of different offenses they commit. Jail is one of the all organizations with real order to restore the freak individuals from the public towards their reintegration into social set up. Committing a wrongdoing is regardless of age and sex in a human culture. However, there is a decent variety in the idea of discipline granted to the minor and grown-up lawbreakers. The age of adolescent furthest reaches guilty party if s/he is 18 years in the light of the Article (1) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child [UNCRC] (OHCHR, 1989). The developed social orders have set up the separate borstal institutions which puts the juvenile inmates in a rehabilitation process. The primary reason for the isolated setup is to give a situation doable to carrying delinquents to typical life. It enables them to effectively take an interest in regular daily life existence related exercises. These setups are completely ensured in all their offices. The juveniles have such a good environment which revives them for not repeating the wrongdoing afterwards (NRC, 2001).

The juvenile inmates, living with the adult prisoners, are slanted to undesired conditions like sexual abuse, developing relations with punks, making the teenagers' criminal profile more dangerous. The neighbourly condition needs to inspect their critical activities for rehabilitative endeavours conceivable to the prisoners. By virtue of such situations, the environment ends up being much fastidious for the juvenile inmates. Such condition exists in majority of modern countries with various sorts of unfavourable impact on the character of the teenager prisoners (USDJ, 2013). The criminal justice system of United States has a different equity framework for the adolescent prisoners. This framework puts more prominent accentuation on the prosperity, rehabilitation, and recovery of adolescents. They have set up adolescent focuses, preparing schools and confinement habitats for the treatment of adolescent delinquents. Furthermore, they also provide professional trainings, mental administration, and rehabilitation of the criminals. In early 1980s, social orders started to screen the expanded rate of adolescent wrongdoings (Austin, Johnson, & Gregoriou, 2000).

Joining any type of group by minors becomes a new place for their socialization, and they learn a new type of criminal acts in that group. Membership in a criminal group leads them to become

a dangerous criminal in the future. In this primary grouping and association, the juvenile feels their security and safety. Therefore, they develop friendship and make deep relations with the group members. Even they want to become head of the criminal group. In such a group, the new juvenile is treated same as other group members in terms of their status, ethnicity, and culture. In this type of group, juvenile can achieve a prominent position through his special qualities, discipline, and interest. Different studies have analysed that members of the criminal groups consider their group as a home. The adult criminals consider the juvenile as their family members. They share everything, and they help each other in any type of difficulty. Normally, the juveniles do not join the adult group; they want to live without any group. However, then they face major problems like sexual violence, harassment, oppression and live like a servant of the adult prisoners (APACVY, 1993).

Juvenile prisoners in adult prisons are more vulnerable to adult inmates (Ralph, Hunter, Marquart, Cuvelier, & Merianos 1996). In prisons, adult inmates try their best to join juvenile inmates in their group. The adult prisoners' group has the formal hierarchy where the prisoners work in various positions which are directed by the leader. These groups are more organized in criminal acts as compared to other criminals which are outside the prisons (Decker, Bynum, & Weisel, 1998; Evans, Pinnock, Beirens, & Edwards, 2006). When the adult and juvenile prisoners are in joint residency, their relationship grows deeper and deeper. The juveniles, as members of these group becomes more violent as compared to other inmates who do not join any group. Adult inmates are engaged in illegal activities and share drugs to juvenile prisoners (Jackson & McBride, 1985; Ralph et al., 1996). In the United States, about ninety percent of juvenile are in relation with adult prisoners' groups in the jails of Illinois (Lane, 1989). When these juveniles become the members of that group, the involvement in unlawful actions increases. These include, drug sales, sexual abuse and in other aggressive delinquent acts. However, when the juvenile inmates are released, their participation in unlawful activities further increases (Thornberry, 1998). The affiliation with negative gathering emphasises on maltreatment (Chong, 2013). The joining of the adult criminal group is also significant because the juvenile prisoners need security. They feel more secure in the prison from the gangs or groups of other cruel prisoners (Ralph et al., 1996).

Feeling marginalized, juvenile join negative groups for interaction and friendship that gives a sense of identity to them (Vigil & Long, 1990). In jails, gangs/criminal groups play a significant role in solving the problems of juvenile. They solve the adjustment problems and help them in trials of the juvenile inmates (Short & Strodbeck, 1965). In various parts of the world, juvenile inmates are rigorously drafted into the establishment of gangs in prisons (Johnstone, 1983). Normally, the juvenile are instinctive felons because of their culture, environment, traditions and most importantly, the involvement of their parents in negative actions (Moore, 1978). According to Thornberry (1998), the juvenile who grows up with negative neighbourhoods, distraught relatives, who are not good in study, not good in relation with their teachers, have undesirable peer groups, who's behaviours are not in line with the existing codes of the society, are in risk to become members of the gangs. The juveniles who have weapons for their protection are more prone to commit crimes, sell drugs and get involved in unlawful groups as compared to other juveniles (Block & Block, 1993; Horowitz, 1983; Newton & Zimring, 1969; Sheley & Wright, 1995).

3. Methods and Materials

The study is conducted through quantitative research method following the positivist paradigm.

The research study is limited to the five large populous jails of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan such as Mansehra, Dera Ismail Khan, Peshawar, Swabi and Mardan. Jails are selected through purposive sampling because the number of juvenile inmates is greater in these jails. According to the Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC, 2015), the total population of juvenile prisoners in the selected prisons was 199. A sample size of 132 juvenile prisoners was selected as per the analogy of Sekaran (2010) through simple random sampling. The sample population was further distributed into each stratum according to the proportional allocation method (see Table-1). The data was collected through a semi-structured interview schedule. It was helpful because the juveniles were not mature enough and educated to fill a structured questionnaire (Kumar, 2011).

To check the association between the independent variable (relation of juvenile with adult prisoners in jails) and the dependent variable (the well-being of juvenile prisoners), Chi-square test was used. The following procedures were adopted for the Chi-square test (McCall & Robert, 1975).

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^c \sum_{j=1}^r \frac{(O_{ij} - e_{ij})^2}{e_{ij}}$$

No.	Name of Jails	No of Juvenile	Sample Taken
1	Dera Ismail Khan	23	15
2	Peshawar	88	58
3	Mansehra	46	31
4	Swabi	20	13
5	Mardan	22	15
Total		199	132
<i>Source: SPARC, 2015</i>			

4. Result and Discussion

This part has two different sections that deal with the analyses of collected data from the targeted populations relating to the prisons in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Section 4.1 forms the explanation of the univariate analysis of the variable (combined residency of juveniles) of the study through descriptive statistics. Section 4.2 has the bivariate analysis of the dependent variable (Well-being of juveniles) and independent variable (combined residency of juveniles) through inferential statistics.

4.1 Univariate Analysis

The table-2 is about the relation of the adult prisoners with the juvenile inmates in the combined jail. A statement was asked about juvenile inmates to interact with the adult prisoners at the jails. The majority 87.1 percent juvenile agreed while 9.1 percent refuted the said statement while 3.8 percent of respondents were unaware of the statement. Furthermore, the juvenile inmates answered to a second statement i.e., the prison staff has a proper check on the communication or interaction of adult prisoners with the juvenile inmates. Majority of the respondents i.e., 72.7 percent disagreed, 19.7 percent juvenile respondents were of the view that they did not know about the statement and the remaining 7.6 percent respondents were agreed with the statement that the prison staff has a proper check on the interaction of adults and juvenile inmates at the jail.

The statement asked about adult criminals' supply drugs (Cigarettes/Naswar/Hashish) to juvenile at the jail. The majority 87.9 percent respondents agreed whereas 9.8 percent juvenile

negated the statement that adult prisoners did not give any type of drugs to them while the rest of the juvenile i.e., 2.3 percent said that they do not know about the availability of drugs by the adult criminals to juvenile inmates. Adult criminals have guns and other arms in jail. Majority of the respondents i.e., 60.6 percent proved the statement is positive, confirming that they had guns and knives whereas 25.8 percent were unaware and 13.6 percent juvenile did not agree and said that in jail guns and other arms are not allowed. Juvenile join adult prisoners' groups because of financial, emotional, and physical support. Majority of the juvenile i.e., 84.1 percent agreed with the statement whereas, the second largest group of the respondents i.e., 13.6 percent said that they are unaware and 2.3 percent juvenile negated that they did not join any type of adult prisoners' group in jail.

Table-2: Relationship of Juvenile with Adult Prisoners

Statements	Relations of Juvenile						Total
	A		DA		DK		
	OV	%V	OV	%V	OV	%V	
Juvenile inmates interact with adult prisoners at jail	115	87.1	12	9.1	5	3.8	132
The prison staff has check and balance on the communication of adult with juvenile inmates	10	7.6	96	72.7	26	19.7	132
Adult criminals supply drugs (Cigarettes / Naswar/Hashish/cannabis) to juvenile at jail.	116	87.9	13	9.8	3	2.3	132
Adult criminals have arms like guns and knives etc. in the jails.	80	60.6	18	13.6	34	25.8	132
Juvenile join adult prisoners' groups because of financial and emotional support	111	84.1	18	13.6	3	2.3	132

Source: Field Survey, 2016.

The above results of the empirical data confirmed the various aspects of the literature. These aspects include that whenever there is an adult criminal exist in the jail, the association between adult and juvenile inmates becomes very profound. Furthermore, the juvenile who are engaged in any type of group in the prisons are more violent and criminal minded as compared to those juveniles who are not engaged in groups or gangs in the jails (Jackson & McBride, 1985; Ralph et al., 1996). Similarly, inside the group, all members properly treat each other consider themselves as their family members because of their acceptance and sense of belongingness, therefore; they join that group for guidance and support (Evans et al., 2006).

4.2. Bivariate Analysis

The table-3 given below is about the relationship of juvenile inmates with the adult prisoners in prisons. A high significant p-value shows the strong relationship between juvenile interaction often with the adult criminals at the jail with the juvenile's well-being (P=0.000). The result shows that the interaction of adult criminals with juvenile inmates negatively affects the well-being of the later. This result is supported by Vigil & Long (1990), as they say when the juvenile inmates join the jail environment, they feel marginalised and live very sadly and sitting alone. Then they feel to join a group or want to find a friend for himself/herself for interaction. He/she joins any group for interaction that gives them a sense of belongingness, identity, and support. Moreover, the findings of Ralph et al., (1996) and, Jackson & McBride (1985) also supported the results of the study. According to their results, when the juvenile and adult inmates live in a same jail or barrack then the interaction and relations between them becomes strong. According to Thornberry (1998), when the interaction of adult prisoners with

juvenile inmates is frequent, then the involvement of juvenile inmates with adults increases in harmful doings. The result of this statement shows that juveniles were in interaction and in strong relations with adult inmates because the juveniles felt themselves as marginalized in the jail environment. Also, for satisfaction and pastime, majority of the juveniles interact with the adult criminals.

Table-3: Association between Relation of Adult Prisoners and Well-being of Juvenile inmates

Statements	Perception	Well-being of Juvenile								Chi Square and P value
		A		DA		DK		Total		
		OV	%V	OV	%V	OV	%V	OV	%V	
Juvenile inmates interact with the adult prisoners at jail	A	60	45.5	51	38.6	4	3	115	87.1	(p=0.000) ($\chi^2=21.805$)
	DA	2	1.5	7	5.3	3	2.3	12	9.1	
	DK	0	0	3	2.3	2	1.5	5	3.8	
	T	62	47	61	46.2	9	6.8	132	100	
The prison staff has check and balance on the communication of adult with juvenile inmates	A	2	1.5	8	8.1	0	0	10	7.6	(p=0.007) ($\chi^2=14.232$)
	DA	43	32.6	48	36.4	5	3.8	96	72.7	
	DK	17	12.9	5	3.8	4	3	26	19.7	
	T	62	47	61	48.3	9	6.8	132	100	
Adult criminals supply drugs (Cigarettes/ Naswar/Hashish) to juvenile at jail.	A	56	42.4	54	40.9	6	4.5	116	87.9	(p=0.001) ($\chi^2=18.150$)
	DA	5	3.8	7	5.3	1	0.8	13	9.8	
	DK	1	0.8	0	0	2	1.5	3	2.3	
	T	62	47	61	46.2	9	6.8	132	100	
Adult criminals have arms like guns and knives etc. in the jails	A	45	34.1	33	25	2	1.5	80	60.6	(p=0.010) ($\chi^2=13.200$)
	DA	6	4.5	11	8.3	1	0.8	18	13.6	
	DK	11	8.3	17	12.9	6	4.5	34	25.8	
	T	62	46.9	61	46.2	9	6.8	132	100	
Juvenile join adult prisoners' groups because of financial and emotional support	A	51	38.6	55	41.7	5	3.8	111	84.1	(p=0.000) ($\chi^2=21.017$)
	DA	11	8.3	5	3.8	2	1.5	18	13.6	
	DK	0	0	1	0.8	2	1.5	3	2.3	
	T	62	46.9	61	46.3	9	6.8	132	100	

Source: Field Survey, 2016.

Furthermore, the results show a significant association between the prison staff and its check and balance on the communication of adults with juvenile inmates with the well-being of juveniles (P=0.007). The result of the statement shows that there was no proper check and balance over the relationship of an adult with juvenile inmates by the prison staff. The findings of the earlier literature of Akbar & Bhutta (2012) supported the result of the current study. According to their findings, the prison staff did not perform duties professionally. They did not focus consistently for checking the strong relationship of juvenile with adult inmates in Pakistani jails. They further added that the prison staff demands for wrongdoings with juvenile inmates also they take bribes from adult inmates when they want to sexually abuse the juvenile inmates. The prison staff was very corrupt and nonprofessional as they did not properly treat the juveniles in the selected jails.

The analysis shows a significant association between the statement that the adult criminals supply drugs (Cigarettes/Naswar/Hashish) to juveniles at the jail with the well-being of

juveniles ($P=0.001$). The results of Evans et al., (2006) and Thornberry (1998) are similar with the finding of the statement that in prisons, where adult and juvenile inmates live together, they share each and everything with each other because of regular interaction and communication. The adult inmates use drugs and other toxic materials which they share or provide to juvenile inmates. The findings of the statement show that minor inmates were in free relation with the adult prisoners, based on their strong relationships with each other. Additionally, majority of the juveniles said that jail staff and adult criminals demanded sexual acts, mostly, juveniles meet them for sexual activity in the response of taking drugs or other things which they needed.

The results show significant association between adult prisoners having guns and other arms with the well-being of juveniles ($P=0.010$). The study findings of Newton & Zimring (1969) and, Sheley & Wright (1995) show that majority of the adult prisoners are unlawfully armed. Block & Block (1993) supported the above significant result that due to the easy accessibility; adult inmates use deadlier guns. They used sophisticated arms because of their enemies have weapons. So, for their defence, they use guns. Horowitz (1983) also supported the result that adult prisoners feel that they need highly sophisticated guns so that their rival may not have the same guns and they are not caught at any difficulty. It is concluded from the earlier studies and finding of the statement that adult prisoners use a variety of weapons. They use it for their defence and strive for more urbane guns to compete with their rivals.

Additionally, a highly significant association was revealed between juveniles join adult prisoners because of financial, physical, and emotional support with the well-being of juveniles ($P=0.000$). The findings of Moree (1978) supported the result that juvenile inmates have no choice without joining the adult prisoners' gangs. Majority of them become criminals because of their culture, area traditions, and their parents' earliest participation in the unlawful actions. Short and Strodbeck (1965) also supported the finding of the statement, according to their study, in jails gangs/groups play an important role in solving the problems of juveniles such as to solve the adjustment problems and helps them in trials and tribulations of the juvenile inmates. Similarly, juvenile prisoners want to secure themselves from other dangerous criminals due to that they join the adult gangs.

5. Conclusion

The findings of the study show that there are no separate jails for juvenile prisoners in KP. The staff of the prisons has no check or observation on the interaction and communication of the juvenile and adult inmates. In such combined residency, the adults often interact with juvenile and develop friendship. When the interaction gets strong, majority of the juveniles learn new techniques of crime and other illegal activities from these adult groups. The adult prisoners use snuff, cannabis, hashish, cigarette, and weapons in jail and share with juvenile inmates. Mostly, juvenile prisoners are associated with adult criminals to have protection and financial support. Juveniles join adult prisoners because they feel insecure without a strong them. Similarly, adult inmates are also receptive and solves their problems. Therefore, both becomes dependent on each other. When the juveniles are released from jail, they use the already developed relations and become members of adult criminal groups. Hence, they become habitual to violation of laws and experienced criminals in the society.

The study recommends that the government should set up exclusive jails for juveniles. Jail staff should implement proper check and balance; keep check on the activities of adult and juvenile prisoners in combined residency. Officials of jails should impose strict ban on the frequent

interaction and communication of adults with juvenile inmates. The juveniles should be given security and protection during imprisonment and after their release. Nonetheless, the law enforcement agencies should closely monitor the activities of juvenile inmates after their release from jails.

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