

Analysis of the Relationship between Quality of Life with Youth Delinquency (Case Study of Youth in Zahedan)

Azam Akbarizadeh¹, Mahdieh Hosseinzadeh jolgeh^{2*}
^{1,2*} MA General Psychology, Zahehan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran

Abstract: Youth delinquency with its negative psychological, economic and social effects is one of the most important social issues of Iran; because Iran is a country with young and teen population structurally. In this regard, the quality of youth life can have a large impact on delinquency. The aim of this study is to study the quality of life and its relation to youth delinquency of Zahedan. The research method is descriptive and analytic based on library, documentary and field studies. The sample population in this study is purposive sampling which ultimately 250 teens of Zahedan have been selected. The questionnaire has been used as the tools of the research and SPSS software has been used for data analysis. The results of the research showed that 0.000 is obtained for the significant level of all proposed indices which represents positive and significant effect of improving of quality of life in reducing youth delinquency. In fact, whatever the improvement of the quality of life be increased, the delinquency among teenagers will be reduced.

Keywords: quality of life, delinquency, the youth of Zahedan

I. INTRODUCTION

Human life is divided in the stages of childhood, teen years, youth, maturity and aging. These stages have always been an object of study biologically, psychologically, sociologically, and to some extent, unique characteristics of each of them have been explained. Among these stages, period of teen years is the one of the most important stages. During this period, the dimensions of teenage characters will be changed and identity issues will be proposed which directly affects the process of human growth and development. This fact has caused that psychologists, sociologists, criminologists and..... have a different look to the critical period of teen years (Ahmadi, 2003, Ahmadi, 1998, Shoemaker, 1990, Hirschi, 1969). In accordance with physiological, behavioral, psychological and cognitive changes that teenager feels in himself, he will establish a more different interaction with the environment and the world therefore, he will have different response and the various reactions to the surrounding issues that may be considered normative or anti normative. Assuming that it is always possible explicit form of anti-normative responses show off in the body of the criminal process. The outbreak and committing delinquent behavior by adolescents will interfere with the activities and different aspects of their life, including social, educational, vocational, and psychological and ... aspects. The truth will be elicited more than any time that recognizing the attributes and personality traits of the youth of the society can help to achieve security and psychosocial health in the living space of this group at the macro level. The quality of life is one of the issues that can increase and decrease youth delinquency and it can have positive and negative effects. In the present research we have tried to explain the effect of the quality of life explicitly and clearly by studying the quality of life in youth delinquency. In this regard, a question will be proposed the present study seeks to answer including:

- ❖ What is the impact of improving the quality of life on youth delinquency?
In accordance with suggested questions, this hypothesis will be proposed:
- ❖ improving of the quality of life has a direct and significant effect in reducing youth delinquency.

Theory

The quality of life

The term of quality of life was used in the book of the economy and well-being for the first time in 1920 by Pigou. Over time the researchers found that the quality of life can be one of the important outcomes in health assessment, the definition of World Health Organization about health is also emphasized on this point. According to the definition of wellbeing by the World Health Organization in 1940 which is based on its enormous size in the form of complete physical, mental and social welfare and not merely the absence of disease, it is necessary that Measurement and evaluation of health care interventions in addition to the indices of frequency and disease severity consider other human values such as quality of life (Fayers, 2000).

Despite decades of promoting the concept of quality of life and diverse research done in this field, there is no specific definition that is acceptable to all. The review of related texts about the quality of life (Masam, 2002) indicates the confirmation of various experts' standpoint about conceptual ambiguity in the definition of this structure. Each researchers offers a definition of quality of life according to the area, the conditions and characteristics of the research community.

The quality of life is mostly known as life satisfaction, happiness, and prosperity and reflects the level of fulfillment of human needs (Zilensk and et al, 2010,1). In fact, the concept of the quality of life is a compound variable which is influenced by several variables. Changes in the level of income, living conditions, health, environment, mental space, leisure, family happiness, social relations and several other variables, in the form of compound variables determines the quality of life and Changes.

Some see it as their own ability to manage life (Ware, 1998). Donald describes the quality of life as a term that points to health and promote emotional, social and physical of individuals and their ability to perform everyday tasks (Donald, 2001). In a definition that Vive has offered in 2001 and is accepted by many scholars, Quality of life is each person's perception of his health status and satisfaction of this conditions. And the quality of life is also defined as person's feeling of health, satisfaction or dissatisfaction with life, joy or unhappiness and etc. (Dalkey and et al, 1972). and finally, the World Health Organization defines the quality of life as people's perception of their position in life in cultural compass and values system in which they live and their relations with goals, aspirations and their concerns (Oreley and Kuyken,1994). Many of researchers believe that the quality of life is a multi-dimension and a relative concept and influenced by the time, place, personal and social values and therefore has different meanings for different people and groups. « Some people have interpreted it as the viability of an area, others as indicator for the attractiveness and some as welfare, social welfare, happiness, satisfaction, and etc».

Psivn defined the quality of life as the general state of people's living environment and quality of housing, respectively, as well as some of the traits and characteristics of people, such as health and education.

Costanza et al (2007) define the quality of life as the amount of human needs in relation to the perceptions of individuals and groups of favored way of life that have in the mind.

Dasn (2008), defines the quality of life as the well-being of people and their environment.

Quality of life is a multidimensional concept and it covers various objective and subjective, material and spiritual, quantitative and qualitative, personal and social, micro and macro aspects of life. In the objective and material dimension, the quality of life includes living standards, infrastructural facilities, economic output, employment, prices, law, health, entertainment, leisure, culture, art, etc. In the subjective and spiritual and quality dimension, the quality of life includes personal experiences and perceptions and sense of security, a sense of personal satisfaction of life in the city.

Quality of life measurement is based on different approaches, methods and components. In various studies, various components of quality of life have been considered such as general health status, functional ability, emotional functions, the happiness, life satisfaction, happiness, the amount of consciousness, the symptoms of social activities, play a proper sexual function, amount of memory, job and financial situations.

The results of the study about the quality of life can be useful in evaluating policies, ratings of places, codifying of management strategies and planning in any society and it will facilitate the understanding and prioritizing the social issues for planners and managers of community to improve the quality of life for citizens. In addition, quality of life can be used to recognize the political strategies used in previous and future planning policies (Lee, 2008, 1207).

II. The History Of The Research

In relation to quality of life and its relationship to crime, national and international studies has been limited. In this section, studies which overlap with the subject matter of the research are briefly described.

In similar research that have been conducted by Nelson (1989) and Goting (1994), it has been shown that there is a significant relationship between domestic problems of parents of delinquent people such as unemployment, drug addiction or crime.

Adams et al have done a study using quantitative methods and survey techniques and questionnaire in 1994. They have made it clear that there is a significant relationship between crime and immigration. Immigrants have moved in a new space that will be encountered to Social differences, culture, morality and behavior and it will affect the character of immigrants who most of them are teenagers and this problem is the emergence and prevalence of delinquent. Myers has shown in 1995 that there is a significant relationship between delinquent behavior and psychopathology scores and some personality disorders such as narcissistic personality disorder.

Another study entitled delinquency and family life among the young boy in 1988 in New York was conducted on 4,000 youth this result has been achieved that it is less pressured to become delinquent living in a single-parent

families compared to living in a family with tough economic times. In other words, the family poverty has a more significant relationship with delinquency. In this study, the role of the family in the incidence of delinquent behavior and the provision of appropriate behavior pattern for children is shown.

In 1988, in a study done in Chicago it has been shown that there is a significant correlation between social pressure, family pressure, economic pressure and high spatial movements and restricting events of today industrial life with antisocial and delinquent behavior of boys and girls.

Chuinng and Chuinng in 2008 conducted a study entitled (self-control, social factors and delinquency: Testing of general theory of crime among Hong Kong teenagers.) The aim of this study was to examine the predictive power of self-control theory of delinquency in the context of Chinese society. The sample has consisted of 1015 teenagers in secondary schools in Hong Kong. One type of crime that has been considered by researchers in this study was the frequency of alcohol consumption that results implied the confirmation of self-control theory to explain the drug and alcohol consumption in the context of Chinese society. In this study, the relationship between self-control and elements of social attachment, differential companionship, pressure and labeled were tested that the results of tests show that all of these factors were directly related to self- control. Teenagers who had poor self-control, their social bonds were weak.

In 1998, Nour Bakhsh has shown in another research that teenagers who their parents have had personality disorders or addictions to drugs and alcohol have more criminal and delinquent behavior in comparison with other teens. In 2010, Ahmadi and Konani in a research entitled attributes and personality traits of teenage delinquent boys came to the conclusion that delinquent teenage boys are more significantly neurosis and psychosis than non-delinquent teenage boys. Non-delinquent teenage boys are more extravert than delinquent teenage boys. The amount and rate of the average grade of non-delinquent teenage boys as well as their parents 'education are significantly more than the education of teen offenders and their parents' education respectively.

The method of the research

This study is analytical and the role of quality of life in youth delinquency of Zahedan is studied in it. The study population is teenagers living in Zahedan that by conducting a preliminary study and by using purposive sampling, the maximum sample size of 250 was calculated. In this study, questionnaire which was made by numerous sources and article were used for collecting data. In fact, 30 professional psychologists have been used to determine the validity of questionnaire. The questions of questionnaire have been set in a quintuple spectrum which contains Likert spectrum. Cronbach's alpha coefficient has been used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire. 0.840 was obtained for final coefficients of questionnaires. To analyze the data, Spearman correlation coefficient test was used by using SPSS software.

The research findings

The impact of improving the quality of life in reducing juvenile delinquency in Zahedan

In this study, for studying the hypothesis, some indices have been codified and have been reflected as questions in questionnaire. Questionnaires were distributed among the subjects and data were collected. The obtained data were analyzed by using SPSS software. At first, the average of indices were obtained and then the final data was analyzed by using Spearman correlation test. In the following tables, each of the mentioned cases have been described in detail.

Table (1): Average effect of improving the quality of life in the reduction of juvenile delinquency

Number	Average	Indices
250	4.00	Job hope for the future
250	3.84	Job Satisfaction
250	3.46	Mundane Welfare
250	3.70	Access to convenient transportation
250	3.99	Quality of housing
250	4.10	educational facilities
250	3.99	Sanitary facilities
250	3.90	Amount of security
250	3.85	Green spaces and parks
250	3.92	Internet access

Reference: the research findings

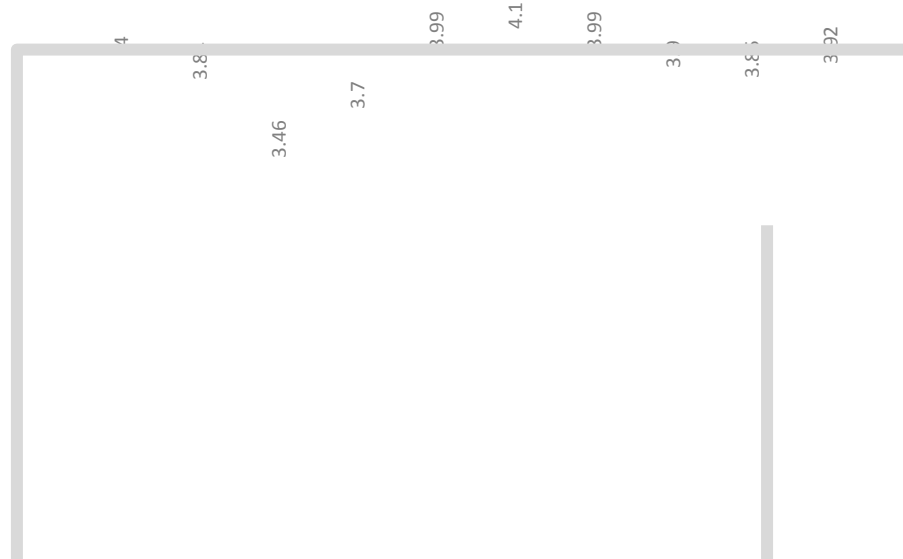


Figure (1): Average effect of improving the quality of life in the reduction of juvenile delinquency

As it can be seen, among the proposed measures, the indices of educational facilities with average of 4/10, Job hope for the future with average of 4/00, Quality of housing with average of 3/99, Internet access with average of 3/92, Amount of security with average of 3/90, Green spaces and parks with average of 3/85, Job Satisfaction with average of 3/83, Access to convenient transportation with average 3/70, Mundane Welfare with average of 3/46 have allocated the highest and lowest rank respectively.

Hypothesis testing

This hypothesis is formulated as follows:

Improving the quality of life can have a significant positive impact on reducing crime. In this hypothesis, Spearman correlation test was used to influence a variable to another variable to study the impact of improving of the quality of life in crime decrease.

Table (2): Hypothesis testing

Indicator	Spearman s rho correlation	Sig.(2-tailed)	N
Job hope for the future	0.974	0.000	250
Job Satisfaction	0.979	0.000	250
Mundane Welfare	0.974	0.000	250
Access to convenient transportation	0.981	0.000	250
Quality of housing	0.976	0.000	250
educational facilities	0.962	0.000	250
Sanitary facilities	0.975	0.000	250
Amount of security	0.960	0.000	250
Green spaces and parks	0.954	0.000	250
Internet access	0.964	0.000	250

Reference: the research findings

As can be seen in the table above, the obtained significance level is 0.000 in all proposed indices which reflects the positive significant impact of improving the quality of life in reducing youth delinquency. In fact, if the more quality of life improves, the rate of delinquency among teenagers will be decreased.

III. Conclusion

Crime is the first phenomenon that pretends as people gathering and forming a community, because people gathering will cause the refusal of many confrontations between them and therefore the rules and provisions will arise that will bound the freedom of individuals and the limitation of individuals will be specified. Criminology studies show that every action has a cause and nothing will be created spontaneously so every crime has a constructive reason that will effect on individuals and will lead him to inconsistencies and anomalies. The delinquency arises primarily from a series of crimes that takes place in a specific time and place and therefore when it is studied in fact, all economic, cultural, political, religious, family and community phenomena are deeply studied. In this regard, young person in accordance with physiological, behavioral, psychological and cognitive changes that feels in himself will establish more different interaction with the environment and the world around and therefore gives various reactions and responses to the surrounding issues that may be considered as normative or anti-normative. With regard to this problem, reducing or increasing of the quality of teenager's life can have an important impact on reducing or increasing of teenagers' delinquency.

The aim of this study is to study the quality of life and its relation to youth delinquency of Zahedan. The research method is descriptive and analytic based on library, documentary and field studies. The sample population in this study is purposive sampling which ultimately 250 teens of Zahedan have been selected. The questionnaire has been used as the tools of the research and SPSS software has been used for data analysis. The results of the research showed that 0.000 is obtained for the significant level of all proposed indices which represents positive and significant effect of improving of quality of life in reducing youth delinquency. In fact, whatever the improvement of the quality of life be increased, the delinquency among teenagers will be reduced.

REFERENCES

- [1] Adams, Gerald. R, Gullotta, Thomas. P and Adams, (1994), Carol markstorm, adolescent life experiences, California, cole publishing company.
- [2] Ahmadi. H. (2003), Social Psychology, Shiraz, Press Center of Shiraz University. The first edition.
- [3] Ahmadi. H, Konani. S, (2010), Attributes and personality traits of in male teenagers' delinquency, second year. No. 7, pp. 99-115.
- [4] Ahmadi. H. (1998), Theory of social deviations, Shiraz. Rose Publishing. The first edition.
- [5] Cheung, W. Nicole & W. Yuet Cheung. (2008). Self-control, Social Factors, and
- [6] Dalkey, N. C. et al, (1972), Studies in Quality of Life, Washington DC". Lexington Books.
- [7] Donald, A, (2001), what is quality of life?"Availableat: www.jr2.ox.ac.uk
- [8] Fayers P M, machin D, (2000) quality of Lif assessment, Analysis and interpretation, jhon willy, New York Journal of Youth and Adolescence. Vol (37): 412- 430.
- [9] Hirschi, T, (1969), Causes of delinquency berkely, university of * California press.
- [10] Lee, Y. J., (2008). Subjective quality of life measurement in Taipei, building and environment. Vol 43, No 7.
- [11] Massam, B, H, (2002), Qualite of life: public planning and private living, progress in planning, vot, 58, pp 141-227.
- [12] Myers, W.C, and Burket, R.C, (1995), Adplescent psychopathy in * relation to delinquency behaviors, conduct disorder, and personality disorders, Journal of forensic, No 40.
- [13] Nelson. R and A, Alen. C, (1992), Children's behavioral disorders, translator: Toosi.T, Mashhad, Razavi Publications, The first edition.
- [14] Nourbakhsh. S. M, (1998), Evaluation of behavioral disorders in children and adolescents (delinquency, anti-social behavior and vandalism). Rahahan Journal. Tehran, Iran. 39 period.
- [15] Orley, j, Kuyken, W, (1994), The WHOQoL Group development of the world health organization". Quality of life. Assesment internal perspective.12: 1-6.
- [16] Shoemaker, Donald. J. (1990), Theories of delinquency, second edition * New York: Oxford university press.
- [17] Ware J, Gandek B, (1998), overview of the Sf-36 Health survey and the International Quality of life Assesment (IQOLA)" project. J clinic Epidemil.51 (11): 903-912.
- [18] Zielinska Wczkowska, H. and Dziora-Kornatowska, K. W., (2010), Evaluation of Quality of life (QoL) of Student of the University of Third Age (U3A) on the Basis of Socio-Demographic Factors and Health Status, Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics, 1-5.