



THE SOCIO-CRIMINOLOGICAL ROOTS OF DELINQUENT PERSONALITY: SOCIAL BONDS AND EXTERNAL CAUSATION

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Abstract:

Juvenile delinquency has attracted scholarly interest as it represents a realistic entry point for addressing adult crime, given that delinquent personality traits are formed in early life and later crystallize through subsequent experiences and circumstances. The majority of scientific studies confirm that most offenders begin their criminal careers with early delinquency. Consequently, contemporary juvenile justice policy prioritizes the rehabilitation of the juvenile's personality over the gravity of the offense committed, recognizing that their cognitive and moral capacities are not yet fully developed. Therefore, reformatory and therapeutic measures are most effective when they consider all aspects of the juvenile delinquent's personality, culture, and environmental conditions that contributed to their delinquency.

Keywords: character; juvenile; delinquency; delinquent adjective..

Introduction:

Contemporary societies are confronting profound structural challenges, paramount among which are social problems that undermine the security and stability of the social system. Juvenile delinquency constitutes one of the most critical of these problems, as it transcends individual deviant behavior to represent an explicit violation of normative social bonds mechanisms and collective value systems. So this phenomenon represents not merely an immediate social risk, but a significant threat to the cohort defined as the "future generation," rendering its mitigation a categorical imperative for preserving social cohesion and structural integrity. Within the

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Algerian context, juvenile delinquency has ceased to be manifested as isolated incidents and has instead assumed the proportions of a "pressing social phenomenon," compelling state apparatuses to mobilize toward the formulation of structural interventions and the research problem is grounded in the premise that escalating rates of juvenile delinquency reflect a fundamental dysfunction in the primary agents of socialization and mechanisms of informal social control. From a sociological perspective, deviance in this context is not attributable to innate or biological predispositions within the child, but is produced by cultural malintegration and institutional anomie within core social structures—namely the family, the educational system, and the wider community. has accelerated sociocultural transformation and processes of modernization in Algerian society have engendered a weakening of familial solidarity and the erosion of the normative "value compass" essential for the internalization of pro-social roles during adolescence. Consequently, the central problematic of this study interrogates the efficacy of existing socialization institutions in fulfilling the juvenile's biopsychosocial needs, and examines how the failure of these systems to provide a protective environment functions as a precipitating factor toward deviant trajectories.

This necessitates a critical re-examination of the dialectical relationship between agency and structure to explain this behavioral disorganization. Empirical findings from psychological and sociological literature substantiate that defective socialization processes produce personality disorganization, which predisposes juveniles to delinquency. This is primarily attributed to deficient parental attachment and inadequate transmission of cultural norms and values during primary socialization, which are foundational to identity formation and normative conformity in later.

1. Keys words:

1.1-Personality: In my opinion It is the integrated, dynamic organization of physical, mental, moral, and social characteristics as they are revealed to others during the process of giving and receiving in social life. Personality includes inherited and acquired motives, habits, interests, emotions, ideals, opinions, and beliefs. but in the sage dictionary of sociology is defining as This denotes any individual's



characteristic ways of behaving. The personality is inferred from behaviour, which it is held to cause. Psychologists have attempted to devise questionnaire tests that are intended to reveal underlying personality traits and whatever their scientific justification, these are increasingly used in recruitment and job selection procedures. (Bruce & Steven Yearley, 2006, p. 68)

1.2- juvenile:

In the current study, a juvenile is defined as a child under the age of 18. In the socio-psychological sense, a juvenile is defined as a child whose mental maturity has not yet been fully developed and whose personality elements have not yet fully integrated to enable them to be aware of their behavior and fully comprehend their actions. The legal definition of a juvenile is a young person who is at least seven years old and no older than the age of majority, which is eighteen years. And in all most countries we have found the same defined. So psychologists and sociologists has defined it as the young person throughout the stages of his life, beginning from birth until he reaches psychological and social maturity, and the elements of adulthood are integrated. So the legal definition of 'juvenile' is neither fixed nor universal in criminal justice systems around the globe. Variations in the legal construction of the age-bounded status of a 'juvenile' in regard to delinquency and criminality reflect differences in historical, political, ideological, and economic developments that drive the evolution of youth justice models and institutional structures. (Laura S. Abrams & Laura S. sid P. Laura A, 2018, p. 29).

1.3- delinquent:

The word of delinquent in all around the world means deviation, and "delinquent" means what you bear of sin or bad deed. As for the word "juvenile", it means a young man. This is way Tannenbaum argued that delinquents are not inherently different from non-delinquents. Rather, it is the process of defining someone as a juvenile delinquent that arises out of conflict over the definition of particular activities or situations (usually involving relatively minor forms of infraction by the young person concerned) which is important. Over time this leads to a hardening of local opinion, and attitudes change not just toward the behaviour concerned but also toward the young person. The changed attitudes lead to changes in behaviour – in

interaction between the community and the young person in an extremely negative environment. (Tim, 2017, p. 124)

1- The Anthropological Interpretation of Personality

All personality theories agree that humans are biological beings with an inherited nature. However, some viewpoints give greater weight to social and cultural factors and their role in shaping personality. They emphasize the role of experience and social structure. Their basic idea is that humans acquire, through their social experience, the norms prevalent in their society, which influence the definition of personality. At anthropology it defined as can be thought of as the stable structure and pattern of an individual's thoughts and feelings

which, in turn, are related to distinctive styles of behaviour. Personality theorists might look for basic dimensions, or types, of personality that can be ascribed to distinctive psychological factors such as beliefs or emotions. The idea of types of personality is not new: Hippocrates, for example, described four basic types of temperament as Sanguine (Optimistic), Melancholic (Depressed), Choleric (Irritable) and Phlegmatic (Calm). The sociologist have given us many theories about explaining features of this part As in any broad theoretical approach, personality theorists differ in their views about the distinctions between traits, the nature of types, and the complex biological and psychological processes that must be involved. From the standpoint of criminology, it is the personality theory of Hans Eysenck that is of greatest interest. Eysenck's theory is, in essence, a control theory, beginning from the perspective that everyone has the potential to behave in a criminal manner: the issue is why does everyone not commit crimes? In other words, what are the forces that control the common propensity to crime? Eysenck defined two personality types, extroversion (E) and neuroticism (N); later work (Eysenck and Eysenck, 1968) described a third dimension, psychoticism (P). Each of these basic types is conceived as a continuum, with most people falling in the middle range, (McLaughlin et John 2001) In psychology, we find that the individual is distinguished from the rest. We find in the dictionary of criminology that refers to the sum total of a person's psychological and physical characteristics which make him or her a unique person. The term



includes his or her behavioural tendencies, his or her intellectual qualities and his or her emotional disposition. Psychologists have conclusively determined that:

Every person is in certain respects Like all other people, Like some other people or Like no other person. (Mwene Mushanga, 2008, p. 128)

3. Delinquent Personality Types:

3.1 Pathological Types:

before talking about the types we have to define what does it mean this word. So The word 'Pathology' is derived from two Greek words—pathos meaning suffering, and logos meaning study. Pathology is, thus, scientific study of structure and function of the body in disease; or in other words, pathology consists of the abnormalities that occur in normal anatomy (including histology) and physiology owing to disease (Mohan, 2010, p. 78) .

A - The Neurotic Delinquent: Considerations of anatomy and physiology have important applications to diseases of the central nervous system (CNS), particularly their effects and spread (robin, Fiona, & Elaine, 2011, p. 98). so which problems in this system makes a person feeling an exaggerated sense of remorse. Therefore, these individuals commit voluntary offenses to alleviate their feelings of guilt, which in itself is a punishment, albeit a self-inflicted one. This makes the neurotic delinquent prefer to be caught in the act of committing a crime.

B- The temperamental delinquent: Temperament is considered as thermometer of character or the Individual different dimensions of importance in one's behavior that leads toward the analysis of assemble through which an individual can distinguish themselves from others. (Anjum & Bano, 2021). So this delinquent is characterized by internal disturbances and conflicts that he expresses through committing violations of the type of moving to the act. When he is arrested, he admits his guilt, as he does not possess a sufficient mechanism of control. He is also characterized by emotional inconsistency and an extreme sense of guilt, but this does not prevent him from committing violations. He also experiences emotional inconsistency in his relationships with others.

C - The Psychopathic Offender: Affectively, psychopaths are callous, lack empathy or guilt, have a shallow range of emotion and fail to accept responsibility for wrongdoing. And behaviourally, psychopaths live an impulsive irresponsible lifestyle, often living in the moment, failing to set down roots and parasitizing off the good faith and charity of others. They demonstrate a persistent pattern of antisocial behavior that tends to begin with behavior problems early in life (Olver, 2016). **we can** This type is characterized by a lack of guilt and finding justifications for their actions. The psychopathic offender commits the offense with complete indifference, and upon arrest, they show signs of distress, not because of the harm inflicted on their **victim**, but rather because of the trauma they incur as a result of their arrest, trial, and the thwarting of their crime.

D - The Psychotic Offender: According to Hodgins there are the early and late start offender typology, he has found two types of offenders among persons with a major mental disorder. The first group is the early starters (ES); persons in this group begin their delinquent behavior at a young age before the onset of the psychiatric disorder. Their delinquent behavior is attributed to a pre-morbid antisocial personality (Dongen, Buck, & Marle, 2013, p. 125).

So Children and adolescents may exhibit psychotic disorders, which can lead them to commit offenses whose nature, indicates a personality disorder. These traits include weak control mechanisms, weak moral judgment, a weak ego, paranoid thinking, and emotional inadequacy. Committing a transgression allows the psychotic offender to cling to reality and fend off anxiety and a nervous breakdown. Their delinquency helps them cling to reality and thus temporarily reorganize their personality.

3-2 - Emotional Types: Psychologists have classified offenders based on their emotions and tolerance into:

A- Emotionally insensitive: Emotional inertia simply refers to the degree to which emotional states are resistant to change. As psychological maladjustment has been associated with both emotional under reactivity and ineffective emotion regulation skills, we hypothesized that its overall emotion dynamics would be



characterized by high levels of inertia (Kuppens, Sheeber, & B. Allen, 2010, p. 76). They are characterized by cruelty, emotional inertia, and apathy. They do not respond to people and do not share any emotional bond with them. They are selfish and are among those who commit crimes of violence, murder, and rape.

B- The fickle ones : They are characterised by instability and the quick transition from activity to inactivity and from happiness to sadness and depression. They are also characterised by rebellion against legal systems. They are the ones who commit crimes predominantly emotional in nature, such as begging, vagrancy, prostitution, and drug addiction.

C - Irritable: They are characterized by impulsiveness and a tendency toward quarrels. Their reaction to excitement is disproportionately violent. They are the ones who commit crimes against public morals. so Violent criminals typically have obvious negative personality traits. According to research, young violent criminals have poor self-control, including impulsiveness, irritability, a bad temper, and poor emotional management. Another survey also found that violent criminals are significantly different from non-violent criminals in terms of sociability, sophistication, and suspicion. They often commit crimes in the form of gangs and are relatively sophisticated and cunning (Hao, 2024, p. 183).

4. Determinants of the Delinquent Personality:

The development of the delinquent personality is a complex process influenced by a large number of interconnected factors, including

4.1 Biological Determinants: Proponents of biological theories believe that, in explaining delinquent behavior, biological factors are fundamental to shaping personality and determining behavior. Biological factors refer to the set of congenital and hereditary characteristics related to the shape and functions of organs. These factors are inherent to the individual. Proponents of this approach believe that any dysfunction or deformity in some of these organs leads to a defective organic structure that impacts the development of the delinquent's personality. In an early form, such Genetic factors exploration of genetic factors was called eugenics and, crudely, it

linked physiological inadequacy of some form to criminality. Eugenic thought

has taken various forms and has a dubious history, not least because of the eugenic philosophy, or criminal biology, adopted by the Nazis in 1930s Germany which sought to identify hereditary criminals and which provided a rationale for imprisoning them – or executing them – thus ensuring that they would not be able to reproduce (Tim, 2017). so here We are trying to mention these factors:

4-1-1- Genetics: This is considered an important factor in personality formation, as individuals are endowed with it from birth, clearly defining their personality traits. Psychologists believe that individual differences in personality are due to neurological inheritance, inherited intelligence, and responses to stimuli that humans are equipped with from the moment of conception. Studies have proven that heredity has a significant impact on criminal behavior on children whose parents were aggressive, who were separated from them and adopted by other parents, revealed that after a period of time, these children showed aggression, confirming that heredity plays a major role in determining personality and behavior. Lombroso was among the first to adopt the idea of the inheritance of crime, and he presented the idea of genetic reversion (avertime) as a theoretical basis for explaining the inheritance of crime. Another striking psychical characterist instinctive criminal, as noted by Lombroso and now abunda firmed by other investigators, is his defective physical sensi of his senses, with the possible exception of sight, are apt acute than in a normal person. This is, no doubt, due to his mental development and degenerate physical organization. (Ellwood, 1911). And Among the important studies conducted in this regard is the study of Richard Dugdale, who studied this relation when he find groups which may be consider-ed distinctively industrious, distinctively criminal, distinctively pauper, and specifically diseased. These features run along lines ofdescent so that you can follow them from generation to generation,the breaks in the line at certain points indicating with great precision the modifying effects of disease, training, or fortuitous circumstance which have intervened and changed the current of the career.A glance at table II., which epitomizes in a very general way the details contained in the larger charts, shows these distinctions with measurable accuracy, and



helps us to some conclusions : Tentative Inductions. (DUGDALE, 1877, p. 382) .

A- Chromosomal abnormalities:

Genetic studies and research about these factors had found since long time. According to Pasqualinin R.Q; Vidal G, and Bur G.E. in 1957 antisocial behavior was a feature of sex chromosome anomalies in males. Casey et al in 1966 had done a survey in two English state Hospitals for patients under special Security because of persistent violent or aggressive behavior and yielded an identical proportion of chromatin positive males. They further stated that about 3% of males in maximum security prisons were XYY and the incidence was over 20% among the age group over 6 feet tall. (R, GAJBE, W, & CHIMURKAR, 2009, p. 241). According to these studies, we cannot ignore this factor in studying the causes of crime.

B- Endocrine Disorders:

Some scientists have described the endocrine glands as the glands of personality and the glands of destiny, whereby personality is characterized by good or evil. Modern psychosomatic approach recommends talking not about heredity, but about the tendency to develop psychosomatic development. Age and gender play an important role in susceptibility, especially in patients with an endocrinological profile. (Oleksiivna & Pavlovich Larisa, 2022, p. 248). So we have noticed that approximately one-third of criminals suffer from disorders in their endocrine secretions. Louis Berman, however, asserts that delinquents are not criminally responsible for their actions because endocrine disorders do not help them achieve social adjustment. Recent studies have also confirmed that hyperthyroidism and hyperparathyroidism are accompanied by persistent anxiety, extreme fatigue, tension, and fear. Conclusions.

C- Physical and organic structure:

The proponents of this biological-organic trend believe that the individual is born equipped with genetic and organic predispositions that push him to commit a crime. Among the pioneers of this trend are Lombroso, De Tullio, Kretschmer, Hooten, Sheldon, and Gravolo. Lombroso and those who followed his approach were interested in the external appearance of the body's organs and their relationship to crime. But Dr. Charles Goring set out avowedly to disprove

Lombroso's thesis, and his book, "The English Convict", published in 1913, is widely accepted as having accomplished this purpose. But Goring, too, had inadequate control data, in addition to a strong and open antagonism to the Lombrosian doctrine, and his conclusions must likewise be accepted with reserve. In spite of Goring's bias, his inadequate controls, and his questionable statistical manipulations. (Tucker, 1941, p. 249).

but according to all the theories of psychological, the criminal represents a unique genetic pattern, distinguished by specific anatomical, mental, psychological, and temperamental traits and characteristics. we called these "the hallmarks of moral degeneration," which are found in all anatomical parts of the criminal's body, particularly the skull. Among the most important physical characteristics found by Lombroso were an irregular skull, large jaws, prominent cheeks, a narrow forehead, and dense hair. As for the psychological characteristics related to skull irregularities and facial irregularities, he summarized them as emotional numbness, a weak sense of pain, a hard heart, a loss of shame, a weak religious conscience, a lack of guilt, a tendency toward tattoos, a strong belief in superstitions, and psychological and emotional instability. But in the same time we can say not surely this factors is the only reason for committed a crime.

Conclusion:

This study explored the development of biological theories of crime, from early deterministic views to current biosocial models. It found that 19th-century theories claiming criminals are biologically predetermined were based on flawed methods and biased assumptions. Modern evidence indicates that biological factors, such as genetics or brain structure, may contribute to behavioral predispositions but do not cause crime on their own. Criminal behavior results from a complex interaction between biological vulnerabilities and social environments like family, poverty, and education. Therefore, explaining crime requires an integrated approach that avoids reductionism. Policies and interventions should address both social conditions and individual risk factors, without relying on biological determinism.



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