

The Relationship between Social Support and Attitude towards the Police on Street Children

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Abstract: *The study of criminal phenomenon in criminology also occurs with a greater focus on the individual offender. Measures and activities governing the abused children among the victims who are particularly vulnerable ,Before victimization, by eliminating factors influencing victimization of children - including individual factors(biological, psychological factors), general factors (economic, social, cultural, political, environmental)and also situational factors (including opportunities for crime) have particular importance and are the subject of social and situational prevention . While crime prevention measures, after the victim is a child, are placed in the area of criminal prevention. In this type of prevention, abused children who have been exposed to this purpose with the criminal justice system .as for juvenile offenders in the criminal process , it must adopt a differential policy , for abused children , also suggesting support-differential criteria is essential. Thus, to implement these policies, the special mechanisms be adopted in every step of the process of justice, for their children against the crimes occurred - regardless of their role in the crime. As the first official institution of the criminal justice system, police who have responsibility of discovering the offense, be faced with abused children. If police, regardless of the vulnerability of children in this stage, only serve as detecting crime, it isn't considered the best interests of children. This study in theoretical library part and documentary and field research is a descriptive-analytic study. The method of this study is correlation and fundamental method. The statistical population consisted 191 street children in Tehran. To collect data, it is used of the questionnaire. It is used of the multidimensional social support of Zimt et al. (1988), a questionnaire on police attitude achieved by Dr. AnsariFard Najd (2011) .Data using software SPSS Version 19 and through descriptive statistical methods are the correction factors Chi-square and Pearson correction, parametric test and distance measuring scale. The results indicates that according to the main hypothesis , there is the positive and meaningful relationship between social support and attitude of police in street children .These factors affect in the number of street children and this theory is confirmed with confidence factor 99% . In studying the details of a research, it is measured the relation between the factors and street children that all variables have the positive and meaningful relations with street children and it is separately measured their effects which it is confirmed the effect of all variables on job satisfaction. After substituting all variables in regression model, results indicated that the variables and factors have positive affection on street children*

Keywords: *child, street children, police, prevention of offense repeat, social support.*

Introduction

The definition of crime in children and its types, introduction of trial stages and needs of offense children in every stage, regard to precautionary measurement, the concept of preventing the offense and its types, the role of social police to prevent of re-victimization of children after the criminal process in this purpose and based on accepted measurement and rules and regulations, all are the subject which are assessed in this study. Since street children create the most part of the abnormal phenomena of

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interaction within the social system, generally called it Social Problem .Such issues under other categories such as social problems, social ills, and social deviants are called Social Deviations (seifollahi, 2002). In other definition, social harm refers to any individual action collectively that within the framework of ethical principles and general rules, the collective of formal or informal community activities are not the place of actors, then they are faced to law ban and moral and social evil. That's why deviances are trying to hide the deviants from legal, ethical and social authorities. Because otherwise with the prosecution, they are encountered with moral and social excommunication (Abdollahi, 2002). Social problems to a situation is called in which based on many people's opinions, (not necessarily the majority of them), life quality and their most important values are damaged, have the social causes and conclusions and to solve them, it is considered the social policy reformation (Rafii, 2001). In separating the crime and charges, dividing social deviants is primarily achieved not based on the type and severity of deviant behavior but also on the basis of age when committing the said act. Deviant behavior of young people who still have not reached the legal age is called crime and criminal perpetrators are called criminal (Ahmadi, 2002) .The street children as a group of children in society who with regard to the specific circumstances of their age are going through puberty and crisis , are required the strong support by parents.

But because they are deprived of parental support due to various reasons, abandoned on the street and be prepared for any kind of vulnerability .In these children in our society is a sign of damage that usually formed in the family and gradually causes the situation in which children who in this age, must benefit from welfare and educational facilities, find various problems (Ahmadi, 2002). Doing hard and hazardous work or being away from family, depriving the mercy of family, deprived of an education, physical ailments and other problems , in some cases they are falling prey to organized crime groups that have more and worst consequences. In this study, for real and purposeful struggle with this issue, Action for Children Affected provide more risks, according to statistics obtained results, long-term program in order to remove this anomaly social development. In later stage, all stakeholders and corresponding groups is considering all activities with the support of the activities of people helping in this area. Without such a plan, every action to combat exploitation of Children, doomed to failure and will display only a stunt (Saleh, 2000). Regard to the importance of social protection of street children and attitude of the police, the researcher seeks to answer the question that is there the relationship between social support and attitude of the police in the street children?

Theoretical Perspective

According to the definition of the concept of social anomaly that I mentioned in the introduction to research and assuming acceptance of inappropriate street children to their lifestyle contrary to the common and accepted way in society , whether in terms of livelihood and income (such as clean a car window, shining shoes, selling gum and ...) ,what are spending much of life on the street instead of at the center of home and family , Sociological theory(with respect to each of them belonging to various schools) open a new horizon in this field for us and we refer to some of them in this section .

Social Learning Theory

Social learning theory assumes that the deviations are the result of learning, especially in the context of deviant norms, especially in subculture frameworks values and peer groups. Sutherland as the most important theorist, believes that people are the deviance because of non-diversion relationships.

Social Control Theory

The basic premise of this theory is that, just as Freud said, people are naturally inclined to deviance. If they are not controlled, they do such this and deviancy of people is rather than due to the abnormality of the driving forces, is the product of non-blocking (Sarvestani, 2004: 119).

Pressure Theory

The main question in this theory is that why people deviance and the general answer are is that there is some factors in society that some people are pt. under pressure and forced them to be deviance. According to Merton, society forces the individual to deviance.

Four types of deviant behaviors in this process:

- 1- **Innovation:** happens when people intend to achieve our legitimate goals, but it is closed the effective using of accepted devices such as rob a bank.
- 2- **Ritualism:** happens when accepted goals don't found the opportunities to do but it is pursued the means to achieve these objections.
- 3- **Retreatism:** when the person can't reach the goals defined by culture because of limited circumstances or incompetence, he retreats.
- 4- **Rebellion:** this behavior happens when it is concluded that the society is put the barriers for him which it prevents to reach the goals. Therefore , society put the barriers for the aforementioned person that cause not to reach the goals (Sarvestani , 2004: 13-12 , 130-128)

Construction and Operation Theory

This theory considers the community a coherent system ties that through shared values and collective agreement about their people, they preserve their stability. This theory considers how to form models, roles, databases, organizations and institutions and wants to know how the social system is maintained through social system and lasts.

Stigma Theory

Stigma theory is called proactive approach, generally study about the consequences of the interaction between deviance and social control factors. Stigma theory is the process analyzes other reactions and those who have the power to define the behavior of someone and stigmatization him.

Causes of appearance of street children

- a. **Economic factors:**
Such as poverty, injustice, unemployment, gap, unequal income distribution
- b. **Cultural and social factors:**
Structure and population increase, migration, war, changing social values and cultural gap between generations and social conflicts, failure and lack of child protection laws, lack of support institutions among Children, attitudes existence and incorrect and discriminatory beliefs such as attitudes to children as non-income.
- c. **Family factors:**
Such as large families, family history of delinquency and drug addiction, mental disease in the family, lack of parental awareness of children's needs and appropriate behaviors with them.
- d. **Individual factors or biological and psychological factors:**
Such as the characteristics of the child's personality, children's mental capacity , income gap, increasing the number of families with irresponsible supervisor , , population growth, migration and cultural poverty, unemployment, lack of social security, marginalization, conflict and addiction and suspended jobs, all play the role in the development of social anomie (Hosseini, 2005) .

Social Prevention of Victimization of Children

Social prevention as one of the examples of non-criminal prevention, includes the measures which affect to affective environments in the socialization of the individual and also the environment that have social function. Therefore, in the social prevention, we are looking for the harmonization of members of community with social rules. In this type of prevention, the roots of crime is targeted to be the ways for preventing the formation of crime. Thus, after identifying and determining the social causes of crime, it is achieved planning and policy-making in order to eliminate the causes and correct it and it is prevented these criminal desires and motivations in individuals. Among the main factors affecting to crime are the social, economic, cultural, educational factors etc. which they are effectiveness for the formation of personality, behavior, compatibility or incompatibility of the social rules.

a) Popular social environment:

Popular social environment is in relation to all members of society and has a shared effects. Regard to important role of this environment on personality evolution and proper reaction of community, firstly it must be attempted to meet the current deficiency and weakness in social, cultural, economic, political field.

b) Personal social environment:

c) The environment is important for personality evolution and training because before entering to bigger society, personal environment as a social institution plays the important role. This environment includes the birth and growth environment and has various features in everybody.

Preventing the Victimization of Children

Situational Prevention of Victimization of Children

The situational prevention plan in crime is a scientific theory developed by three person Clark, Min Ho, Crinish. This theory refers to specific method as the crime prevention that isn't based on promoting society and its institutions. But it simply relies to reducing the opportunity to commit a crime (Rayjian Asli, 2004). While the social prevention is the field and cause of the crime, situational prevention reduces the opportunities and possibility of its occurrence (Rajian Asl, 2004). Situational prevention activities are supervisors of situations and, moods which put the guilty on the eve of crime. This situation which is called pre-crime situation in criminology, stimulate or simplicity the crime and plays the important role.

Participatory Preventing of the Victimization of Children

Three elements are necessary for a crime symmetry. These three elements are: the existence of a motivated person, skills and tools necessary for crime and the existence of an unprotected target. Due to the impossibility of identifying potential criminals and awareness about the motives of crime, it can be said that in practice, it is virtually impossible to combat these two elements. Therefore, the only way to combat is to reduce opportunities for crime offenders that it is possible by influencing personal and social environment. To achieve this goal, all preventive measures, due to its spread and variety, it should be considered as a state criminal policy and to achieve this goal, the government can benefit from mass and nongovernmental organizations' assistance and participation (Mo'azemi, 2007).

Approach to the Problem of Street Children

Interventional approaches for street children can be classified into two groups, preventive approaches and the corrective and reconstructive approaches. Preventive approaches don't fundamentally have programs for street children but their goal is to prevent them from becoming street children. Its target population is mostly poor children and their families, while corrective programs directly consider the street children to improve their conditions and in an ideal situation, to return them to their family and community (Vameghi, 2005).

Preventive methods

As said, the preventive programs aren't the programs for street children but those are programs which focus on strengthening human and social capital in families which live in the poor community. These programs focus on usually children , specially early childhood and even pre-birth situation and it is emphasized on Providing services such as basic and quality health interventions, health and nutrition), especially for pregnant women and children (primary care For children, child development, pre-school and children's education.

The corrective and modifying methods

The presence of street children in some countries such as Brazil and India because of the large number of street children, has a long history and there is more different approach related to the street children in time in all countries. In sum, the changes in the modifying programs have been developed and new methods use of past experience and become better than previous methods. These methods that directly focused on street children, can be placed in two categories open and closed models. The closed models

limit the children in the centers with minimum of contacted with outside environment , while in open procedures , if any , there has been a centre , then the children is free to commute to these centers.

Closed Center

In Brazil, until the twentieth century, systematic method of working with street children was to put them in the closed centers in which it is met the main needs in various form in these center. These centers which have the charitable nature, are built based on religious ideals and depend on Catholic Church. Since beginning of 20th century , other methods that relied on scientific principles have emerged to compete with charity model .These methods focus on the health and development of teaching a no-religious titles and avoiding physical punishment . The increasing urbanization and growth of children abandoned in the early twentieth century has overcome on the capacity of charitable and scientific centers. The increase of juvenile delinquency led to concern about the problem of street children. In response to these problems in decade 1941, in Brazil, care system package depended on judicial system was launched as Sam for street children in the city of Rio. In this system, a large and heterogeneous population of children and adolescents who for different reasons such as vagrancy to murder were collected from the streets, were under care in terms of coercion in these centers. These centers due to harsh conditions and treatment methods in comparison to ordinary adult prisons had of the special publicity.

Therefore terrible stories that were quoted in these centers, were Brazilian genre of film and literature. There is three areas in south Africa before establishing open centers for children whom left their family and turn to street : Rehabilitation centers, safe havens where children were sent to them by the judicial system and leaving them was banned and prisons . These centers are as prison-like environment and are tragic and terrible. Children often have their heads shaved and they live with their older children and more violent. In 1994, in Brazil these centers were replaced with other centers called Founabem. Compared with Sam, they had more clear-eyed approach and emphasized on education and vocational training for delinquent children. Enclosed centers in which juveniles were held with problems and different ages are the reasons for certain failure of Founabem. Children orphaned or abandoned are preserved on the side of violent and antisocial adolescents with a history of violent criminal behavior and abuse of younger children by older cell mates is common so that they were in practice the centers of trained crime (Vameghi, 2005).

Open Centers

From early 1911 the global changes in the approach to children's rights, including the approval of the Children's Rights Convention in 1919 and join the majority of countries in the world, causes to increase the number of rehabilitation centers for street children with the active participation of NGOs in many countries of the world and approaches in closed centers led to the opening of the centers. This paradigm shift, working and street children aren't considered as victims incontinent and are as active people and with responsibility, who have a moral right to improve themselves and their families through their work that must be respected and provides children's participation in decisions and actions related to their problems. Goals, primarily an end to the mandatory detention of children who don't commit offenses, then it was delegated the care of street children other than central government structures such as states, cities and NGOs. These methods that are different in the terms of philosophy and approach to street children and methods, are classified in the three main groups:

Shelters

Shelters provide an environment similar to boarding schools for children which they provide education, training, healthcare, food, housing, sports and leisure. In addition, the shelters attempt to maintain children relationships with families, individual treatments and participation in the life of local communities (Vameghi, 2005).

Services on the street

In this approach, coaches brought food and other services such as medical assistance and educational activities for street children.

Back to community

This approach help to street children and the children's return to families and educational system to enter the labor market (Vameghi, 2005). In Iran, the support forum has been created for children in this regard and now support of children's activities can be grouped in three areas.

1) *Direct support:*

In this field, it is directly support children and if any one of them fails, the Association comes into play and with taking advantage of all available facilities in society, it is trying to solve their problems and defended their rights.

2) *Communication and influencing on relevant organizations:*

Because the change, improvement and elimination of child labor phenomenon involve taking advantage of all opportunities and potential available in society is particularly relevant government organizations, in this area, the institution attempt to convert the necessity of comprehensive child labor for supporting them through communication and exchange with organizations.

3) *Promoting and public awareness:*

Prioritizing the rights of children and their interests at all levels of decision-making requires knowledge and determination of national demand. So part of the promotional activities using tools such as forum to see Articles, speeches, media interviews, film and song and music, an internal publication and implementation of events , especially as International Children's Day, etc. are trying to educate the public and the defense of fundamental rights (Vameghi, 2005).

The Role of Police in Preventing Repeated Victimization of Children

Police and Prevention

Police prevention on police capabilities is based on goals related to crime prevention. In other words the base of the Preventive Police is the powers and abilities of the police in crime prevention in the community. Police plays important role to reduce of crime (whether before of crime or after it) because of special means and powers (Ghasemi moghaddam, 2007).

Criminal prevention of victimization of children, in the form of judicial police officer or judicial police as well as, in particular, is of particular importance. Police is first body who encounters with children after crime. So, trained police intervention is the first step to justice. Immediately after the discovery of the offense, the preliminary investigation, preservation and the reasons for crime, preventing the accused from escaping and hiding and preventing damage to abused children are the main tasks of the police. The police can prevent damage to the child, he immediately away from the danger, while its report must be provide to judicial authority (Ibachi, 2001: 1388). In addition, the realization of the goals of criminal and non-criminal by the police or in other words, realization of goals of Preventive Police, subject to the determination and application of new approaches in the police force that create the necessary substrates for formation of a strategy based on prevention police force.

Police and Abused Children

Police

If police plays a social role and prevents the repeated victimization of children that is dependent on the factors on his life, the police specific for children should be a repaired and preventive police and if judicial police official plays the role of discovery of crime and preventing the effects of crime, it must be differ between them. Sometimes abused children in the wake of the criminal offenses committed by children suffered the consequences can be excruciating, therefore , the police presence specific for children - as it is customary in child crime – is suitable and very effective with police or restoration or prevention, prevention of repeated victimization.

Police and prevention of repeated victimization of children

- a) Police and prevention of repeated victimization of children out of the criminal justice system: Some types of victimization of child due to their nature frequently occur, and they aren't dependent on the criminal justice system. In other word, this kind of victimization are routinely

against real children before identified by police of criminal justice. Police to prevent repeated victimization of children, and especially in the form of family violence must follow a crisis management team (reaction, stabilization and prevention). Also in the process of conducting its activities, it is taken measures such as assessing the need for victim service programs, communicate between the victim and the appropriate service providers and trying to meet the needs of abused children. In critical situations, the reaction should be in the least possible time (Hesami, 2005: 255).

b) Police and prevention of repeated victimization of children through the criminal justice system standards

The behavior of the police, is as the first official reference in the criminal process, has the considered effect on behavior and perception of abuse children of the criminal justice system. Suitable treatment agents in role of criminal justice that it is the crime discovering and prevention of eliminating of its effects, can play the considered role in creating security and satisfaction of abused children. In contrast, their reckless behavior may create a sense of fear, insecurity and regret going to the criminal justice system (sense of second victimization) (Hesami, 2005: 254). In certain circumstances it can even lead to frequent child victimization.

- Informing the public about the criminal process: abused children, families, legal representatives and heads of the first encounter with the justice process, must be informed the availability and possibility of financial compensation or use of emergency assistance.
- Provide effective aid: Abused children and, if appropriate, his family members have access to effective and specific assistance (provided by trained practitioners). It is necessary to provide health services, social, financial, advisory, legal and other services that return the child to her to help the victims.
- Protecting children from potential damage and should be safeguarded: With regard to the best interests of children, it should be provide the facilities to prevent potential damage done in the criminal process.
- Specific preventive measures: In addition to preventive measures that should be adopted for all children, it is necessary to use of specific policies for abused children who are against repeated victimization and repeating vulnerable crime.
- Privacy: Respect the child's privacy and to maintain it in the criminal process, as important and priority issue, should be supported for abused children.
- Fair treatment: In proceedings with abused children, it should be considered their dignity. For this reason, their specific needs based on gender, age, health and growth should be considered. It should be made the distinction between children. Children should be also participated in the judicial process and in any way it is considered a child's viewpoint.

Future Research

- Training life skills for children creates an opportunity to develop number skills in their psychosocial and help them that in everyday life, they have proper and suitable decisions and behaviors.
- It is selected meetings and activities of life skills for street children among various field in this part and it is formed a short collection depending to the needs of the children.
- Training life skills also helps children to learn social skills and encourages them who help each other in the center and off-center.
- These meetings benefit from active methods of learning such as role playing, group discussions, games and other activities.
- Advice: counseling sessions are implemented as individual and group.

Group meetings: more focus on issues that are highlighted in life skills training sessions. Here, advisor acts as facilitator to help people, because street children have pain and suffering background, the group sessions help them to communicate with each other, share their pain without impediment, establish the trust and support among themselves.

Individual sessions: individual counseling is a face-to-face communication between consultant and client. The consultant as a facilitator helps authorities to achieve the desired objectives in a treatment process. Individual counseling is focused on deep emotional issues. First, advisor with creating a professional relationship (reposts) and trust and then cognitive and behavioral therapy (etc.) helps the authorities to ease the suffering and pain.

Conclusions

The phenomenon of street children is a global issue. Based on estimation of World organization for human rights, around 111 million children around the world live and work on the street. They achieve various tasks, including begging, selling and prostitution to survive. These children are the most vulnerable segment of the population that are not able to defend itself and need adult support. According to the definition given in the introduction to research that based on it , social issue interpreted as an aspect of society and people are upset about it , and it is one aspect that people like to change it , this phenomenon has been appeared ,in Iran especially in Central Iran , according to the presence of children on the street of the city which in various forms ranging from selling chew , newspaper , flowers , tissue paper, wax and ... , and causes irritation for many people and against the culture in Iran , it can be considered as one of the most important social damage in uptrend , is affected by social , cultural , political and economic factors in community . The important issue about street children is that the problem of street children depending on the degree and severity of the importance of social harm has not yet become a national crisis, is controlled and organized in large cities like Tehran. Basically, the street children in society indicate that society has lost its working mode. Functional society is a community that all its sections work together. The non-functional society is community that one or more part of them but in terms of social structure don't correctly work in coordination with other sections. when parts of society is experiencing a malfunction, it can be seen the balance in social, economic, cultural, political and demographic parts and can lead to the emergence of a variety of social harms such as street children .

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