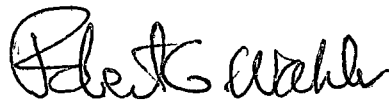


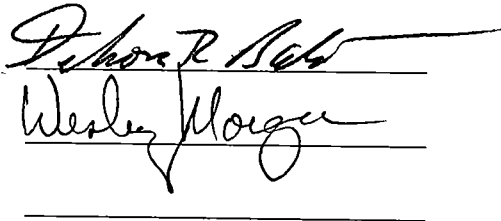
To the Graduate Council

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Tedra Elise Jamison entitled "Gender Bias in the Juvenile Justice System" I have examined the final copy of this thesis for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts, with a major in Psychology



Robert Wahler, Major Professor

We have read this thesis
And recommend its acceptance



Accepted for the Council



Interim Vice Provost and
Dean of The Graduate School

Gender Bias in the Juvenile Justice System

**A Thesis
Presented for the
Master of Arts Degree
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

**Tedra E Jamison
August 2000**

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my parents

Dr Theodore H Jamison, DVM,

Dr Theora I Jamison, DVM,

and to my heavenly father through whom

all things can be accomplished

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ABSTRACT

In this study a survey for assessing gender bias in the juvenile correctional system is developed. Previous efforts examined the juvenile correctional system and found it to be gender biased. This new survey provides an updated view of the system and measures current perceptions of juvenile corrections from those within and outside of the system. Perceptions are investigated among court officers within the juvenile correctional systems of Knoxville, Nashville, and Memphis, Tennessee and undergraduate students of the University of Tennessee. Through analysis, crimes are split into four categories of violent, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs. It is found that most crimes are perceived to be equilaterally severe for both court officers and undergraduates. The exception to this is with sex crimes. For female juveniles who commit sex crimes, males and females, in general, perceive the situation similarly in regards to severity. For the male offender guilty of sex crimes, male raters perceive the situation to be less serious than for females. These findings support the hypothesis of a persisting gender bias in the juvenile corrections system.

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

Review of the Literature

Entering the System

As a whole, correctional systems have treated the female juvenile as an altogether different creature than the male juvenile. Over the years, the correctional system has either taken a harsh, patriarchal, or a lenient, chivalrous stance with the female juvenile, not entirely knowing what to do with her. Because of the role of females in society during the nation's earlier eras, one can understand how the moralistic and sexist atmosphere of the correctional institutes for female delinquents was standard. During this time, female juveniles entered the correctional system for several reasons. Parents decided that the child was too difficult to govern and therefore remanded the child into the custody of the state. A young female was sometimes brought in for status offenses such as truancy, running away, breaking curfew, loitering, and especially for sexual misconduct, such as promiscuity. Meda Chesney-Lind (1974) supplies the best definition of status offenses in a quote from "Juvenile delinquency: The sexualization of female crime" by calling it "conduct that would not be criminal if committed by adults" (p. 43). Jay Robert Nash supplies a more official definition in his book, *The Dictionary of Crime* (1992) stating that a status offense is "a crime or mischievous act that is an offense when committed by a juvenile and which can be prosecuted only in juvenile court" (p. 366). Not only are females charged more often with status offenses (Chesney-Lind, 1989, Dembo, Williams, & Schmeidler, 1993, Webb, 1984) but they are also commonly

subjected to longer sentences of detention than are males (Bishop & Frazier, 1992; Hoyt & Scherer, 1998, Johnson & Scheuble, 1991, Sarri, 1983) These extended stays in detention centers are in direct opposition to leaving juveniles in the custody of their parents It was believed that the state could maintain better control morally if the juveniles were kept under the tight security of its own wings (Chesney-Lind, 1989)

Within the System

Once within the system, female juveniles continue to receive differential treatment Previously, female juveniles were subjected to mandatory pelvic exams to ascertain virginity status as well as to test for venereal diseases (Chesney-Lind, 1974, Odem & Schlossman, 1991) Sex role is also emphasized by providing domestic training and etiquette classes (Horowitz & Pottieger, 1991, Kersten, 1989, Miller, Fejes-Mendoza, & Eggleston, 1997, Westendorp, Brink, Roberson, & Ortiz, 1986) but such education and training are not required for the males

Others in the System

Although a fair amount of research has examined this area of juvenile corrections and found it flawed, not much change has occurred in regard to gender bias in the system, or what Chesney-Lind (1985) calls "judicial sexism " Several studies show a significant gender difference among juvenile delinquents Female delinquents are viewed more negatively by their probation officers (Sagatun, 1989) and are treated more harshly because they act less feminine than it is believed a young woman should act (Rhodes & Fischer, 1993) Along with extended detention, females, unlike males, are also subjected to mental health referrals as a first resort (Caplan, Awad, Wilks, & White, 1980) Male

delinquents are usually entered into the system for more serious crimes and have longer criminal histories (Caplan, Awad, Wilks, & White, 1980, Kersten, 1990) Few studies found no significant gender differences in male and female delinquents (Cernkovich & Giordano, 1979, Smith & Paternoster, 1987)

Studies more narrowly focused on the issue of gender bias in the juvenile court system show significant differences in the treatment of males and females Antisocial and sexual behaviors are viewed negatively for girls but are of no concern for boys (Westendorp, Brink, Roberson, & Ortiz, 1986) Probation officers have different perceptions of female and male delinquency (Sagatun, 1989), describing male delinquents as “fun loving with a spirit of adventure” and female delinquents as “willful and destructive” (p 139) Delinquent girls have higher rates of referral to juvenile court for status offenses and sexual misconduct, compared with delinquent boys (Dembo, et al, 1993,Webb, 1984) At the sentencing stage, females who have been referred for contempt are more likely than males to be petitioned to court as well as to receive sentences of up to six months in detention facilities (Bishop & Frazier, 1992) (Table 1 is a summary of the results of the literature review All tables and figures can be found in the Appendix)

Statement of the Problem

Upon examining the summary table listed above, a double standard appears to exist in juvenile corrections when managing the two genders. Perception and actions of supervisors tend to be negatively focused on the female juvenile offender. As the research history in this area ranges from early to late 20th century, one can only wonder if change will ever occur in this area. The problem continues to exist despite the resurfacing of distinctly conclusive data. Reform is necessary but does not appear to be likely.

Objectives of the Study

This study examined the sentencing opinions of court officials within the juvenile system with the gender of the juvenile as a factor. To explore present societal perceptions of juvenile delinquency, the sentencing opinions of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee were collected concomitantly with the opinions of the court officers. This information is important when considering the future of gender perception in the juvenile justice system. As students in college, individuals of this population may well become future officers, judges, or other influential persons in the juvenile court system. At the very least, societal perceptions could be the foundation from which court officers base their own perceptions. Present perceptions may indicate future perceptions. In addition, the gender of the court officers and undergraduates were recorded to examine the possibility of an interaction from the gender dimension. We hypothesized that the gender of the juvenile, as well as the gender and status of the court officer and undergraduate, would be related to the seriousness of the crime.

CHAPTER II

Methods

Materials Used

The data for this research came from surveys administered to juvenile court officers in the cities of Knoxville, Nashville, and Memphis, Tennessee and to undergraduates at the University of Tennessee. Subjects were given one form (A or B) of one survey by student research assistants. The survey, titled the Juvenile Offense Survey (JOS), was created by the author to provide information about the subjects' perceptions of the seriousness of indicated offenses according to gender as measured by Likert scale ratings on a seven point range. The JOS contains 13 items consisting of examples of offenses committed by a juvenile of a specific gender. An example of an item on the survey is as follows, "Offense Alcohol Abuse Jane is caught drinking alcohol How problematic do you think this behavior is?" The survey is divided into two versions by gender (Form A and Form B) in order to assess this variable separately.

Procedure

The survey was first administered to an undergraduate sample of 49 subjects to test for internal consistency and reliability. One completed form was deemed unusable due to questionable data, which resulted in a total usable sample of 48. The undergraduates volunteered for extra credit by signing a list. The survey was completed through group administration in a classroom environment. No interaction was allowed in

the classroom and extra credit was received for a completed survey. The reliability for the overall scale was an alpha of 0.88 for the entire sample of students and court officers.

The survey was later mailed to court officers working currently in the juvenile court systems of Knoxville, Memphis, and Nashville, Tennessee. The survey was administered to 45 court officers and 48 undergraduates for a total of 93 subjects. This sample included 36 males and 56 females with one form in which the gender was not answered. Forty-eight male offender forms and 45 female offender forms were completed. The gender split for each sample is as follows: 21 male and 23 female court officers and 15 male and 33 female undergraduates. The total sample included 93 subjects but due to the single form without gender, sample sizes may differ when testing for participant gender effects.

Variables

The dependent variable in this study is severity of offense for juveniles. Ranked from "Not Very Serious" to "Very Serious" in a Likert scale, the offenses include assault, running away, drug and/or alcohol use, truancy, etc. Severity of offense has been found to be a large influence on the adjudicated disposition decision, including period of detention. The disposition hearing determines what action the court will take, that is in the best interest of the youth as well as the community, in response to the juvenile's actions. The disposition hearing is equivalent to the sentencing stage of the adult criminal court process. The 1967 case of *In re Gault* established the policy that juveniles be allowed basic due process rights in juvenile hearings (Regoli & Hewitt, 1997). Juvenile court officers are highly influential in this decision-making process.

Sex of the offender and participant rater (court officer or undergraduate) is a major dependent variable, since its effect on bias is highlighted in the aforementioned research literature. The raters' roles as undergraduates or court officers is also an independent variable consistent with our introductory arguments about the need to examine perceptions of the juveniles from those within the system as well as those outside of the system with today's societal views.

CHAPTER III

Results

In our statistical analysis, we attempted to evaluate all three hypotheses, simultaneously, using one measure. The reliability for the overall scale was an alpha of .88 for the entire sample. A factor analysis was performed to group similar offenses and four factors were with eigenvalues >1 . Four factors were extracted, which resulted in the following groups: violence, lawbreaking (or non-violent), sex, and drugs/alcohol. (See Table 2 for eigenvalues.) The violence group consisted of assault, fighting and disobedience. Prostitution, sexual activity and sexual promiscuity comprised the sex group. The lawbreaking group entailed theft, truancy, vandalism and run away. Alcohol, drug and tobacco use completed the drugs/alcohol group. (Table 3 for individual factor loadings.)

These four groupings were then examined according to gender and participant rater. Looking at male and female juveniles, scores range from 1.67 to 7.0 for males and from 1.33 to 7.0 for females. The means for the four groupings in relation to the male juvenile were as follows: 4.7, 5.9, 5.3, and 4.8 for violence, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs, respectively. The means for the female juvenile were as follows: 4.6, 5.7, 6.1, and 5.1 for violence, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs, respectively. (See Table 4.) When comparing participant rater, scores range from 1.3 to 7.0 by the court officer and 1.67 to 7.0 by the undergraduates. Means for the four groupings by the court officers were as follows: 4.8, 5.6, 5.7, and 5.0 for violence, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs, respectively. The means by

the undergraduates were as follows 4.6, 6.0, 5.6, and 4.9 for violence, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs, respectively (See Table 5) In the comparison between participant rater genders, scores ranged from 1.33 to 7.0 for all males and 2.0 to 7.0 for all females The means for the four groupings in relation to the male rater are as follows 4.6, 5.8, 5.5, and 5.0 for violence, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs, respectively Mean scores for the female rater are as follows 4.7, 5.8, 5.8, and 4.9 for violence, lawbreaking, sex, and drugs, respectively (See Table 6)

The reliabilities for the separate groupings were as follows violence, $\alpha = .7425$, lawbreaking, $\alpha = .8117$, sex, $\alpha = .8034$, and drugs, $\alpha = .7489$ Thus, the internal consistency of each scale grouping was reasonably solid

A MANOVA (Table 7) was run to determine if there were participant rater, gender, and form differences in our four constructs of lawbreaking, sex, drugs, and violence We found an interaction between juvenile gender and participant rater gender ($F(4, 81) = 2.608, p = .042$) Also, a significant participant rater type main effect was found ($F(4, 81) = 4.027, p = .005$), indicating differences in the perceptions of the undergraduates and court officers A gender main effect is significant ($F(4, 81) = 7.515, p < .001$), however, we will not focus on this finding due to the fact that it is involved in a significant interaction These findings are in support of all three main hypotheses

Between Group Differences of Court Officers v. Undergraduates

To further investigate differences in participant type, an ANOVA (Table 8) was conducted and found participant rater differs only with the lawbreaking offenses (Undergraduate mean = 5.97 and Court Officer mean = 5.56) This indicates that

undergraduates rate truancy, vandalism, theft, and running away from home as significantly more severe breaches of the law than do court officers (See Figure 1)

Gender Effects

Due to the interaction, the gender main effect was not explored since severity depends upon both the gender of the juvenile and gender of participant rater. In investigating the interaction between these two variables, significant differences showed only with the sex crimes group ($F(1, 84) = 5.921, p = .017$). The ANOVA table presented in Table 8 shows that the interaction was only significant with sex crimes. To determine the relationship of this interaction, two t-tests were run, one for the male participant raters and one for the female participant raters (See Table 9). For the male participant raters, the t-test showed that male juveniles are rated less severely than female juveniles for sexual offenses ($t = 3.452, df = 34, p = .002$). For the female participant raters, t-tests found no significant difference at the .05 level ($t = 1.706, df = 54, p = .094$) (See Figure 2)

CHAPTER IV

Discussion

Summary

For court officials and undergraduates, most crimes are equally important, no matter the gender of the juvenile, or the gender or type of participant rater. The exception to this is in the sexual offense group. Our findings support the general hypothesis of an existing gender bias pertaining to perceptions of male juvenile offenders. When examining the gender of the participant rater, males and females felt similarly about the severity of crimes committed by the female offender. For the male offender, male and female participant raters have differing opinions concerning the sex crimes variable. In this context, male participant raters considered prostitution, sexual activity, and sexual promiscuity to be less serious for the male offender than for the female offender. The female participant rater found sex crimes to be as serious for the males as they are for the females. Female delinquents were also rated more severely for drug crimes, compared with males.

Within the types of participant raters, the non-violent class of offenses showed a significant effect. Undergraduates view crimes such as theft, truancy, vandalism, and running away as much more serious, compared with court officers. This may be due to the fact that most of the crimes in this category can be perceived as directly harmful to another person's property as opposed to the person himself/herself or the undergraduate raters are less aware of the law. Many of the offenses in the other categories are less

directly personal, with the exception of assault and fighting in the violence grouping. For example, disobedience, alcohol and tobacco use, and sexual activity are all fairly passive and less directly damaging to another person. These offenses are also commonplace in a college environment and are rarely seen as offensive by most undergraduates. For undergraduates, non-violent offenses are the most serious. Sex offenses are second in severity, with drug use and violent crimes falling in third and fourth place, respectively. Court officers found sex offenses to be the most serious. Non-violent crimes followed as second, with drug use and violent crimes as third and fourth most severe, respectively.

Covert V. Overt Crimes

The many crimes included in this study were also grouped into criminal and status offenses. The criminal offenses included the following: assault, theft, vandalism, drug use, and prostitution. This category can also be divided into two smaller groups of **overt** and **covert** crimes. The Dictionary of Crime (1992) by Jay Robert Nash defines an overt act as "an action constituting more than mere speech or planning from which criminal intent may be inferred" (p. 265). He also defines a covert act as one that is concealed or secret (p. 83). Assault, theft, and vandalism are the overt crimes in this study, leaving drug use and prostitution as the covert crimes. The status offenses category included the following crimes: alcohol use, disobedience, fighting, running away, sexual activity, sexual promiscuity, tobacco use, and truancy. We found that status offenses are perceived to be less serious for male than female offenders but the difference was not significant. No significant differences were found with these categories.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the results of this study indicate the importance of gender issues in juvenile corrections and demonstrate that a gender bias remains in the perception of juvenile delinquency. Unexpected findings reveal that undergraduates rate juvenile offenses more harshly than the court officers. One would expect the undergraduates to be more liberal-minded, due to the changes in society at large, and therefore more lenient. For this study, results indicated otherwise. A possible explanation for this result may be due to a more objective view of the juvenile by the court officer. Court officers interact with juveniles on a daily basis and therefore have a more complete understanding of offense severity and long term prognosis for change. By knowing these youth, they are perhaps realistic in their more lenient opinions of the severity of some offenses. Undergraduates have minimal, if any, experience with juvenile delinquents and therefore may personalize their judgments of the youth when estimating the severity of the offense. Through personalizing the person in the crime, the undergraduate is able to place judgement without understanding the consequences of that decision. Court officers also understand the ramifications of the judgements and the consequences each child must experience due to the offense. Due to the more objective view of the court officers, each child's case can be processed to suit the child's needs. Because court officers are securely established in the court system, they clearly understand the legal aspect of each offense and therefore have a more comprehensive view of the severity of each offense.

Implications and Recommendations

Although the gender bias pertains only to the sex offenses, this finding is important as it illuminates a persistent perception concerning female juveniles. A

possible rationalization for this finding is the concept of *parens patriae* in which the juvenile court system assumes the role of the juvenile's parents. This concept has been firmly ensconced in the juvenile court system for ages and the secondary treatment of female juveniles in the system has been attributed to this same notion. Perhaps the court system encumbers itself with the reputations of the female youth and therefore deems that it must protect the innocent by containing the bad'. In any case, the results point to a softer juvenile corrections system than what was previously thought. Court officers seem to care about the child as an individual regardless of the gender. The societal standard for female juveniles appears to be more severe, when regarding sex offenses, than the standard of individuals within the court system itself. Despite society's standard, the juvenile court system has evolved and improved concerning court officer's perceptions of their wards. The issue of the female juvenile and sex offenses remains to be an unrelenting dilemma. Recent research in this area was found lacking and more research needs to be conducted. Such research should be oriented toward devising and testing more interventions that are gender-specific. These programs should include methods of building the female juvenile's self-esteem as well as increasing confidence to fight peer pressure and conformity to harmful habits (Sagatun, 1989). Since the undergraduates included in this study demonstrated significant gender bias, it unfortunately appears that the gender bias may continue if programs are not enlisted to sensitize younger people concerning such double standards.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX

Table 1 – Summary Review of the Literature

Male Juvenile

More serious criminal history
 Arrested for more serious crimes
 No sex-role training required
 Charged for more serious crimes
 Appropriate detention sentences
 STD exam rarely required
 Viewed less negatively by supervisors
 Treated less harshly by supervisors
 More variable interventions
 Antisocial and sexual behavior viewed ambivalently

Female Juvenile

Less serious criminal history
 Arrested for mostly status offenses
 Sex-role training required often
 Charged mostly for status offenses
 Longer detention sentences
 STD exam previously required
 Viewed more negatively by supervisors
 Treated more harshly by supervisors
 Clinical intervention as first resort
 Antisocial and sexual behavior viewed negatively

Table 2 - Eigenvalues for Factor Analysis of Juvenile Offense Survey

Component	Initial Eigenvalues		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	4 979	38 302	38 302
2	1 601	12 317	50 619
3	1 255	9 652	60 271
4	1 026	7 890	68 161
5	805	6 189	74 350
6	692	5 326	79 676
7	556	4 277	83 952
8	547	4 206	88 159
9	442	3 403	91 562
10	358	2 756	94 318
11	317	2 441	96 759
12	250	1 926	98 685
13	171	1 315	100 000

Extraction Method Principal Component Analysis

Table 3 - Rotated Factor Loadings

	Component			
	Lawbreaking	Violence	Sex	Drugs/Alcohol
Theft	803			
Truancy	715			
Vandalism	666			
Run Away	586			
Fighting		817		
Assault		731		
Disobedience		664		
Sexual Promiscuity			817	
Sexual Activity			769	
Prostitution			695	
Alcohol Use				881
Tobacco Use				686
Drug Use				638

Extraction Method Principal Component Analysis

Rotation Method Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

Table 4 - Score Ranges for Four Factors by Juvenile Gender (All Raters Included)

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation
Male Juvenile	VIOLENCE	48	2 00	6 33	4 6944	9865
	LAWBREAK	48	3 50	7 00	5 9010	8150
	SEX	48	1 67	7 00	5 2847	1 3083
	DRUGS	48	2 33	7 00	4 8333	1 2974
	Valid N (listwise)	48				
Female Juvenile	VIOLENCE	45	1 33	7 00	4 6519	1 2205
	LAWBREAK	45	2 00	7 00	5 7111	9185
	SEX	45	3 00	7 00	6 1037	8928
	DRUGS	45	1 67	7 00	5 0741	1 1995
	Valid N (listwise)	45				

Table 5 - Score Ranges for Four Factors by Participant Rater

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation
Court Officer	VIOLENCE	45	1 33	7 00	4 7926	1 1919
	LAWBREAK	45	2 00	7 00	5 5944	1 0117
	SEX	45	3 00	7 00	5 7333	1 1625
	DRUGS	45	1 67	7 00	4 9630	1 2231
	Valid N (listwise)	45				
Undergraduate	VIOLENCE	48	2 00	6 33	4 5625	1 0063
	LAWBREAK	48	4 75	7 00	6 0104	6543
	SEX	48	1 67	7 00	5 6319	1 2324
	DRUGS	48	2 33	7 00	4 9375	1 2876
	Valid N (listwise)	48				

Table 6 – Score Ranges for Four Factors by Participant Gender

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation
Male Participant	VIOLENCE	36	1 33	6 33	4 5926	1 1875
	LAWBREAK	36	2 00	7 00	5 7708	1 0477
	SEX	36	1 67	7 00	5 5093	1 5150
	DRUGS	36	1 67	7 00	5 0000	1 4497
	Valid N (listwise)	36				
Female Participant	VIOLENCE	56	2 00	7 00	4 7083	1 0504
	LAWBREAK	56	4 00	7 00	5 8125	7296
	SEX	56	3 00	7 00	5 7679	9297
	DRUGS	56	2 33	6 67	4 8988	1 1190
	Valid N (listwise)	56				

Table 7 - Multiple Analyses of Variance of Four Main Factors

Effect	Wilks' Lambda	F	Hypothesis df	Error df	Sig
Intercept	020	1016.4 ^a	4	81	< .001
Juvenile Gender	729	7.515 ^a	4	81	< .001
Participant Gender	966	705 ^a	4	81	.591
Type of Participant	834	4.027 ^a	4	81	.005
Juvenile Gender * Participant Gender	886	2.608 ^a	4	81	.042
Juvenile Gender * Type of Participant	957	901 ^a	4	81	.467
Participant Gender * Type of Participant	947	1.673 ^a	4	81	.164
Juvenile Gender * Participant Gender * Type of Participant	947	1.125 ^a	4	81	.351

a. Exact statistic

Table 8 - Analysis of Variance of Four Main Factors

Source	Dependent Variable	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Corrected Model	VIOLENCE	9.25	7	1.32	1.098	.372
	LAWBREAK	6.02	7	.86	1.171	.328
	SEX	28.45	7	4.06	3.385	.003
	DRUGS	7.93	7	1.13	.706	.667
Intercept	VIOLENCE	1866.51	1	1866.51	1551.022	<.001
	LAWBREAK	2851.63	1	2851.63	3881.200	<.001
	SEX	2696.75	1	2696.75	2245.523	<.001
	DRUGS	2083.36	1	2083.36	1298.960	<.001
Juvenile Gender	VIOLENCE	14	1	14	116	.734
	LAWBREAK	68	1	68	932	.337
	SEX	21.59	1	21.59	17.978	<.001
	DRUGS	2.88	1	2.88	1.798	.184
Participant Gender	VIOLENCE	44	1	44	364	.548
	LAWBREAK	02	1	1.97	.027	.870
	SEX	1.27	1	1.27	1.056	.307
	DRUGS	24	1	24	149	.700
Type of Participant	VIOLENCE	54	1	54	447	.506
	LAWBREAK	4.81	1	4.81	6.541	.012
	SEX	64	1	64	534	.467
	DRUGS	00	1	1.88	.001	.973
Juvenile Gender * Participant Gender	VIOLENCE	1.41	1	1.41	1.174	.282
	LAWBREAK	10	1	9.55	130	.719
	SEX	7.11	1	7.11	5.921	.017
	DRUGS	.07	1	6.96	.043	.835
Juvenile Gender * Type of Participant	VIOLENCE	1.87	1	1.87	1.556	.216
	LAWBREAK	33	1	33	447	.506
	SEX	51	1	51	426	.516
	DRUGS	02	1	1.98	.012	.912
Participant Gender * Type of Participant	VIOLENCE	2.70	1	2.70	2.243	.138
	LAWBREAK	25	1	25	340	.562
	SEX	1.66	1	1.66	1.384	.243
	DRUGS	.05	1	5.32	.033	.856
Juvenile Gender * Participant Gender * Type of Participant	VIOLENCE	.43	1	.43	.357	.552
	LAWBREAK	.01	1	7.27	.010	.921
	SEX	1.33	1	1.33	1.110	.295
	DRUGS	5.73	1	5.73	3.571	.062
Error	VIOLENCE	101.09	84	1.20		
	LAWBREAK	61.72	84	.73		
	SEX	100.88	84	1.20		
	DRUGS	134.72	84	1.60		
Total	VIOLENCE	2110.78	92			
	LAWBREAK	3158.56	92			
	SEX	3083.56	92			
	DRUGS	2386.33	92			
Corrected Total	VIOLENCE	110.33	91			
	LAWBREAK	67.74	91			
	SEX	129.33	91			
	DRUGS	142.65	91			

Table 9 T-Tests for Severity of Sex Crimes by Participant Gender as per Gender of Juvenile

Participant Gender		t-test for Equality of Means			
		df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference
Male	SEX	34	.002	1.5243	.4416
Female	SEX	54	.094	.4167	.2443

Figure 1- Severity of Lawbreaking Offense by Participant

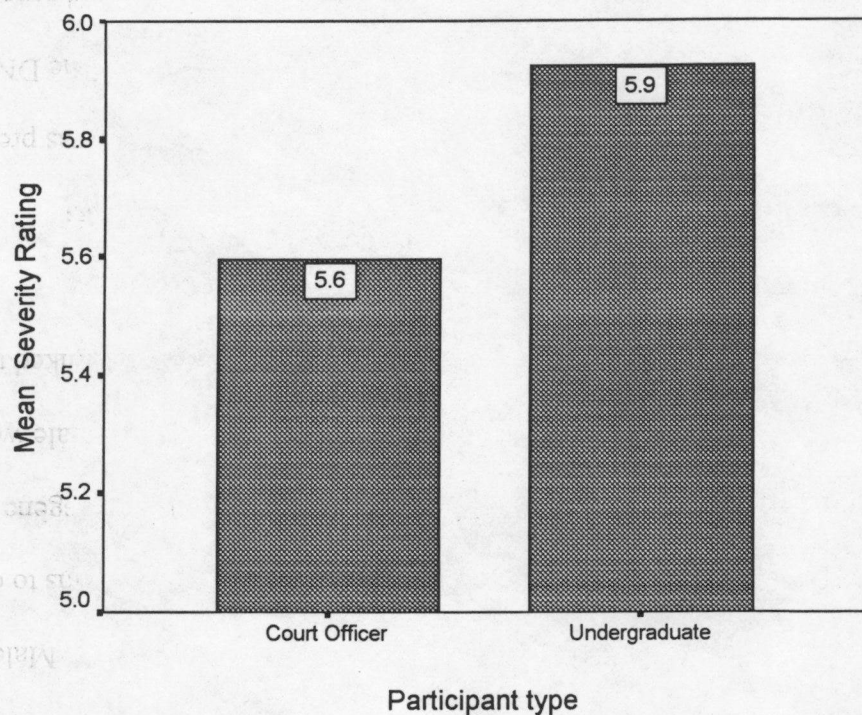
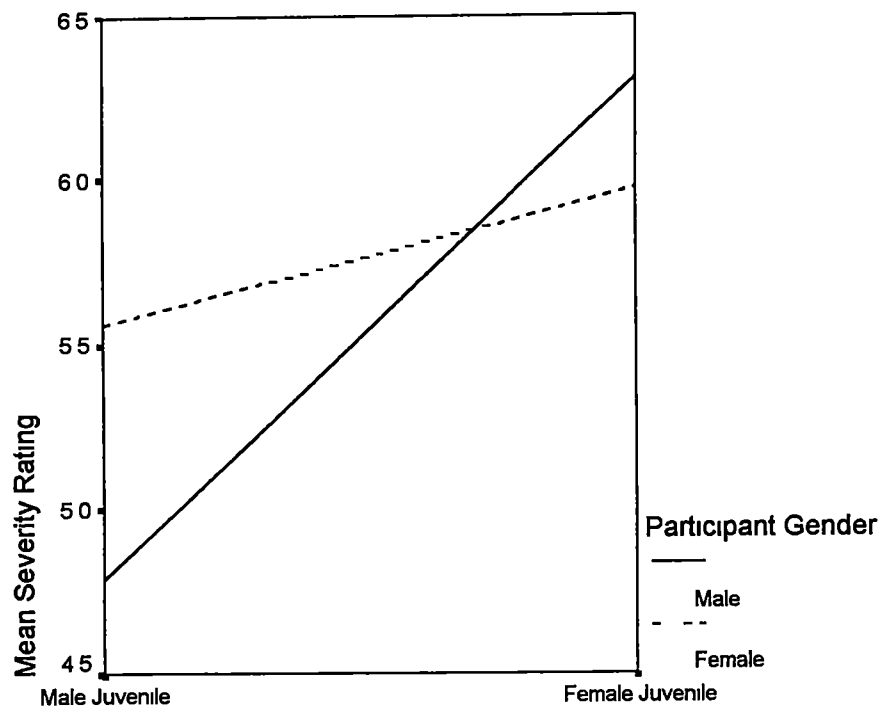


Figure 2- Severity of Sex Crimes by Participant Gender and Juvenile Gender



INFORMED CONSENT STATEMENT

Perceptions of Juvenile Crime

You are invited to participate in a research study. The purpose of the study is to examine perceptions of juvenile crime among juvenile court officers and undergraduates.

INFORMATION

- 1 a.) Participants for the first phase will be administered the survey by student research assistants in class.
b.) Second phase subjects will receive the survey by mail
- 2 One ten minute session will be needed for participation by each subject
- 3 The target sample size for the first phase is 200 subjects and 50 subjects for the second phase

RISKS

There are no potential risks to the subject that could be caused by taking the survey.

BENEFITS

Students will be informed that they will receive extra credit for completing the survey. The main benefit is to add new research to this area of juvenile delinquency research.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The information in the study records will be kept confidential. Data will be stored securely and will be made available only to persons conducting this study unless you specifically give permission in writing to do otherwise. No reference will be made in oral or written reports which could link you to the study.

COMPENSATION

For participating in this study subjects of the first phase will receive extra credit. Other ways to earn the same amount of credit or compensation are not available with this study. If you withdraw from the study prior to its completion, you will receive extra credit.

CONTACT

If you have questions at any time about the study or the procedures, (or you experience adverse effects as a result of participating in this study,) you may contact the researcher, Tedra Jamison, at 410B of the Austin Peay Building of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee 37996 and (423) 974-8796. If you have questions about your rights as a participant, contact the Compliance Section of the Office of Research at (423) 974-3466.

PARTICIPATION

Your participation in this study is voluntary, you may decline to participate without penalty. If you decide to participate, you may withdraw from the study anytime without penalty and without loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. If you withdraw from the study before data collection is completed your data will be returned to you or destroyed.

_____ Participant's initials

CONSENT

I have read and understand the above information. I have received a copy of this form. I agree to participate in this study.

Participant's signature _____

Date _____

Investigator's signature _____

Date _____

Age: _____

Gender: M or F (circle one)

FORM B

Juvenile Offense Survey

Please circle a ranking for the severity of each offense

1.) Offense: Alcohol Use

Jane is caught drinking alcohol.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

2.) Offense: Assault

Jane hits Molly in the nose hard enough to make it bleed.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

3.) Offense: Disobedience

Jane is told to stay in the house all weekend because she is grounded. Jane goes out later that evening anyway.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

4.) Offense: Drug Use

Jane is caught smoking marijuana between classes.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

5.) Offense: Fighting

Jane and Molly start arguing during recess and a shoving match ensues.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

6.) Offense: Prostitution

Jane is discovered having sex for money.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

7.) Offense: Run Away

Jane runs away from home after being grounded again.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

8.) Offense: Sexual Activity

Jane is caught having sex with Mark at his parent's house.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

9.) Offense: Sexual Promiscuity

Jane's parents say that she has admitted to currently having sex with more than one partner. How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

10.) Offense: Theft

Jane is found in possession of a stolen television set.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

11.) Offense: Tobacco Use

Jane is caught smoking cigarettes after school.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

12.) Offense: Truancy

Jane's parents learn that she has missed fifteen days of school.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

13.) Offense: Vandalism

Jane is discovered with several spray paint cans next to a vandalized wall.

How problematic do you think this behavior is?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not Very		Neutral			Very	
Serious					Serious	

VITA

Tedra Jamison was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina on March 8, 1974. She attended parochial school in the school systems of Spartanburg, South Carolina, the Spartanburg County School System. At age ten, her family moved to Euless, Texas and she entered the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Public School System. In 1986, her family relocated again to Nashville, Tennessee where she entered the Davidson County Public School System and graduated from John Overton Comprehensive High School in 1992. She entered Xavier University of New Orleans, Louisiana during August of 1992 where in May, 1996 she received the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. In August of 1996, she entered the Doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The Master's degree was received August, 2000.

She is presently continuing work towards her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. For the past two years, she has acted as a Clinic Co-Coordinator for the University of Tennessee Psychological Clinic. She is currently completing a placement at Cherokee Health Systems in Morristown, Tennessee.