

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### **Context of the study**

Some people succumb to life's hardships as others are untouched by traumatic occurrences like major diseases, the death of their loved one, horrible poverty, or even enormous tragedies like natural and military disasters? Surprisingly, despite stressed, poor, or even abusive childhood, a large number of people are becoming normal, successful adults. Others, however, are so emotionally delicate that seemingly small losses and rejections can be catastrophic (Morris, 2015). Life is a complex web of benefits and drawbacks, good and bad experiences, risk and protective variables, and gains and losses. The criminal theory examines why people with similar or identical experiences differ in their willingness to follow the mandated norms of society (Sampson, 2009). Some criminologists have suggested a theoretical explanation for life pressure to interfere with accomplishment and why some persons or groups use prosocial techniques to cope with it, while others use maladaptive coping mechanisms to avoid or mitigate stress (Vardi, 2003).

Almost every language in the world today has a word to describe children from other countries whose conduct or interests are unusual enough to arouse suspicion, if not panic. They are known as "the teddy boys" in England, "nozem" in the Netherlands, "raggare" in Sweden, and "stiliagyi" in the USSR. But we have no right to presume that every "teddy youngster" or "blouson noir" is actively involved in criminality. People are frequently misled by these names. It is unreasonable to presume that anybody who enjoys rock and roll music or unusual attire is on his way to becoming a delinquent if he is not already one. Too often in the adult world, the word "delinquent" has been employed to indicate displeasure or perplexity at teenage

choices. Nor should every kid who breaches a rule or behaves inappropriately be labeled a delinquent; young people's conduct seldom corresponds to the norms and expectations that adults have for them (Pospil, 2012).

### **1.1 Rationale of the Study**

Crime Statistics of Pakistan shows that there is a rapid increase in the number of crime reported over time like other countries of the world. Although statistics of juvenile delinquency are not widely available from Pakistan, Tahir et al. (2011) report that 17 percent of the crimes are committed by adolescents (15-19 years) during 2010-2011. There is an increase in the ratio of juvenile delinquency which is noticed all over the world. As per this, Pakistan is lined in the 98<sup>th</sup> place which is showing increase cases of criminal activities and ranked as the 92<sup>nd</sup> position in this regard. In 2020 there is an increase number of these activities has been recorded. It is been revealed into few studies that this GST has introduced in eastern cultural setting where many previous empirical studies shown opposite in the western cultures like America and Canada. Furthermore, many research studies have undertaken general strain theory on the sample of young college student as previously there was a concerned raised where there is rare sample probability of this nature to test GST point. It would be more influential if research was based on more serious offenders and offense types and suggest that studies using criminal samples stand a much better chance at informing public policy.

Current research study has to apply the factors of GST to a population which is at higher risk as of juvenile offenders and will possibly explore the role of home abuse in the form of emotional, sexual or physical. It will also be explored in the section of homelessness, victimization on the street (property, robbery, and violence), and the failure to achieve positively valued goals (unemployment, monetary

dissatisfaction, relative deprivation) and how these various types of strain are conditioned by deviant peers and deviant attitudes. Previous studies show concern with some specific strains to check the variability of a test sample like a deviant peer, bullying by the peer, parental issues, etc., but we will follow different domains of strains with a deeper understanding of the role of contextual factors.

It has been established that that parenting plays an important role in the personality development of children (Baumrind, 1991; Chan & Koo, 2011). In the case of parental reject, neglect, and aggression, the risk of deviant behavior increased among children. Therefore, in western world parent training programs are developed and used to manage not only behavioral problems of the children but to facilitate parents to use competent and positive parenting behavior. Unfortunately, there is not a single parent training program available from Pakistan. This study not only fills the gaps in Pakistani literature related to juvenile delinquent children, and provides an opportunity and insight to the social scientists, police makers to indigenously develop some intervention prevention programs for young children.

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

To study the association between General Strains, Delinquency and Psychopathy among Adolescents: Role of Contextual factors.

## **1.3 Research Objectives**

The main objective of this study is to offer a comprehensive test of Agnew's general strain theory among the offending population i.e., juvenile delinquents by examining the relationship between strain, delinquency, psychopathy, negative emotions, temperament, cognitive distortions that can lead to criminal involvement.

- To investigate the relationship between general strain, child characteristics, conditioned factors, delinquency, and psychopathy among adolescents.

- To explore the mediating role of child characteristics between general strain and delinquency among adolescents.
- To assess the mediating role of negative emotions between general strain and psychopathy among adolescents.
- To analyze the moderating role of conditioned factors between general strain and child characteristics among adolescents.
- To explore the moderating role of conditioned factors between child characteristics and delinquency among adolescents.
- To determine the moderating role of conditioned factors between general strain and delinquency among adolescents.
- To investigate the moderating role of conditioned factors between general strain and psychopathy among adolescents among adolescents.

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

1. There is positive relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
2. There is positive relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and negative affect temperament among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
3. There is positive relationship between negative affect temperament and delinquency among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
4. There is positive relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and cognitive distortions among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
5. There is positive relationship between cognitive distortions and delinquency among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
6. Negative affect temperament mediates the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.

7. Cognitive distortion mediates the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.
8. Parenting practices moderate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.
9. Family functioning moderates the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.
10. Deviant peers moderate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.

### **1.5 Null Hypothesis**

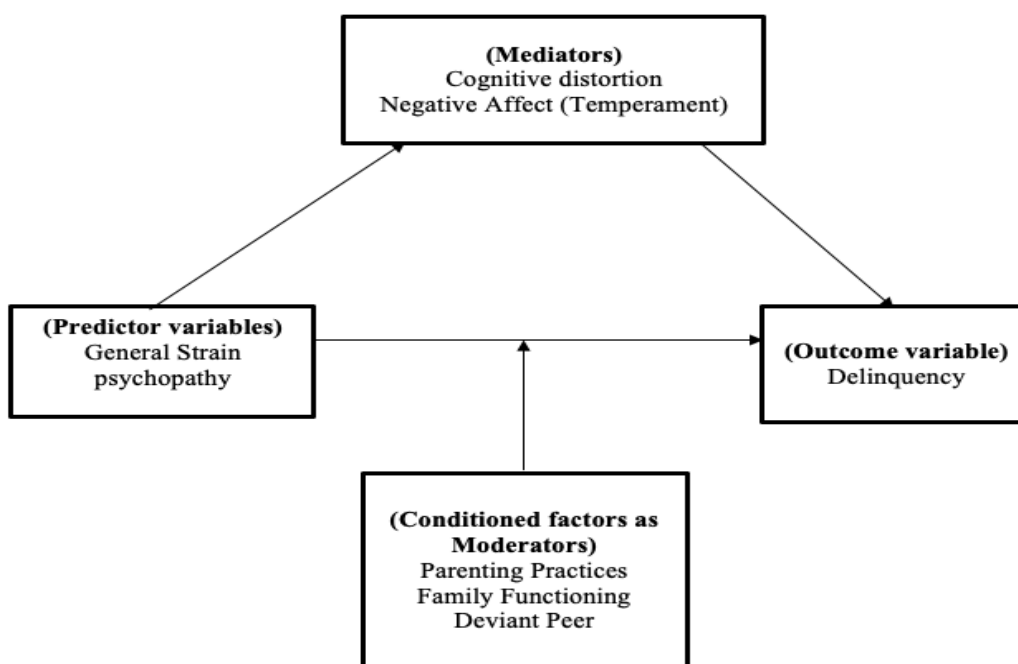
Following are the null hypotheses of the study

1. There is no relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
2. There is no relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and negative affect temperament among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
3. There is no relationship between negative affect temperament and delinquency among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
4. There is no relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and cognitive distortions among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
5. There is no relationship between cognitive distortions and delinquency among juvenile delinquent Adolescents.
6. Negative affect temperament does not mediate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.
7. Cognitive distortion does not mediate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.

8. Parenting practices do not moderate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.
9. Family functioning does not moderate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.
10. Deviant peers do not moderate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents.

### 1.6 Conceptual Model

Following is the conceptual model of the present study. According to the model there is an association between predictor variable (General Strain and Psychopathy) and outcome variable (Delinquency) in Juvenile Delinquents. The literature supports the link among the variables and also highlights the role of contextual factors (i.e., child characteristics, family and parental related factor, peer factors etc.) in the development of delinquent behaviors in adolescents.



*Figure 1.1: Conceptual model of the study*

### **1.7 Significance of the Study**

This research has an immense significance because of the uniqueness of the sample in eastern culture as the conceptual model was previously done in the western culture and only done with normal college going sample. It also explores the relationship between the variables based on the conceptual model designed for this research. This research is applicable for both theoretical and practical levels. On theoretical level this study adds on more understanding of the role of contextual factor in the existing literature. On practical level this research can be used to make some reforms and policies for young offenders.

### **1.8 Methodology**

This research is correlational study. Cross Sectional research design was used in order to obtain the objectives of the study and to explore the association between general strains, delinquency and psychopathy among adolescents: Role of contextual factors.

### **1.9 Delimitations**

The present research has following limitations with so many strengths, like, targeting the difficult sample of criminal offenders, addressing potential contextual factors and its role in the development of delinquency, exploring the impact of general strains/adverse events on the life of a child and its association with the delinquent behavior. Current study data are based on self-reports of the juvenile offenders only which can be a reason of personal biases, errors, and under/over-reporting. Therefore multiple source system is suggested for future research; data can be gathered from parents jail staff, etc. The current study is a cross-sectional design. Future researchers

can apply longitudinal designs to explore the phenomena in-depth and they can explore the persistency of delinquency and recidivism in juvenile offenders. Some other variables can be added to understand the contextual factors more deeply by adding, moral design, criminal cognitions, peer pressure, anger, intolerance, apathy, dark traits, family dynamics, etc. The current study is based on different barriers that had been faced by the researcher. As every officer was almost cooperative while taking interviews from juveniles but still their presence had affected a research a little bit due to child confidentiality and sensitive information sometimes it is hard for juveniles to share their personal information due to presence of staff and officers there even there is lack of accessibility to their personal profiles which we can match our data with their files so we can't validate the data due to low accessibility. Due to some illiterate participants some data had been dropped and discarded while taking interviews.

### **1.10 Operational Definitions**

Following are the operational definitions of the variables used in the present study.

#### **General Strain**

Strains are “events or conditions that are disliked by individuals” (Agnew, 2006, p. 4). Unable to get desirable goals, emotional and physical abuse, and rejection and removal of positive stimuli, are the conditions which are uncategorized and unfavorable (Froggio & Agnew, 1992). General strains scale consists on different domains e.g., experience of child abuse (physical, emotional, sexual abuse, and neglect), momentary dissatisfaction, education deprivation, homelessness, violent victimization, robbery victimization etc. High scores on the scale indicate a high level of strain.



### **Psychopathy**

Psychopathy is commonly considered a personality disorder, characterized by several interpersonal, affective, life, antisocial characteristics and behaviors, such as grandiosity, egocentrism, disappointment, shallow emotions, empathy and remorselessness, irresponsibility, impulsiveness, and an inclination to break social standards (Glenn, 2011). In the present study Psychopathy is operationalized by using Childhood Psychopathy scale (Lynam, 1997). High score on the scale indicate a high levels of psychopathy in adolescents.

### **Delinquency**

Delinquency is referred to criminal activity perpetrated by minors under the legal age of maturity. 'Delinquency is characterized by acts, the detection of which is expected to result in punishment of the person doing them by agents of the broader community' (Farrington, 1992). A self-reported delinquency scale (Naqvi & Kamal, 2008) was used to measure delinquency among adolescents. High score on the scale indicate a high levels of delinquency in adolescents.

### **Parenting Practices**

Parental practices define the role of mother and father where they express their affection, support, and warmth towards their children, whereas it is also defined that parental rejection is the term where children feel neglected by their parents and have a vivid perception of parental role as a child (Rohner et al., 2005). The high score represents high parental rejection on the scale and subscale.

### **Family Functioning**

Family functioning was measured by using Family Relation scale (Gorman-Smith, Tolan, Zelli, & Huesmann, 1995). This scale yields score on six subscales (i.e., beliefs about family, cohesion, shared deviant, support, organization, and

communication). The high score represents high negative and positive functioning of the family.

### **Delinquent Peer**

The peers whose behaviors are deviant have a strong connection with strain and delinquency in which they have full support for the criminal behaviors or did the imitation of that behavior. These activities are all illegal and inappropriate. Deviant peer in this study was measure by asking the respondents about their deviant peers in general strain scale.

### **Cognitive Distortions**

Cognitive distortions are self-serving behaviors and thoughts that are usually external (Gibbs, Potter, and Goldstein, 1995) for example aggressive nature and anti-social traits. How I Think Questionnaire has been used to measure cognitive distortions in the adolescents. The high score represents presence of cognitive distortions.

### **Negative Affect Temperament**

Early Adolescent temperament Questionnaire is used to check the negative affect among adolescents. Frustration, depression, and aggressive mood have been measured with this scale. The high score represents high levels of negative affect temperament.

## CHAPTER 2

### REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Adolescence

Adolescence is frequently described by psychologists and sociologists as a time of storm and turbulence in anyone's life. Adolescence is a critical neuro-developmental stage characterized by profound psychosocial shifts that occur amid fast pubertal growth, such as identity formation, individuation from parents, and the building of personal friendships. Adolescents generally encounter independence, transitions (to higher education or the workforce), neurological growth, and increasing interaction with peer groups all at the same time presenting "opportunities for greater development, but also difficulties that trigger vulnerabilities" (Buehler & Gerard, 2013; Klass, 2020). Attempting to reconcile these changes frequently in an individual will put kids under psychological and emotional pressure to adjust by establishing in-group membership, and it can also offer hazards of maladjustment to change (Gerard & Buehler, 2004). Maladjustment can then emerge as externalizing issue or antisocial behaviors such as disobedience, violence, destructiveness, and delinquency, in addition to substance misuse. These traits or behaviors become the major reason which an individual comply with psychopathological disorders (Hatoum et al., 2018; McMahon 1994).

Adolescence is such an age period that has the tendencies to get filled with many biological, social, and changes related to cognitive styles and perceptions. Many adolescents confront most of the new developmental adventures that include coherent developmental identities, making or establishing new relationships with friends, and offer independence from parents. These coming changes with time will give them many reasons to get into something troubling which will ultimately change their

behaviors and perceptions. Many people become psychopaths when not dealt with properly by their parents or other caregivers. They act differently in society and perform such behaviors that are socially unacceptable (Edens, Skeem, Cruise, & Cauffman, 2001; Seagrave & Grisso, 2002).

### **Theories on Adolescence**

The Freud hypothesis says that there have been five phases of psychosexual development: oral phases (born in 18 months), anal phases (1.5 to 3 years), the phallic phases (3 to 6 years), latency phases (6 years until puberty), and the genital phases (puberty onward). According to Freud (1917), youth is a period of turmoil. Puberty hormonal changes disturb the latency phase's psychological balance, which shows a surge in sexual drive. Teenagers might have psychosexual problems when they connect with their superego (morality) to seek fulfillment (basic predispositions obsessed by Models of Juvenile Change: Overview 5 impulses and wants). As such, it is a key question in the teenage period to resolution psychosexual tensions and reinstate symmetry in an established, adult form throughout the genital phase.

Many thinkers followed Freud's thesis, but Peter Bios was the most serious thinker of adolescence. In contrast to Freud's insistence on the first five years of life, Bios emphasizes the "second individualization" of adolescence as crucial for a permanent structure of personalities. Strengthening sexual urges and increasing social expectations together with fear ultimately leads to disobedience, confrontation, and testing – a temporary regression to the benefit of ego growth. Young people who succeed in overcoming this crisis have a rebuilt personality with a stronger, more autonomous ego. Removing psychological dependence on parents and developing closer relationships with peers is a key part of this process of individualization. "The formation of a dispute and its final settlement, according to Bios (1979), is the

normative work of adolescence" (p. 11). The peer group helps the young person to disengage from their families by offering a feeling of stability. This technique entails psychological dangers, such as the child's excessive dependence on the peer group or his rejection by the peer group. Peer pressure can do anything to convert an individual into something they wanted to do freely. They have the liberty to get things that are not allowed but get security from their group members. This autonomous behavior then gives them to try risky things and thus get involved in behaviors that are not appropriate for them and society as well.

Hall (1904) stated that this time is marked by tumultuous events. Adolescence was referred to as a "second birth" by Hall. Adolescence, for the reason outlined above, is regarded significant for another reason: adolescents are more open to other influences, such as those of society, which serve to "civilize" them. He views an adolescent as midway between an uncivilized barbarian with unchecked urges and a normal member of contemporary society (Hall, 1904). The maturational theory developed by Hall was quite significant. His overarching argument was that adolescence is a distinct period of life and a valid academic discipline. He has founded the field of scientific psychology of adolescence and has also laid the groundwork for future research in this area (Sprinthall & Collins, 1984).

According to Piaget's cognitive development hypothesis, children undergo four different phases of cognitive development. The first stage is called the sensorimotor stage, from birth to two years. The second stage, between two and seven years, is known as the preoperative phase. The third stage is known as the concrete operating stage from seven to twelve years. And the fourth stage is known as the official operational stage, from 12 to 18 years (Piaget, 1954). Individuals endure a changeover stage from concrete thoughts in adolescence to abstract and logical reasoning.

Adolescents may assume, test, and derive conclusions using logical concepts, thereby extending their capacity to solve problems and to think.

The notion of self-concept developed by Rogers (1959) is especially relevant in the study of adolescence. The individual's self-concept is made up of beliefs and ideas on who he or she is and how he or she relates to others. When describing who they are, people commonly use the term "real self," whereas when describing who they want to be, they tend to use the term "ideal self. When there is a large gap between who one is and who one wishes to be, it can lead to feelings of failure and self-criticism. People with positive self-concepts must receive unconditional positive regard, or respect and acceptance, to grow and thrive. Whereas people having negative self-attitudes and concepts made it thorough for them to believe that there is something wrong with them also they become vulnerable and adapt altered attitudes. Some ways are promoted to be the negative ones are those who have negative self-concept and thus hating themselves and society for being turning onto a negative member for society. The people who have such behaviors can make themselves rearranged after engaging with such people who have similar attitudes. These attitudes are not allowed and are socially unacceptable (Rogers, 1959).

Although the concept of adolescence as a moment of crisis has been challenged, Marcia's idea of identity accomplishment (1980) is still accepted by many. Adolescent identity formation is said to have two distinct stages: a crisis and a commitment. Adolescence may be a traumatic time for many young people since they have to make judgments about their identity and are placed in the four identity statuses: identity diffusion, foreclosure, and so on. There is some evidence in favor of Marcia's idea in the works of Milman (1979). He pointed out that while the majority of teenagers in this age group are in the identity dissemination stage, it's still true that

a considerable number of young people still didn't get the most identification levels at this age. It is also true that there are signs that identity quests endure throughout their lives and fluctuate between times of stability and instability and between stages of movements back and forth. When identity discrimination occurs more frequently they tend to believe themselves the same and get attention from society by doing discriminated behavior. They take out their frustration on society and making it possible for them to suffer in such situations. These situations make them build or defame their character day by day (Marcia, 1980).

Adolescents use the Focal theory to cope with their concerns one at a time. Adolescents often work through their process of adjusting over some time, focusing on only one issue at a time to keep their stress levels dispersed (Coleman and Hendry, 1999). Possible explanations for this include that young children and the elderly have different ways of coping, or that age has no effect on how one copes. Many people cope differently with each other thus have different experiences for it. Teenagers are seen to take an active role in this idea, and this also reveals why some adolescents cope and others fail to deal even if they have the same number of crises. The old ones have their typical ways of dealing with such negative behaviors and have a commonality in each of them. They have certain rigid thoughts which make them possible for them to get adapted. The Focal theory is different from previous theories of adolescence since it is founded on factual facts. While this is true, handling only one problem at a time does not always indicate a high level of stability (Coleman, 1978). Evidence from more long-term research is necessary to test Coleman's hypothesis.

During Montemayor (1983)'s analysis, it appears as if though some conflict in adolescence is natural, other storm and stress ideas do not appear to have supporting

evidence. To be more like the group of people they will be when they grow up, adolescents move forward. Some teenage behaviors occur more often than in the general population. Youngsters are still seen to be out of control, even if they're no longer in charge of their actions. They become rebellious after one easy hand on them and they adopt such behaviors quickly. This makes them more vulnerable towards society and thus have more capacity to fall under prey to their age mates. They become more and more autonomous once they get this security from their group members. It is seen mostly in the areas where authoritative parenting and submissive child relationship is encouraged. It is the sole reason for them to form behavior that is alternative to what is expected from them.

The socio-ecological model which is developed by Bronfenbrenner (2005) has shown that a child goes through multiple stages in life that have a direct influence on one's personality. It has three levels like microsystem in which an individual confronts its immediate environment like his/her family, school, and siblings. They learn through them as adapt their positives and negative qualities all along. This initial phase is very important in their life as it sets a base for them and in future life they will make their relationships and likeness on it. It will give them security or insecurity in their relationships which will further be transferable in their relationship they will going to make. Their secure environment will give that guarantee that they will make more secure relationships in the future or on the other hand they will going to destroy their relationships just because their needs on the first stage was unmet or they are still fixated on that stage. The next level is the ecosystem in which a child is not directly involved but has an influence of societal influence on them which makes them learn through it whether positive or negative. This will be involved in their decision making or other cognitive functioning, if they have seen such societal



influence where pressure or autonomous behaviors are been reinforced then they will surely create that environment in future. The last level is the macro system which is creating a broader context for them to get influenced and form their ultimate behaviors. All these levels have some significance as if one of them is missing the other will get hampered by it and thus they will get stuck on the earlier one. If they have not met their needs properly they will act differently and will take such steps which goes opposite to what is needed from them as a social informant.

## **2.2 Strains**

Strains are characterized as unfavorable occurrences and situations (Froggio and Agnew, 2007). Inability to obtain desirable goals, such as money, prestige, autonomy, and thrills and excitement can be a source of stress. Loss of favorably valued stimuli, like money, material goods, and love relationships, maybe a source of stress. Furthermore, stresses may include the introduction of negative stimuli such as verbal and physical assault. Target strains are occurrences and situations disdained by the majority of persons in each group, whereas subjective strains are events and situations disdained by those who experience them. The subjective reactions of people to the same objective strain may differ from the others in most situations. Some teens, for example, are crushed by poor grades and takes major stress for it, but others seem unconcerned and are chilled out in the end (Agnew, 2015). Agnew (1997, 2015) essentially contends that unfavorable connections result in unpleasant emotions, which can ultimately lead to criminality. When individual got situations that don't go according to his/her plan them most of the time got stressed and make them involved in such behaviors that give them the liberty to correct the earlier one. Agnew discovered three key sources of strain during developing GST: failure to attain positively valued objectives, elimination of highly valued stimuli, and encounter with

negative stimuli. These three basic causes of tension are easily explained (Agnew, 2017a).

Research indicates that a range of strains increase the likelihood of crime, including strains such as harsh parental discipline, criminal victimization, and discrimination. Certain strains are said to be more conducive to crime than others. These strains are high in magnitude (severe, frequent, of long duration, recent, expected to continue into the future, and involving core goals, needs, values, identities, and/or activities). According to the classic strain theories of Merton (1938), Cohen (1955), and Cloward and Ohlin (1960), individuals from all social classes are encouraged to pursue the goal of monetary success or middle-class status. Lower class individuals, however, frequently have trouble achieving these goals through legitimate channels. The frustration resulting from this goal blockage drives some of these individuals to crime. Crime may be used to achieve monetary goals, obtain status in the eyes of one's peers, seek revenge against the perceived source of goal blockage or other targets, and alleviate frustration and other negative emotions (through illicit drug use). Agnew (2001) differentiates objective strain from subjective strain. Objective strains are defined as "*events or conditions that are disliked by most members of a given group*" (Agnew, 2001, p. 320). Numerous stressful conditions or events such as physical assault, financial difficulty, and criminal victimization can be considered objective strains. A majority of previous research on GST focused on objective strains, under the assumption that these stressful events and conditions always cause strain in all individuals (Agnew, 2001). Agnew, however, recognizes the importance of measuring "subjective strains," which refer to "events or conditions that are disliked by the people who are experiencing them" (p. 321).

The inability to attain favorably valued goals is the initial source of stress. This form of strain develops as a result of a mismatch between expectations and actual accomplishments or rewards, or as a result of real or expected failure to fulfill favorably valued goals. According to research, strain is caused when hurdles to achievement are readily obvious (for example, racial discrimination or prejudice). These types of stressors give them chances of low self-esteem and a judgmental outlook which will create an insecure environment for them. Thus, they are more likely to be involved in such behaviors that give them compliance to the favorable ones (Agnew, 1992).

The another form of strain can be the loss of positive stimuli such as a family member's death or illness, parental divorce, school suspension, or loss of a lover or girlfriend or lover Akers, et al. (2016). When this type of stress occurs most of the individual loses hope and find a way of denial in which most common one is substance abuse, other may fall prey to the socially unacceptable behaviors to get their attention out of their loss. In particular, this sort of stress can lead to criminal and criminal handling by engulfing bad sensations with illicit substances.

The third source of strain is the introduction of unfavorable (noxious) stimuli and the incapacity of young people to leave legally. In the stress literature, deviant coping was linked to the provision of negative incentives in the form of child abuse, crime victimization, unfavorable interactions with parents and parents, stressful life events, and unemployment. These conditions make them more vulnerable to adapt unhealthy patterns and get habitual to them (Agnew, 2017a).

### **General Strain Theory**

The crime is caused by an individual's incapacity to earn money legitimately or realize other cherished goals (Agnew, 1992; Merton, 1938). The most noteworthy of the micro-level updates of traditional strain theory is Robert Agnew's General Strain Theory. General strain theory has gained a large amount of empirical evidence in recent years (Agnew, 2002; Agnew & Brezina, 1997). To help facilitate strain theories suggested by Merton (1938) and Cloward and Ohlin, GST was created by Agnew (1992). (1960). This theory originated in the "anomie" concept of Durkheim. Merton (1968) disagreed with Durkheim (1951) and thought that anomie was more lasting in American culture than in other places. According to Merton (1968), societal standards or recognized aspirations, such as the American Dream, exert a great deal of pressure on individuals, causing many to conform or identify with a deviant subculture to fulfill those objectives. When individuals are faced with a gap between "what ought to be" and "what is," they will feel stretched and are likely to respond in one of three ways: some of these responses can prompt delinquency, others might serve as coping mechanisms, and yet others can function as lifesaving tools. Despite this, Agnew (1992) said that Merton's (1938) perspective was narrowly centered on individual wealth-oriented goals. Strain theory was built upon by (alluding to the three factors mentioned above) Agnew (1992) who claims that individuals who experience multiple forms of strain (e.g., anger and stress) will have a greater likelihood of developing negative emotions like anger and frustration that may lead to criminal or deviant behavior.

General strain theory holds that each time a person is exposed to stress; they will feel at least one bad feeling, known as a negative effect. While sadness and fear are two of the most common negative affective states, they are not the only negative

emotional states that might express themselves in such ways. Anger, in particular, Agnew posits to be an extremely significant negative effect. And as it is a motivation for strain-induced deviation, it may be seen as a powerful motivator. While the propensity to be angered results in a desire for revenge, anger is one of the most powerful reactive emotions owing to its capacity to develop that desire. Individuals are "...driven towards delinquency by the distressing emotions that typically arise from unhappy relationships, such as wrath and similar feelings", as he explains. However, Agnew noted that, while not everyone who has tension or unpleasant feelings commits crimes, certain individuals might nonetheless be predisposed to criminal behavior. Negative emotion does not necessarily result in an unlawful reaction if other coping techniques and conditioning variables are present. If they are not present appropriately then these individuals have the risk of forming other risky behaviors too as well they are risky for their society. When they form a group, they become more and more powerful and enhance such adaptability in the society which is a bad example to set for others. When they form such behaviors, they fear no one and thus create a boundary for themselves too. They have hatred for society members and themselves too as for the poor judgment and social lack of ability.

To investigate the potential applicability of GST, Piquero and Sealock (2000) studied an offender population to better understand the concept of GST. The most important thing they were interested in investigating was if GST shows patterns of criminal conduct in an offending community. The research study is the first attempt to empirically test the theory of general strain theory among juvenile offenders in a Punjab prison, and the research centered on how general strain (strain in general) influences delinquency and psychopathy, as well as the association between delinquency and negative emotions, and the role of various coping strategies (such as

cognitive, emotional, behavioral, legitimate, and illegitimate coping). It was also looking into various other variables, such as family support, delinquent peer association, and misanthropy, which were found to moderate the relationship between general strain and delinquency and psychopathy.

People tend to have fixed personality features, with one's thoughts and conduct shaped by the environment Caspi et al. (1994). Personality traits may be consistent and lasting attributes that are both determined by biological and early socialization processes (Carey and Goldman, 1997; Bock and Goode, 1996; Gottesman & Goldsmith, 1994). Studies have found that those who possess nonconforming or maladaptive personalities are more likely to have aggressive and antisocial conduct in adulthood and childhood (e.g., Blackburn & Coid, 1998; Caspi et al., 1997; Caspi et al., 1994; Cloninger, 1987; Eysenck & Eysenck, 1985; Eysenck & Gudjonsson, 1989; Farrington, 1986, 1992).

A summary of the relationship between personality and crime according to Miller and Lynam (2001) is included below: 9 Criminals tend to be aggressive, egocentric, vindictive, malicious, and apathetic toward others. ... These individuals generally possess a lack of ambition, desire, and persistence, as well as trouble managing their urges. Agnew et al. (2002) have postulated that certain personality factors may moderate the impact of strain on crime, given the relationships between these qualities and aggression and crime. The individual's personality features may impact their emotional response to stress and the development of coping methods to deal with stress. Maladaptive personality characteristics may lead individuals to view strain as unpleasant, and therefore more prone to experience rage (Agnew et al., 2002). Individuals that exhibit this trait are also more prone to view violent coping strategies as superior means of solving their problems. Agnew et al. (2002) explored

how strain is influenced by individual personality features, according to these hypotheses. The researchers found that several characteristics of personality (such as high levels of negative affect and low levels of restraint) attenuate the strain's influence on delinquency. This team has presented a chance for a more thorough explanation of how strain promotes deviance by highlighting the role that personality variable may play in GST. To discover more universal principles, Agnew conducted an empirical study of conditional elements in an attempt to arrive at a more applicable theory of crime.

Some risk factors are associated with many children and their behavioral patterns which vary individually. Professionals have to screen out the protective factors of these children and then come to a diagnosis about them. There are some factors like complications in birth, hyperactivity, sensation-seeking behavior, temperamental issues, poor practices among children, and substance abuse. As the child nourishes and grows older to that place where they become more vulnerable to these risk factors and become one of them. It disturbs the community and leaves a major impact on the world. These factors emerge in them when they are more prone to the society where these behaviors or characteristics are been followed and thus they give themselves reasoning for it. Once they get to know that these behaviors are adapted by some sort of group and they are practicing it fearlessly, that moment will give them autonomy to do anything they want because there is a reason behind it (Farrington, 1986).

Numerous studies have been undertaken over the past decade on conventional and cyberbullying, finding that they cause strain as well as engendering it (Patchin and Hinduja, 2011; Moon et al., 2011; Hinduja and Patchin, 2008; Hay et al., 2010). In a study by Patchin and Hinduja (2011), the authors investigated how strain-based

factors, such as getting all the bad grades in school or been preserved for the not so fair situation, or having major financial issues with person having this problem, adjustment issues like going to a new school or labelling others in bad stance, lastly been in a bad or abusive relationship will be more towards that event affected traditional and cyber bullying behavior. (Adolescents who are overstrained may resort to bullying as a way of dealing with the stress.) Patchin and Hinduja (2011) propose that teenagers who face stress may turn to conventional and cyberbullying as a means of increasing their emotional well-being. It is due to their social and peer pressure also their familial and other so issues make them prone towards this behavior. Many studies have shown the engagement of such individuals in that behaviors and also their negative thoughts make them more and more into this behavior. Some of the individuals have difficulty forming their true self or confused self which is revised by the society. It is due to their dilemmas for society and for themselves as they are not so sure about themselves and their surrounding and always put their guards up for the society and giving them the right to revenge. They take revenge from the society in order to overcompensate their behavioral changes.

### **2.3 Psychopathy**

Psychopathy is considered to be the foremost and first disorder of personality recognized in the field of psychiatry. This concept takes a long back or ancient history or has the clinical background and in recent decades, an increasing number of study has shown its validity (Hare, 2006). The term psychopathy means "mental illness" (from psyche, "mind," and pathos, "suffering"). Psychopathy is commonly considered a personality disorder, characterized by several interpersonal, affective, life, antisocial characteristics and behaviors, such as grandiosity, egocentrism, disappointment,



shallow emotions, empathy and remorselessness, irresponsibility, impulsiveness, and an inclination to break social standards (Glenn, 2011).

Although psychopaths, like antisocial, lack true emotional links with others and regret, they conduct in emotional coldness, mixed with those of a specific seduction and manipulation, for utilitarian objectives; they become predators, sadists, and conceal highly violent deeds. All of this is the distinctive result of an emotional and interpersonal impairment prevalent with an antisocial personality disorder. Psychopaths are classified into three types: primary psychopaths, secondary psychopaths, and dissocial psychopaths. The author considers primary psychopaths to be real psychopaths (Steverson, 2020). They are usually neither aggressive nor very disruptive, but rather friendly, interesting, and linguistically skilled. They show themselves as calm, self-assured persons; nonetheless, they are harsh, manipulative, egotistical, and deceptive (Min, 2019). They are skilled performers who can evoke emotions in their interlocutors while without experiencing any themselves (Bänziger, 2009). Secondary psychopaths, on the other hand, have serious emotional issues; their misbehavior is ascribed to their social isolation (Meffert et al., 2013). Although the primary psychopath is the actual psychopath, secondary psychopaths are the ones who have the greatest encounter with the law. Psychopaths exhibit violent and antisocial behaviors that they picked up from their ancestral environment. They are distinguished by a greater proclivity to be impulsive and visibly furious (Hare and Neumann, 2008).

There is a word juvenile psychopathy that could not be get mixed with the other natures of personality as in this many cognitive roles and perceptions are been involved. They have been part of juvenile and adult psychopathology which is as related as for the basic personality types (Lynam et al., 2005; (Salekin et al., 2005)

.Most of the people who are psychopaths or are dealing with some juvenile nature can show some major problems. Many of these problems are related to their emotional reasoning and processes that would affect their future analysis and ways of thinking (Blair & Coles, 2000). It also has an impact on the behavioral embarrassment and impulsive reactions that have a direct relationship with one's personality deformation and society in acceptance towards that particular behavior. People that have personality issues are more prone to forming juvenile-like traits and have extreme outbursts issues. They are more responsive to the negativity around them and can punish other people to boost their self-esteem. They become more and more dangerous for society and in the end fall prey to it completely (O'Brien & Frick, 1996).

There is generally a irrational way of thinking for the connection between adolescent psychopathy and different pathologies with regards to their difference. It is been seen that because of high rates found in the comorbid studies quality will allow them a higher opportunity to meet them in their young life working (Salekin & Frick, 2005). It is been reported by Lynam (1997) that most of the cases which are considered psychopaths have the problems of identifying their problems towards externally and least of it are possible when they do that internally. There is a clear negative relationship between juvenile psychopathology and people who imply problems internally, most probably in adults. These type of people puts their blame on others to save their self-esteem and thus takes advantage of this situation and reacts abnormally. They justify their juvenile behavior by taking out frustration externally and concealing it by their illogical thinking. This thinking reinforces them to create a negative or juvenile environment for those who are not yet involved in these kinds of situations. These behaviors then now are exposed to society thus there is a more

chance of juvenile behavior. They have done such things to make their circle more strong and evident for their sake (Salekin et al., 2004).

Psychopathology is corrected by many but is specified in this study as it has the personality traits which include many unnatural or fantasized charming personalities, lack of guilt or remorse feeling towards others, not very reliable for society and themselves, they have poor judgmental qualities and mostly behavior which is not appropriate or is usually called as antisocial (Cleckley, 1941). It is assumed that psychopathy is the most common disorder that involves dangerous patterns of behavior and is non-reliant to change. They usually are resistant to any change coming towards them and make a big deal out of it (Lynam & Gudonis, 2005). It is usually gone under debate that whether psychopathy can be found or identified in the period of adolescents. Many studies conform to that assumption, people get used to that behavior when they are very young and are vulnerable to environmental changes (Skeem, Polaschek, Patrick, & Lilienfeld, 2011). Through different studies and theories, it is identified that many developmental changes come with time and along with them many behavioral changes occur that can be adaptive by the society as it is (Klimstra, 2013).

The above information has shown that how family, social and environmental conditions are underway to any individual forming negative behavior like psychopathy, delinquency, and juvenile. The above explanations make it possible for people to understand that how these conditions are purely linked to each other and small deficiency in any aspect can lead to the manifestation of these behaviors. Many people cope with it successfully but other fall prey to these situations and thus get involved in groups where these behaviors are been encouraged. They have the

tendency towards it and little encouragement can make it possible for them to show these behaviors even more and more.

### **Theoretical perspective on development of Psychopathy**

The developmental theories have given the concerned thought about the problems that occur in the adolescent age and how they are directly related to psychopathological behavior. It is seen that most youngsters have the traits of sensation seeking, indecisiveness, and irresponsible attitude which is nearly possible to make them adapting such behaviors which are dangerous and thus also for the need of curiosity to get overcome by it (Edens et al. 2002) Many adolescents when transits towards adulthood show a greater level of changes in their behavior and reveal characteristics like impulsiveness, difficulty coping with the situations, and making them social. Their acting out behavior gives them the liberty to act in a certain way so they will reveal themselves like an antisocial individual (Cauffman & Steinberg, 2000; Steinberg & Cauffman, 1996). It is observed that those who get matured with time and do things that are psychosocially appropriate will give good assessments on the scale of change and thus gets the best self out.

There are so many developmental disorders that come with life course and through many environmental changes in life. Some of them are named as conduct disorder, antisocial personality disorder, and psychopathological behavior. Some major differences are associated with them changes their rules and predictabilities for these disorders. It is been observed that conduct and anti-social personality disorder usually focus on problems related to behaviors. Whereas psychopathology is described by Hare (1991) which has emphasized the affective deficits and communicational functioning like interpersonal deficits. There are many scales to assess psychopathology and get checked by it. Both of them have major impact on the

functioning of an individual as if how they will going to react in future, what will be their behaviors afterwards, what type of coping mechanisms would be followed by them. All these questions can be answered once their developmental course or interpersonal functioning can be assessed through interviews or related tools for it.

The prevalence rate of psychopathology found in adults is 1% and there is an increase of 15% to 25% in different groups. It is identified that many people with a different diagnosis like anti-social personality have shown high rates of prevalence like 50-80% in general and in the prison population. There is only 20% of the population that goes under the criteria of true psychopaths for various reasons (Hare, 1998).

### **Studies on Adolescent Psychopathy**

The two forms of psychopathy explored by (Skeem et al., 2007) are main and secondary. A review of main and secondary psychopathy behaviors and features is given, and this information is used in a study on the 123 known psychopathic violent offenders in Sweden. Secondary psychopaths may benefit from treatment but primary psychopaths may not, as their research shows (Skeem et al., 2007).

Studies on adolescent psychopathy often use modified versions of the PCL-R and PCL: SV. Recent publications by Forth, Kosson, and Hare (in press) have expanded upon their earlier work by developing the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL: YV), which incorporates the PCL-R criteria while incorporating distinct assessments for teen groups. Reliability (Forth & Mailloux, 2000; Forth, 1995; Cruise et al., 2000) and predictive (Forth & Mailloux, 2000) and construct (Cruise et al., 2000) validity have all been proven by the PCL: YV.

Narcissistic, borderline, and histrionic personality disorders all share some similar qualities throughout childhood to maturity, according to Salekin (2007).

Assessments of teenage psychopathy are reportedly stable throughout early adulthood, and many of these characteristics appear to be connected with, which a personality condition is called psychopathic personality disorder (PPD). According to Lynam et al. (2005), using a revised variant of a scale related to child psychopathy (CPS) which consist of a sample having age range of 7-17 years old male. It has the three waves of the study related to Pittsburgh youth study introduced by Lynam et al. (2005) explored the steadiness of psychopathic characteristics. They found that the level of psychopathy remained mostly stable throughout these periods like the example in which it access the extent of variation among the definite value of characteristics related to psychopathy and the sample which is considered to be the insignificant. There are some scale which can evaluate the psychopathic features and characteristics among different age group and will further guide the research studies to explore different levels of psychopathy and their influence on different age levels in this term.

Developing measures of psychopathy to be used with children and adolescents has occurred throughout the past decade. While these tests have been specifically created for the goal to screen the antisocial characteristic and the process which is included in this by the help of specific screening tool (Frick & Hare, 2002), there is another scale named as childhood psychopathy scale designed by the (lynam, 1997) used to test the childhood traits in them to access their psychopathy level. There is one other checklist related to psychopathy for the youngsters (Forth et al., 2003) have been developed to facilitate the assessment of antisocial and psychopathic behavior in adolescents between 15–37% of adolescent offenders will show a high level of psychopathic traits, with the number varying according to on the characteristics of the sample and the psychopathy test (Forth and Tobin, 1995; Murrie and Cornell, 2002; Brandt et al., 1997; Forth et al., 1990). In samples of young violent and antisocial

offenders, base rates that are both above and below average are more common. One research recently reported a base rate of psychopathy among jailed Swedish youth of 59 percent (Da°derman & Kristiansson, 2003). Even though adolescent offenders tend to have higher levels of psychopathic features, our understanding of the disease in this period of adolescent development is inadequate.

Psychopathy was explored by Salekin et al. (2005) in a southern detention institution with 114 male and female adolescent offenders (Mage = 15.16). In conducting the study on teenage psychopathy, the interpersonal circumplex served as a foundation on which to study the concept of teenage psychopathy. Another type of study of the psychopathy measures and the Big 5 aspects of personality was done to investigate if the measurements and the factors each contributed to personality as a whole. Convergence among the three psychopathy measures was revealed by the findings. Another notable finding is that relevant connections were also found between psychopathy and concepts in the interpersonal circumplex, as well as other Big 5 concepts. The two psychopathy scores also linked with a degree of neuroticism that was well above what was predicted. This study has found a connection between the personality theory of child and adolescent psychopathy and the idea of child and adolescent psychopathy, strengthening the construct validity of the theory.

Lynam (2002) contends that personality characteristics are typically consistent throughout adolescence into adulthood and that this is seen in the research on psychopathy in adults. It has been suggested that psychopathy is inaccurate throughout adolescence, due to this being a period of substantial developmental change. In addition to their antisocial tendencies, psychopaths display several temporary characteristics and behaviors in childhood and adolescence, some of which mimic symptoms of psychopathy, but go away as healthy development ensues. For

example, it is well known that teenagers are more impulsive and less empathetic than adults, and this might affect their results on the questions in the assessment of psychopathy now used. Family background characteristics such as inconsistent punishment, maltreatment, and rejection by parents seem to be connected with the development of conduct disorder and psychopathy in adolescents.

Although involvement in bullying caused short-term and long-term issues for children, the researchers found that it also made them more likely to exhibit externalizing behaviors, such as delinquent and antisocial behavior. This type of research has revealed that bullies are more likely to be convicted for activities that are punished, and they also have a higher risk of eventual crime (Renda et al., 2011). Another study shows that having psychopathic features may increase the likelihood of being bullied or victimized in teenagers. . It is more likely they generalize their bad experience and tend to oppose every right thing just because their fairness was not met according to their expectations. They get more involved in psychopathic activities as to overcome their victim phase (Fanti & Kimonis, 2012). Based on the data outlined above, we believe that psychopathy will lead to an increase in bullying, and bullying will, in turn, correlate with future delinquent and antisocial behavior, via influencing the behavior of future delinquents and antisocial. Even as adolescents' attachments to their parents and classmates, as well as their experiences of victimization, work as intermediaries between psychopathy and delinquency, we believe they function like this in our model as well. Psychopathy is a poor predictor of a positive connection with one's parents, and this has been shown in various research. Parents who are not responsive to their children's needs and their nourishment thus facing the consequences of having children who have diminished manners and have a hatred for society in any manner. They behave antisocially and mostly go deviant to



what is expected from them to gain their needs and to take out the frustration on the society (Forsman et al., 2010)

The study undertaken by Lynam et al. (2005) looked at teenage psychopathy and the Big Five personality traits: Results from Two Samples. This study aims to find out whether psychopathy is related to the Big Five personality traits in two populations of teenagers. It attempts to investigate the claim that those who are described as having a measure of psychopathy who exhibit self-centeredness, callousness, and interpersonal manipulation (Factor 1) have the lowest levels of Agreeableness, whereas those who are described as having a measure of psychopathy who is described as impulsive, unstable, and socially deviant (Factor 2) have the lowest levels of Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, and Neuroticism. To investigate these two hypotheses, data from 13- and 16-year-old boys and their moms are used from two Pittsburgh Youth Study populations. The hypothesis proved to be supported by results across age and rating sources, supporting the assumption that juvenile psychopathy exists and the assumption that psychopathy is a collection of features that stem from a generic model of personality functioning.

Several reasons indicate the possibility of psychopathological personality, one of the most common reasons are environmental factors and developmental factors which shape the behavior of an individual. In many studies, it is been found that children's and adolescents with several family background variables like rejected or neglected by parents, not so disciplined people, familial abuse or socially abuse, poor peer group formation are usually the precipitating factors in the development of conduct disorder and psychopathy (Forth & Burke, 1998). It is also been observed that in autonomous literature the suggestions for children's are clearer with conduct disorder as those having a history of manifesting violent behavior have some common

neuropsychological disorders (Moffitt & Henry, 1991) also they have reduced to the minimal level of arousals in which plasma cortisol levels are on diminished point in the body which affect their mood and other functioning and thus they faces serious disorder like conduct and several other related to it (Raine, 1993; McBurnett & Lahey, 1994).

The results of the study and theory have made it evident that there is an important role of neurobiology on an individual. It affects their amygdala functioning and temporolimbic functioning which controls emotions and cognitive processes. These become the major cause of conduct and psychopathy disorder. It further develops the syndrome and gives relevance to existing symptoms. Many research studies have revealed having the patterns of behavior that are offending in both adults and adolescents who are considered psychopaths. The delinquent offenders which have the pronounced traits of psychopathy have an onset of offending people in their earlier ages which make them more of a dangerous individual (Brandt et al, 1997; Forth & Burke, 1998) they are involved in more of criminal activities and takes revenge in no time (Forth & Burke, 1998; Myers, 1995) they are violent in most of the situations and prefer to do physical aggression in any way (Brandt et al, 1997; Spain et al, 2004).

Children having a callous attitude have the demonstration of anti-social behavior and they also manifest insensitivity towards their fellows and in the general population. They act irrespective of what is needed from them and appear to form some conduct disorder traits (O'Brien & Frick, 1996). Many studies have made this evidence that those having psychopathic traits are usually assessed in adolescents and are highly hyperactive and impulsive throughout their life. They have sustained attention as compared to the other individuals and this has more of the juvenile

tendencies among them. They have lack of concentration in usual behaviors or activities which are followed normally thus they perform differently and can be socially awkward or not acceptable in many places (Andershed et al, 2002).

Many studies are working on their validity as they are finding reliable behavioral issues and make a checklist of them. Further, they are operating it to those who are showing similar attitudes and get the possible results out of it. They are making it possible when the scores and answers of them are highly common and of the same nature. Thus they come to a conclusion that people having a list of psychopathic attitude has the idea of their personality and sometime may deceive their real attitudes so there must be quantitative and qualitative research on it to find the reliable results (Hare, 1998; Newman, 1998).

## **2.4 Delinquency**

Crime is a major source of insecurity and discomfort in every society.

Bernard (1992:67) define delinquency as “the literal meaning of the term ‘delinquency’ refers to a neglect or failure to perform tasks required by law or duty. . . . That meaning is quite similar to the meaning of the term ‘pauper,’ which refers to a poor person who neglects or fails to perform the tasks required by law or duty in society: hard, honest work”. A juvenile can be referred as a child who has not attained a certain age (18 years) at which he can be held liable for his criminal acts like an adult person and have committed certain acts which are in violation of any law.

Agnew's (Agnew, 2017b) general strain theory (GST) on strain or stress on antisocial behavior among adolescents is one of the main aspects of youth delinquency clarification. It is critical to investigate the impact of stress or strain on delinquency throughout the teen years for two reasons. First, empirical research has

revealed a link between strain and adolescent criminality (Froggio and Agnew, 2007). Second, delinquency not only generates immediate issues for adolescents (e.g., increased victimization) but also raises the chance of later life maladjustment (Kennedy & Baron, 1993). (Moffitt, 1993; Sampson & Laub, 1993). Indeed, researchers have discovered that misbehavior throughout adolescence is a risk factor for subsequent criminal participation and unfavorable life outcomes. The individual who is involved in deviant behavior and always does the opposite of what is expected from him has more chances to get involved in criminal activities or to join a group which gives him the liberty to do anything he wants to do or any way he wants to behave in the society or other relevant situations (Bernburg and Krohn, 2003). Delinquency is commonly understood to refer to criminal activity perpetrated by minors under the legal age of maturity. When an individual is not in the age where he recognizes the difference between legal and illegal then he gets involved in the non-socially acceptable situations and adapts it more while where he becomes a psychopath or called a delinquent from society. 'Delinquency is characterized by acts, the detection of which is expected to result in punishment of the person doing them by agents of the broader community,' according to a frequently used definition offered by 25. Although the concept of juvenile delinquency is now widely accepted, few legal distinctions were established between juveniles and adults before the late nineteenth century. Even the notion of childhood is very new (Farrington, 1992).

The majority of influencing variables for adolescent delinquency is induced by a combination of hereditary and environmental variables. Many individuals get triggered at an early age as they have seen this type of environment where criminal activities get rewarded every single time and people who are involved in such behavior have the power to gets control over anything (Ball et al., 2008). The two

most important determinants of juvenile criminality, according to Laurence Steinberg adolescents, are parental style and peer group affiliation (Durbin, 1993). Parental style is one of the most effective markers of youth criminality. Parenting is divided into four kinds based on the attitudes and conduct of parents when their children are reared. Parental involvement is involved directly linked to children's mannerism and personality development however if it goes wrong then their children become criminals and psychopaths (Hoeve et al., 2009).

### **Theoretical Perspective on Delinquency**

Theories of delinquency operate at three different **levels of explanation**: individual, microsocial, and macrosocial (Short 1998). At the *individual* level, theories focus on traits and characteristics of individuals, either innate or learned, that make some people more likely than others to engage in delinquency. The *microsocial* level of explanation considers the social processes by which individuals become involved in delinquency. Criminologists have emphasized family relationships and peer group influences at this level. Some microsocial theories also point to the importance of the structural context of social interaction, and how interaction is shaped by factors such as race, gender, and social class (Short 1998; Sampson and Laub 1993; Sutherland et al. 1992). At the *macrosocial* level, societal characteristics such as socioeconomic disadvantage and social cohesiveness are used to explain group variation in rates of delinquency (Akers and Sellers 2013; Cohen 1966). For example, poverty, together with the absence of community social control, is central to several explanations of why gang delinquency is more common in lower-class areas (Shaw and McKay 1969; Cloward and Ohlin 1960; Cohen 1955).

Peers have a big impact on delinquency while dealing with family issues. as teenagers' disrespectful conduct toward their parents caused them to become involved

in antisocial peer groups, this only indirectly affected their later antisocial conduct (Simmons et al., 1991). According to Patterson et al. (1991), frequent affiliation with deviant classmates in 6th grade may be expected from parents' inability to keep tabs on their children, as well as early indications of antisocial behavior in 4th grade. A study found that 6th-grade associations with deviant classmates and subsequently criminality in 8th grade were connected. There is a negative correlation between the extent to which adolescents engage with their parents and vulnerability to peer influence (; Kandel and Andrews, 1987; Kandel, 1980; Steinberg, 1987). Some further evidence reveals that teenagers join delinquent groups before developing antisocial tendencies (Elliott et al., 1985; Simons et al., 1994; Elliott, 1994b). When a teenager is delinquent before associating with deviant classmates, the problem worsens as they are now the flag bearers and will engage more and more individuals in such behavior without any doubt. As they will pressurize them to be in their group by showing power or such behaviors where they are more in authority place so they have to kneel down. (Elliott and Menard, 1996; Elliott, 1994b; Thornberry et al., 1993).

The **social learning theory** is given by Bandura (1977) which discusses the role of social surroundings that lies within families, peers, schools, and social communities as to how they have an influence on delinquency and their formed behaviors (Reingle et al., 2012), Jennings, and Maldonado-Molina 2012). The social learning theory shows how these risk factors are related to negative stimuli and antisocial behavior. If one is been exposed to peers or people who force them to do risky things like illegal drug intake, antisocial peers, or delinquent behavior then they are more likely to adopt them. They get their reinforcement from their peers as in the form of entering a group of to be free, feeling of autonomy or rebelling the authority. These all factors give them some sort of reinforcement and they make their behaviors

more and more strong to get what they wanted out of it. The power and autonomy is the most significant factors which is initially learned by going in some sort of situations where you were been oppressed or under some ugly authority. This will give them more chance to be in such delinquent behaviors. Hirschi (1969) states that the lack of conventionalism is predicted highly of delinquent behavior (Vaughn et al. 2009; Church, Wharton, and Taylor 2009).

Supervisory representatives, that is, aspects of public or mental control, were discovered to be recurrent risk factors for delinquency in meta-analytical investigations of delinquency (Leschild et al., 2008; Cottle et al., 2001). Mak's (1990). **Psychosocial control theory** incorporates both societal and mental control components of delinquency. A thorough theoretical explanation for teenage crime and problematic consumption may be found in its integration with previous collective replicas of problem behaviors, such as social wisdom theory (Akers, 1977). If specific characteristics that influence both conduct problems and heavy drinking are found, it may be possible to simplify the model called psychosocial control theory, and it may also help better understanding of problem behaviors, and early intervention attempts.

According to Mak (1990), teenagers with strong family ties are less likely to become delinquent because they dread being forced to choose between their family and their behavior. The previous study that discovered that juvenile offenders with reduced ties to their families are more prone to commit crimes. People who have less connection with their family have the severity of forming altered behaviors like drinking, gambling, robbing, and forced stealings. All of these have a background in which lack of connection and agreement creates a rift in their thoughts and they end up forming risky behaviors. These risky behaviors then turn into more and more dangerous activities like delinquency or psychopathological features. These

individuals become harmful to society and for them as well. They become confused about what they are and what they wanted to be so in this confusion they left all things alone and do what is all oppositional to social demands (Hoeve, et al., 2011; Cottle et al., 2001; Leschield et al., 2008).

A prevalent sociological view on deviant behavior, known as **social wisdom theory** (Akers, 1977), holds that unusual behavior is the product of imitation, remark, and modeling of role replicas (Vold et al., 2002; Ennett et al., 2008). Older teenagers who interact with delinquency or alcohol use in their peer group or intimate are more probable to involve in the same behaviors, which has been demonstrated by scientific research (Haynie, 2002; May & Jarjoura, 2006). (Akers, 2009). Adolescent peer influence, which has previously been disregarded in Mak's (1990) psychosocial control theory, is supported by social learning theory. Conformity to peer behavior may be a specific factor when it comes to adolescents' drinking patterns, which tend to entail excessive drinking while out with friends (Coker & Borders, 2001). Social learning theory and Mak's (1990) psychosocial control theory (PSCT) integration may give a more encompassing description of teenage engagement in delinquent and problem drinking behaviors, from this perspective. It differs from the earlier notion of psychosocial control in that it incorporates both sociological and psychological risk factors.

### **Development of Delinquency**

Early life-course-persistent patterns and adolescent-limited patterns were explored in a longitudinal study by Moffitt (1993). Early initiation of delinquent conduct and sustained consistency across time and situations define the initial life-course collection of offspring. Delinquent habits begin in youth and are short-lived. DSM-IV devotes an early-onset specify (i.e., childhood generated before age 10) to



delineate the distinction amid infantile conduct disorder and advanced antisocial behavior, and outlines an augmented danger in adult life for disruptive personality disorder and drug related disorders (APA, 1994). The early initiation of children's antisocial conduct is a substantial hazard factor for preventative and intervention efforts because considerable communication alliance takes place in the plain school years.

Merton's theory is applied to both individual teenagers and to classes where delinquency is more prevalent. The people in this class are projected to have a greater rate of delinquent conduct since the members of this group are thought to be most impacted by the mismatch between their ambitions and the means of obtaining accomplishment. Merton provided several examples of how people deal with the absence of necessary resources when striving to reach their goals. An example of innovation is using illicit methods to achieve goals; this is commonly assumed to explain a significant amount of teens stealing from the underclass.

Subcultural Theory claims that deviant subcultures alter behavior in response to a failure to reach success goals. Cohen (1955) claims that students from impoverished backgrounds and those who are on the path to becoming members of a delinquent subculture first encounter failure when they join the school. These youngsters are judged wanting when compared to a middle-class measuring rod. The rising levels of "status frustration" are indicative of a completed process. We've found that children from the underclass are unable to meet middle-class aspirations due to their early experiences. These cultural discrimination built more and more frustration in them and they put their guards up as if this world is against them so they want to take a revenge from them. They adapt such behaviors which are not socially acceptable. As

a result, the delinquent subculture serves as an alternate set of criteria or ideals for teenagers who identify as being from the underclass.

In the 1940s, the Gluecks began the study on the Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency, which attempted to unravel juvenile delinquency. The research included 1,000 adolescent teenagers, ages 11 to 17 when the study began, of whom 500 were identified as persistent delinquents and 500 were identified as non-delinquent (Glueck & Glueck, 1962). The Gluecks constructed a model which they think predicted delinquency during the length of the study. the Gluecks have demonstrated that a Social Prediction Table can forecast which 6-year-old boys would eventually become juvenile delinquents (Glueck, 1962). to check the correctness of their findings, they could conclude that their table properly identified 90% of future delinquent boys and suggested that the table should be used for screening purposes for 90% of the future delinquent boys under the age of 6 (Glueck & Glueck, 1962). Glueck, citing several sources, postulated that degrees of parental discipline, monitoring, love, and family togetherness were related to child criminality. Based on their prediction model, the Gluecks found that families that had warm and caring relationships with open, democratic punishment, together with supportive and respected discipline, were far less likely to raise delinquent children. They have a trustable relationship with their kids as they are more involved with them which impacted positive on their growth and development. Opposite to it when families ignore their kids or make them to grow on their own then this will create an insecure environment for them and thus they will take such decisions which are not maturely or logically correct as they are taking it in some pressure or just because they feel it that way. This thing will disturb them in future and will create confusion in their personality. They will further choose the path which is more acceptable for them as they do not know how to put themselves in this

society. Such things will make delinquency one of the biggest cause to happen in these neglected kids.

## **2.5 Role of Contextual Factors**

Several factors contribute to delinquency among adolescents. The family environment in general (Steinberg, 2008), parenting styles in particular (Baumrind, 2005), poverty (Cummings, Ballard, El-Sheikh, & Lake, 1991), peer influence, and the characteristics of the community (Vazsonyi et al. 2008) are most salient. Family relations produce long lasting effects on the children. Some studies explained the contextual factors that lead to criminal behavior among adolescents. One of the studies performed by Racz and McMahon (2011) revealed that family has an important role on individual personality, poor parenting is a possible predictor of behaving out of the boundary or the way that is not under social norms. It consequently leads them toward delinquent behavior like street robbing or stealing. Another study carried by Palacios (1999) stated that the parenting style such as authoritarian gives a restrictive view to their children as they give them so many punishments and controlled environment. All of these restrictions and passiveness make their children rebel against them more and more and results in causing out-of-context behaviors such as delinquency.

Another factor that plays important role in an individual's life is their teachers that build their personality. Ones that have experienced less positive feelings in relevance to their teachers are more likely to manifest low levels of prosocial behaviors, more problems related to their conduct, and more impulsive reactions which are sometimes exaggerated in hyperactivity (Longobardi et al., 2016b). It is also seen that the students who have a good and cooperative relationship with their teachers and role models tend to show more extroverted and open behaviors like

prosocial behavior. The warmth and closeness make them feel more secure and intact personalities. The need for affection and linked behavior is highly regarded and responsive among all as it makes them react more and properly to the coming situations. Through all this discussion it is evident that there is a significant role of the teacher in making one's personality socially appropriate or as in the form of conduct disorder (Longobardi et al., 2016a).

Socioeconomic status and background can also be taken account when adolescent's behaviors and personality is concerned. Many studies have shown that people with a high level of aggression that is in the form of somatic are probable to go to low socioeconomic levels. It is also seen that the mothers having a low level of income are the one who has a lower educational level and dealt with inappropriate maternal styles (Haapasalo and Tremblay, 1994; Côté et al., 2006). The low socioeconomic level is a direct predictor of somatic aggression, it is not at all the predictor of secondary kind of anger like relational hostility. When a person is on the edge of poverty then he feels that all the coming laws and legalities are absurd and he just has to fulfill his needs by hook or crook then he goes against the law and get involved in the criminal acts (Spieker et al., 2012). Various longitudinal studies connected few problems that relate to low socio-economic levels with the behavior of delinquency. These problems include their poverty and oppressive circumstances, moreover, they need to be autonomous and take command of their lives (Elliott and Ageton, 1980; Bjerck, 2007). Fleisher (1966) studied the role of income on the decision to commit criminal acts by individuals.

Furthermore, some research studies have stated that there is a significant positive association between income level and intelligence. It is also observed that people who are intelligent enough to perform tasks are the ones who get a role in

society as soon as possible. They got their desires fulfilled with the help of their intelligence (Rowe et al., 1998), also stated that there is a significant negative relationship between delinquency and intelligence (Farrington and West, 1990). In a research study, it is evident that a low level of intelligence is associated with poor social behavior or has more anti-social traits in that individual. This is expected that individuals who have a history of violence and caregivers with low intelligence tend to adopt the socially diverted behavior and are more involved in delinquency behaviors like stealing, substance abusers, and low interest in school and education (Levine, 2011).

There is purely evidence through different studies that if there are higher risk factors of delinquent behavior shown at a young age then it is more likely that the individual will fall more towards it (Mmari, Blum, and Teufel-Shone 2010). They have more and more attached strings with it and will form as stronger beliefs and behaviors at such young age as stronger beliefs are somehow difficult to be shaken by anyone thus they keep moving like this and making anything possible they want (Reingle, Jennings, and Maldonado-Molina 2012; Green et al. 2008; Wasserman et al. 2003). They will be more prevalent to form negative thoughts towards society and this hatred will lead them towards doing more and more socially unacceptable behaviors. When they got this idea that this social environment is not the safe place to live then they put their guards up and behave in a certain way where their life is at risk and they have to defend themselves to survive in this particular environment (Green et al. 2008; Hoeve et al. 2009).

Some instinctual factors become the risk factors for some individuals and then they become vulnerable to social and adapt all the negative developmental outcomes as they can and then indulge in delinquent behaviors (Reingle, Jennings, and

Maldonado-Molina 2012; Wong, Slotboom, and Bijleveld 2010). They come in many shapes like poverty is one of the major risk factors involved in behaviors like stealing to meet the primary needs and to get food and shelter for themselves and their family. These types of behaviors start from scratch and then ultimately get bigger and bigger in terms to satisfy their need for fulfillment. It makes their family values weak and it runs in family all along. One can adapt what they learn from society and their immediate family members. This type of social learning gives major changes in an individual's behavior (Hoeve et al. 2012).

There is a most common risk factor of peer norms and how an individual interacts with the society for the attachment (Hoeve et al. 2009). When it comes to peers then the bad influence of peers will lead the individual towards gang stealing, friends that mostly are delinquent and it affects their quality of peer relationship (Wong, Slotboom, & Bijleveld 2010). Early exposures to negative peer influence make it more prone for the individual to engage in risky delinquent behavior. It also allows them to bunk their schools and give less concentration towards the study which ultimately makes them away from social norms. It is more likely happen that the peers who have a society that uses drugs are more prone towards adapting the same habit earlier. The drug users then affect the adjustment of an individual and react badly to health. Once they become used to this behavior there is no going back and forth to it. Everybody in this society is prone to negative social circumstances but not everyone gets out of it successfully. Many people fall prey to these behaviors which results in delinquency and psychopathological behaviors (Odgers et al. 2008). Negative peer influence is also a main aspect behind criminal behavior as the kids who have close involvement with deviant peers, can involve in unlawful acts. A bad, corrupt company can lead the adolescence having no criminal history to start delinquent acts or increase

delinquent tendencies. Adolescence having a strong association with criminal peers is condemn and detained earlier than those who do not have such sort of involvement (Coie et al, 1995; Elliot et al. 1996).

In another research study, it is evident that the ones who have to bunk or have low attendance are the ones that are involved in any misconduct or other activities that are not socially acceptable (Wong, Slotboom, & Bijleveld 2010). It is more likely that the one who has been expelled from school is due to their violent behavior or because of their low performance in academics. When an individual doesn't behave properly in his/her school then there is a must need to assess their nature and get what it takes (le Vries 2015; Hawkins et al. 2000). These factors can make them more rebellious and they act in society as like they have license to do anything so it leads them towards criminal behavior (Draper and Hancock 2011).

In a study, it is been revealed that the community matters a lot as the physical environment is just so important in an individual's life. If an individual is somewhere live in a society that is under the influence of drugs or criminal behavior then the residents have the chance to adapt to such situations and become delinquent (Kaufman 2005; Reingle, Jennings, and Maldonado-Molina 2011). Communities that have a disorganized shape or have higher rates of criminal activity near that have shown that the youth who has witnessed such communities are more prone towards engaging in such criminal activities such as carrying a weapon, doing assaults, or having illegal drug trafficking. Most of the people who live in a community where such behavior is encouraged can be dangerous for them and their children. They learned these behaviors through society subconsciously and try to adapt them eventually (Patchin et al. 2006).

Darling and Steinberg, in 1993 define parenting styles as “a constellation of attitudes towards the child that are communicated to the child and that, taken together, create an emotional climate in which the parents’ behaviors are expressed” (p. 488). In this current study the parenting style is supposed to introduce to the concept in which how the parents are supposed to style their rear kind of children. The different mannerist include how they make use of their parenting style and how they show warmth to their initial family members, how they can take their decision processes and cognitive abilities, their possible expectations from their children to act along. The delinquent or juvenile behavior is defined as “any illegal actions committed by a juvenile in which there is an apprehension of court proceeding” (Balogun & Chukwumezie, 2010, p. 46). There is a research study that shows that families having more children are more likely at risk of delinquency among their children. It is evident that when there are more children, parents are unable to give attention to their children due to their socio-economic status, and thus through diminished supervision, they develop delinquent behaviors. It is also seen that people with more children tend to act similarly so if there is a chance of delinquency in one individual, it will affect every one of them and thus they will get shaped in a group like situation and engages in these delinquent behaviors (West and Farrington, 1973).

The modern study of temperament has identified several temperamental dimensions that are associated with variance in conduct problems including activity level, adaptability, responses to novelty, rhythmicity, mood quality, task persistence, and others (Kagan & Snidman, 2004; Morizot, 2015; Rothbart, 1989, 2007). Low effortful control and high negative emotionality are not only at significant risk for conduct problems, but also at significant risk to elicit negative reactions from others.



## **CHAPTER 3**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The present research was designed to explore the association between general strains, delinquency and psychopathy among adolescents: Role of contextual Factors.. Another aim of this research was to explore the mediation effects of Child temperament i-e cognitive distortions and negative effect temperament on the association of these variables. Evaluating moderation of the effect of parenting practices, family relations and peer delinquency among adolescents was another aim of this research.

#### **3.2 Study Design**

This present study was conceptualized into two stages, pilot testing of study measures, and main study. The Urdu conversions of the Self-reported Delinquency Scale (Naqvi & Kamal, 2008), Childhood Psychopathy Scale (CPS; Lynam, 1997), Early Adolescent Temperament Questionnaire (EATQ; Capaldi & Rothbart, 1992), the Family Relation Scale (Gorman-Smith, Tolan, Zelli & Huesmann, 1995.), Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ; Rohner, 2005), How I think Questionnaire (for cognitive distortions) (Barriga et al., 2001) were used in the present study. General Strain Scale was conceptualized through the guideline provided by Agnew (2003) and Baron (2004). The pilot study was carried out to assure the suitability and understanding of the translated versions for the targeted population. After the analysis of pilot testing main study was conceptualized.

## **Phase I: Pilot Study**

### **Objective of the pilot testing**

- To review the translated versions of all measures.
- To investigate the psychometric characteristics of all the study scales.

### **Sample**

The sample of the pilot study consists of juvenile offenders ( $N = 30$ ) with the age range 10-18 years ( $M = 16.2$ ;  $SD = 1.06$ ) from Central Jail, Faisalabad and Adiala Jail, Rawalpindi. The participants were all male, belonging to different socio-economic backgrounds and were involved in different criminal activities. These participants were briefed about the purpose of the study and all ethical and moral standards were followed. The informed consent was taken from the parents and participants with the assurance of confidentiality and anonymity of the participants.

### **Procedure**

The study was approved from the ethical appraisal board (BASR, NUML), permission was taken from the Inspector General Jail, Punjab after giving a brief presentation about the purpose of the study and details related to the variables, procedures, analysis etc. After permission (letter attached in Annexure D) from the higher authorities, pilot testing was conducted at Faisalabad Central Jail and Adiala Jail, Rawalpindi. The Head Jailer allocated two jail staff with the researcher. Due to the sensitivity, voluntary participation was encouraged. Consent from the participants was taken at the spot whereas for parental consent was taken before data collection when parents or guardians visited the jail on prescribed visitor's day and time. Confidentiality and anonymity about the participant related information was assured. Participants were briefly guided with the help of jail staff. Due to the pandemic situation SOPs were strictly followed, limited time for visits was defined for the

collection of data. It took about 20 to 25 minutes to complete the questionnaire for each participant.

## Results

This section represents the descriptive statistics, reliabilities, and item total correlation of study variables on data from pilot testing. Initially, descriptive statistics and reliability for the analysis were conducted.

**Table 3.1**

*Mean, standard deviation, skewness, kurtosis and reliability of main study variables*

*(N = 30)*

Measures	Items	<i>a</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range		<i>S</i>	<i>K</i>
					Actual	Potential		
PARQ-F	24	.53	38.94	11.91	26-67	24-96	1.11	0.29
Warmth/Affection,	8	.73	25.20	4.139	15-31	8-32	-.574	-.441
Hostility/Aggression;	6	.61	13.40	4.02	6-20	6-24	-.086	-1.22
Indifference/Neglect	6	.62	14.93	3.93	7-23	6-24	-.590	-.407
Undifferentiated Rejection	4	.69	8.53	2.90	4-14	4-16	-.032	-1.108
PARQ-M	24	.67	38.32	12.53	25-66	24-96	0.98	-0.14
Warmth/Affection,	8	.73	25.87	4.69	16-32	8-32	-.238	-.830
Hostility/Aggression;	6	.69	13.63	4.25	6-22	6-24	-.041	-.356
Indifference/Neglect	6	.58	14.47	3.857	6-21	6-24	-.131	-.619
Undifferentiated Rejection	4	.68	8.73	3.37	4-16	4-16	.247	-.769
Self-Reported Delinquency	27	.92	31.23	11.77	12-57	0-108	0.348	0.403
Negative Affect	19	.78	51.47	8.46	30-67	19-79	-.837	.682
How I Think Questionnaire	54	.91	128.3	37.48	57-193	54-324	-.075	-.614

Self-centeredness	9	.55	28.27	5.81	15-38	9-54	-.778	.454
Blaming Others	10	.75	33.27	8.57	18-59	10-60	.467	1.431
Mislabeling/Misleading	9	.69	30.47	7.21	16-51	9-54	.147	1.349
Assuming the Worst;	11	.73	35.13	8.02	20-54	11-66	-.057	.118
Child Psychopathy Scale	50	.65	21.23	4.64	11-32	0-50	-.037	.214
Family Relation Scale								
Belief about Family	10	.87	25.70	6.91	16-39	10-40	.335	-1.14
Cohesion	6	.73	15.66	3.69	9-23	6-24	-.098	-.776
Shared Deviant Beliefs	4	.52	9.46	2.38	6-15	4-16	.020	-.569
Support	6	.59	14.33	3.13	9-20	6-24	.433	-.843
Organization	6	.54	13.63	2.70	9-19	6-24	.618	-.408
Communication	3	.54	7.93	1.91	4-11	3-12	-.756	-.113

*Note:* Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire-Father and Mother (PARQ-F, PARQ-M)

Table 3.1 reveals the total number of items for each scale used in the present research and its corresponding subscales. Descriptive statistics, average to moderate values of Cronbach alpha reliability, and within range skewness and kurtosis (for review, Gravetter & Wallnow, 2012) show that the set of above measures is appropriated to use with juvenile delinquents in Pakistan.

### **Phase -II: Main Study**

After the conclusion of phase I and statistical analysis, the study protocols were considered appropriate to use with the Pakistani Adolescents. The main study was carried out in different Jails of Punjab, Pakistan.

### 3.3 Research Instruments

The following instruments were administered to measure the study variables.

#### **Demographic and Imprisonment History Sheet**

A demographic sheet was provided to each participant along with the Urdu translated versions of all study measure. The demographic Sheet contained the details of the participant characteristics such as Age, Education, Siblings, Residence type, Job designation, Family income, Family system, Religion, Birth order etc. the Imprisonment History was evaluated from these details e.g., Crime Nature and type and code, Time Duration in the Prison, History of Imprisonment convicted/non-convicted, punishment of Isolation, Family Imprisonment History etc.

#### **General Strain Scale**

General Strain Questionnaire was designed for this study by following the guidelines from Agnew et al., (1996) and Baron (2004). Respondents were asked different questions to identify the number of types of strain. The *failure to reach positively valued goals*, Agnew et al. (1996) note that dissatisfaction with monetary status is the central variable in classic strain theory. Monetary dissatisfaction is measure by asking respondents to agree or disagree with the statement: Right now, I am satisfied with how much money I have to live on (1=strongly agree; 4=strongly disagree). Financial strain is also assessed as relative deprivation. Cantril's (1965) "commonly used" Self-Anchoring Striving Scale is used to measure relative deprivation. Respondents are asked: "On a scale from 1 to 100 where 1 is the worst possible rank in Pakistani Society and 100 is the best possible rank in Pakistani society, where do you stand right now?" The lower the nominated position on the ladder the greater the deprivation. The scores were reverse coded so that higher scores

reflected greater perceptions of deprivation. Finally, unemployment was determined by the number of months during the past year respondents were without work. To explore *negative stimuli* the questions were asked about Homelessness, Violent victimization, Robbery victimization. The questions related to *childhood maltreatment* was asked to measure different types of abuse (e.g., emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect). To examine the importance of the *removal of a positively valued stimuli* the question was asked about property victimization. Deviant attitudes were determined by asking respondents: “How wrong do you think it is to break the law?” (1=very wrong; 5= not wrong at all). To determine the youths’ deviant peers, they were asked: “How many of your current friends have ever been picked up by the police?” (1=none; 5=all). High scores indicate the presence of high number of strain in the participants life.

### **Self-Reported Delinquency Scale**

The self-reported and informant-reported crime scale was indigenously developed by Naqvi and Kamal (2008). The SRDS contains 40 items having 8 different dimensions i-e mugging, preparation abuse, non-compliance to grown-ups, forces meeting and escape, violence-related crime, dishonest and betting, and sex-related delinquency. Statements responded on 5-point Likert type scale ranges from 0-4. For scoring purpose, the 5 possible responses were assigned the following numerical value: 0 = never; 1 = once; 2 = 2-4 times; 3 = 5-10 times; 4 = 10 or more. The likely score variety on this scale is from 1-160. Higher scores on this scale indicate higher delinquency. This scale is reliable having Cronbach alpha coefficient = 0.94. This scale was being developed to measure the delinquency of laborer adolescents.

### **Childhood Psychopathy Scale**

The Childhood Psychopathy scale (Lynam, 1997) was developed to operationalize the personality traits found in the Psychopathy Checklist (Hare, 1991), in childhood and adolescence. The self-reported CPS consists of 50 items is based on a rating scale construct for the assessment purposes which measures the behaviors and traits linked with psychopathy among the children and adolescents. CPS has 12 subdomains, i.e., glibness, untruthfulness, manipulation, lack of guilt, poverty of affect, callousness, parasitic lifestyle, behavioral dyscontrol, lack of planning, impulsiveness, unreliability, and failure to accept responsibility. Lynam and colleagues reports that 8 of the 12 construct scales had alphas above .60 and 10 of the 12 were above .50 (Lynam, 1997; Lynam, Derefinko, Caspi, Loeber, & Stouthamer-Loeber, 2007).

### **How I Think Questionnaire**

This “How I think Questionnaire” (Barriga et al., 2001) is consists of 54 items. It is a self-reported questionnaire that asses the self-serving cognitive distortions. The participants have to respond the statements on 6 points Likert-type scale which ranges from 1 (strongly agree) to 6 (strongly disagree). The high the score indicates the high the chances of cognitive distortions. The HITQ contains 39 items addressing self-serving cognitive distortions (Self-Centred, Blaming Others, Minimizing/ Mislabelling, and Assuming the Worst), and one of the four antisocial behavioral categories of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th edition (DSM-IV; American Psychiatric Association, 1994). These categories are: opposition defiance, physical aggression, lying and stealing. Of the remaining 15 items, 8 items control for anomalous responses (AR) that measure social desirability and 7 items act as positive fillers (PF); that is, they camouflage items with a prosocial meaning.

Internal consistency reliabilities, as measured by Cronbach's coefficients alpha, were 0.89 for the overall HIT-Q (Barriga et al., 2001).

### **The Early Adolescents Temperament Questionnaire**

The questionnaire of Early Adolescents Temperament (EATQ: Ellis & Rothbart, 2001) was a revised and updated version (Capaldi & Rothbart, 1992). It measures the features of temperament which is relevant to regulation in adolescents. This scale assesses the aggressive nature, depressive traits, or mood which will further make it possible to explore the connection between temperament and traits that are relevant to socialization. The 62-item Early Adolescent Temperament Questionnaire--Revised is designed to specifically tap experiences common to adolescents, and is available in self- and parent-report formats. It has 10 subscales: Activation Control; Affiliation; Attention; Fear; Frustration; High Intensity Pleasure; Inhibitory Control; Perceptual Sensitivity; Pleasure Sensitivity; and Shyness. Two behavioral scales are also included; Aggression; and Depressive Mood. Internal consistency estimates (Cronbach's coefficient alpha) ranged from .65 to .86 for the eight temperament scales, .71 for the aggression scale, and .76 for the depressive mood scale (Ellis & Rothbart, 2001). For the present study Negative Affect subdomain was assessed. It consists of 24 items with 5-point Likert scale. High score indicate high levels of negative affect and low score indicates low levels of negative affect in Juvenile offenders.

### **The Parental Acceptance-Rejection Scale**

This Parental Acceptance and Rejection scale is a self-reported measure that is designed to assess the existing perceptions of children and adults about their experience of parental behavior. In this respondents define parental acceptance or rejection in childhood on four subscales (1) affection and warmth, (2) aggression and



hostility, (3) neglect and indifference, and (4) undifferentiated rejection.

Undifferentiated rejection refers to individuals' feelings that the parent does not really love them, want them, appreciate them, or care about them in some other way without necessarily having any objective indicator that the parent is cold, aggressive, or neglecting. Jointly, the four scales constitute an overall measure of perceived or remembered parental acceptance-rejection in childhood. The short form of PARQ contains 24 items, (8 items in the warmth/affection scale, 6 items in the hostility/aggression, 6 items in indifference/neglect scales, and 4 items in the undifferentiated rejection scale. It is a 4-point Likert scale. The reported Cronbach alpha coefficient is 0.70 and above (Khaleque & Rohner, 2002).

### **The Family Relation Scale**

The Family Relation Scale (Gorman-Smith, Tolan, Zelli & Huesmann 1995; Tolan et al., 1996) consists on 35 items to comprise the six factor. The subscales included: (1) Beliefs About the Family (ten items), (2) Emotional Cohesion (six items), (3) Support (six items), (4) Communication (three items), (5) Shared Deviant Beliefs (four items), and (6) Organization (six items). Internal consistency coefficients for the scales ranged from .54 (Communication) to .87 (Beliefs About the Family). This scale can be measured well by two dimensions of family relationship characteristics: (a) Beliefs About Family and (b) Cohesion. Beliefs About Family included two of the six scales: Beliefs About the Family and Shared Deviant Beliefs. Cohesion included Organization, Communication, Support, and Emotional Cohesion. Participants rated how frequently each statement was true on a 4-point Likert scale (1: not at all true, 2: hardly ever true, 3: true a lot, and 4: almost always or always true).

### **Peer Delinquency Scale**

There is a scale of peer delinquency that happens in the Pittsburgh youth study. The interview consists of 15 statements on a scale of 5 in which (1= none and 5= all). There are some behaviors which it would be concerned about like bunking school without any genuine reason, use of a weapon, disobedience to society and adults, property destruction or forcefully stealing someone. The Cronbach alpha of this scale is 0.60 coefficient and above.

### **3.4 Population**

Total Population was 168 from Central jail Faisalabad region and 61 from Central jail Rawalpindi. The overall population in Punjab region was 618.

### **Sample**

Sample of the main study was comprised of 141 male adolescents with the age ranged from 10-18 years ( $M=16.08$ ,  $SD = 1.43$ ). The purposive sampling techniques were followed to choose participants. For the main study participants were recruited from Central Jail Faisalabad, Adiala Jail Rawalpindi, and Central Jail Gujranwala with the consent of Inspector General Jail Punjab, relevant authorities, parents, and the adolescents themselves. Among the total sample, 36.2% belonged to the joint family system.

### **3.5 Sampling Technique**

The sample in Phase II for this research comprised of juvenile offenders (N = 141) using a purposive sampling technique.

**Table 3.2***Frequency distribution of demographic (N=141)*

<b>Variables</b>	<b><i>f</i> (%)</b>	<b>Mean (SD)</b>
<b>Age of the participants</b>		16.08 (1.43)
<b>Residence</b>		
Rural	48 (34)	
Urban	93 (66)	
<b>Parental Status</b>		
Married	127 (90.1)	
Divorced	5 (3.5)	
Widowed	9 (6.4)	
<b>Occupation of the participant</b>		
Student	34 (24.1)	
Job	107 (75.9)	
<b>Family System</b>		
Nuclear	90 (63.8)	
Joint	51 (36.2)	
<b>Religion</b>		
Islam	136 (96.5)	
Christianity	5 (3.5)	
<b>Criminal Status</b>		
Convicted	25 (17.7)	
Under Trial	116 (82.3)	
<b>Isolation experience</b>		
Yes	28 (19.9)	
No	113 (80.1)	
<b>Family History of Imprisonment</b>		

Yes	23 (16.3)
No	127 (83)

*Note: f = Frequency, %= percentage*

Table 3.2 summarizes the demographics and imprisonment history of the participants.

### **3.6 Data Collection**

The sample was approached purposively. The participants were provided with demographic sheet along with questionnaires after the consent were taken from the authorities. They were instructed about how to fill these questionnaires.

### **3.7 Statistical Analysis Plan**

The statistical analysis for this research was conducted according to the objectives and hypotheses of the study through SPSS-23 and Process Macro. After data cleaning, normality assumptions were checked. Descriptive analysis was conducted for the psychometric properties of study variables by reporting mean, standard deviation, skewness and kurtosis. Reliability analysis was applied to check the suitability of the translated measures through Cronbach's alpha value. For demographic and imprisonment history information, mean and standard deviation was calculated for continuous variables, whereas frequency and percentages were calculated for categorical data. Correlation analysis was carried out to explore the possible relationship among the study variables. Before mediation and moderation, the regression analysis was performed and related assumptions were analyzed. Mediation and moderation analysis were carried out by using SPSS Process Macro.

### **3.8 Research Ethics**

The consent was taken from the participants and their parents. They were being fully instructed about the research and questionnaires. The confidentiality of their answers will be made sure and the data produced from this research will be only used for research purpose only.

## CHAPTER 4

### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE DATA

#### 4.1 Descriptive Analysis of Study Variables

This section consists on the main study results based on the objectives and hypotheses of the present research.

**Table 4.1**

*Mean, standard deviation, skewness, kurtosis and reliability of main study variables (N=141)*

Measures	Items	<i>a</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range		<i>S</i>	<i>K</i>
					Actual	Potential		
PARQ-F	24	.74	59.6	8.57	26-67	24-96	.63	.320
Warmth/Affection,	8	.74	24.01	4.75	15-31	8-32	-.101	-.935
Hostility/Aggression;	6	.77	13.45	4.089	6-20	6-24	.218	-.936
Indifference/Neglect	6	.70	13.76	3.83	7-23	6-24	.172	-.581
Undifferentiated Rejection	4	.70	8.91	2.93	4-14	4-16	-.291	-.975
PARQ-M	24	.79	62.03	10.40	25-66	24-96	.632	.320
Warmth/Affection,	8	.74	25.26	5.03	16-32	8-32	-.046	-.751
Hostility/Aggression;	6	.71	14.24	4.32	6-22	6-24	.253	-.590
Indifference/Neglect	6	.73	13.86	4.17	6-21	6-24	.357	-.410
Undifferentiated Rejection	4	.74	8.72	3.52	4-16	4-16	.113	-.938
Self-Reported Delinquency	27	.92	32.75	14.58	12-57	0-108	.148	-.925
Negative Affect	19	.82	49.17	10.03	30-67	19-95	-.601	-.141
How I Think Questionnaire	54	.91	138.2	31.70	59-195	54-324	-.165	-.285

Self-centeredness	9	.70	31.68	7.68	11-42	9-54	-.202	.202
Blaming Others	10	.88	34.11	8.12	15-49	10-60	-.115	-.335
Mislabeled/Misleading	9	.84	34.01	8.13	16-48	9-54	-.115	-.355
Assuming the Worst;	11	.85	38.46	10.69	16-59	11-66	-.096	-.720
Child Psychopathy Scale	50	.74	22.48	5.26	11-32	0-50	-.083	-.488
Family Relation Scale								
Belief about Family	10	.83	25.12	6.19	16-39	10-40	.331	-.916
Cohesion	6	.66	15.21	3.61	9-23	6-24	-.461	.026
Shared Deviant Beliefs	4	.53	9.63	2.55	6-15	4-16	-.342	-.888
Support	6	.61	14.22	3.15	9-20	6-24	-.272	-.115
Organization	6	.61	14.19	3.59	9-19	6-24	-.004	-.760
Communication	3	.62	7.50	2.016	4-11	3-12	-.639	-.452

*Note:* Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire-Father and Mother (PARQ-F, PARQ-M)

Table 4.1 reveals the total number of items for each scale used in the present research and its corresponding subscales. Descriptive statistics, average to moderate values of Cronbach's alpha reliability, and within range (+2 to -2) skewness and kurtosis (Gravetter & Wallnow, 2012) show that the set of above measures is appropriated to use with juvenile delinquents in Pakistan.

## 4.2 Relationship between Study Variables and their Domains

**Table 4.2**

*Correlation matrix of General strains, Delinquency, Psychopathy and Negative Affect Temperament among adolescents (N=141)*

Variables	1	2	3	4
1 General strain	-	.435**	.308**	.359**
2 Delinquency		-	.468**	.670**
3 Psychopathy			-	.378**
4 Negative Affect				-

\*\*p< .01

Bivariate correlation was also computed between general strains, delinquency, psychopathy and negative effect temperament. The results reported in Table 4.2 reveal that a significant positive relationship exists between general strain, delinquency, psychopathy and negative affect.. The current direction and strength of relationship between the study variables are also evident in the existing literature.



**Table 4.3**

*Correlation matrix between general Strain, psychopathy, Cognitive distortion (and subscales) among adolescents (N=141)*

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 General strain	-	.308**	.304**	.196*	.324**	.302**	.286**
2 Psychopathy		-	.278**	.168*	.276**	.261**	.296**
3 Cognitive Distortions			-	.882**	.907**	.925**	.939**
4 Self-centeredness				-	.771**	.739**	.748**
5 Blaming others					-	.782**	.781**
6 Mislabeling						-	.856**
7 Assuming worst							-

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$

Bivariate correlation was also computed between general strains, psychopathy, cognitive distortions and its subscale (i.e., self-centeredness, blaming others, misleading, and assuming the worst). Table 4.3 represents that the significant positive associations exist between general strains, psychopathy, and cognitive distortions. All of the subdomains of cognitive distortions are also positively correlated with the predicting variables. The direction and strength of the relationship between study variables are in the expected direction.

**Table 4.4***Correlation Matrix of Study Variables (N=141)*

S#	Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Gen. Strains	-	.308**	.453**	.359**	.304**	.196*	.324**	.302**	.286**	-.281**	.182*	.126
2	Psychopathy	-	-	.468**	.378**	.278**	.168*	.276**	.261**	.296**	-.460**	.312**	.273**
3	Delinquency	-	-	-	.607**	.667**	.508**	.633**	.626**	.655**	-.638**	.478**	.466**
4	Neg. Affect	-	-	-	-	.434**	.280**	.447**	.398**	.443**	-.601**	.402**	.489**
5	Cog. Distortions	-	-	-	-	-	.882**	.907**	.925**	.939**	-.450**	.277**	.192*
6	Self-center	-	-	-	-	-	-	.771**	.739**	.748**	-.346**	.194*	.101
7	Blame others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.782**	.781**	-.419**	.277**	.214*
8	Mislabeling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.856**	-.444**	.270**	.158
9	Assume worst	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-.429**	.267**	.214*
10	Father Warmth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-.417**	-.401**
11	Father Hostility	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.675**

(continue....)

	<b>Variables</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
1	Gen. Strains	.271**	-.326**	.078	.125	.182*	-.130	-.058	-.026	-.158	-.143	-.017	.234**
2	Psychopathy	.478**	-.503**	.147	.234**	.333**	-.129	-.216*	-.142	-.207*	-.177*	.010	.128
3	Delinquency	.572**	-.531**	.452**	.441**	.502**	-.346**	-.290**	-.256**	-.293**	-.347**	-.162	.409**
4	Neg. Affect	.599**	-.469**	.436**	.486**	.500**	-.212*	-.223**	-.197*	-.290**	-.445**	-.182*	.339**
5	Cog. Distortions	.339**	-.419**	.232**	.309**	.276**	.015	.022	.004	-.133	-.059	.050	.286**
6	Self-center	.222**	-.326**	.148	.209*	.194*	.072	.072	.101	-.060	.034	.101	.217**
7	Blame others	.329**	-.388**	.249**	.311**	.313**	-.049	-.025	-.058	-.149	-.103	.001	.318**
8	Mislabeling	.327**	-.364**	.215*	.287**	.231**	.014	.016	-.010	-.122	-.065	.009	.266**
9	Assume worst	.346**	-.436**	.230**	.312**	.264**	.018	.020	-.010	-.144	-.070	.067	.247**
10	Father Warmth	-.673**	.722**	-.416**	-.367**	-.416**	.293**	.224**	.205*	.195*	.286**	.154	-.250**
11	Father Hostility	.649**	-.282**	.606**	.609**	.650**	-.365**	-.407**	-.388**	-.286**	-.284**	-.328**	.102
12	Father Neglect	.664**	-.328**	.627**	.606**	.659**	-.383**	-.428**	-.415**	-.234**	-.285**	-.396**	.049
13	Father Rejection	-	-.469**	.518**	.546**	.597**	-.445**	-.472**	-.378**	-.289**	-.422**	-.315**	.138

(continue....)

Variables	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
14 Mother Warmth		-	.271**	-.254**	-.295**	.209*	.193*	.222**	.304**	.293**	.116	-.287**
15 Mother Hostility			-	.696**	.695**	-.391**	-.411**	-.381**	-.214*	-.337**	-.298**	.147
16 Mother Neglect				-	.701**	-.269**	-.320**	-.248**	-.153	-.242**	-.177*	.164
17 Mother Rejection					-	-.504**	-.500**	-.388**	-.367**	-.368**	-.321**	.106
18 Family Belief						-	.534**	.480**	.449**	.430**	.526**	-.076
19 FR-Cohesion							-	.540**	.463**	.496**	.502**	-.125
20 FR-SDB								-	.526**	.536**	.556**	-.039
21 FR-Support									-	.552**	.563**	-.125
22 FR-Organization										-	.393**	-.196*
23 FR-Communication											-	-.075
24 Deviant Peer												-

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

Note: Gen. Strains= General strains, Neg. Affect= Negative Affect temperament, Cog= cognitive distortions, FR = Family Relation,

SDB= Shared Deviant Believes

Table 4.4 represents correlation of General Strains, Childhood Psychopathy, Self-reported Delinquency, Parental Acceptance Rejection and its dimensions ( Warmth, Hostility, Neglect and Rejection), cognitive Distortions and its dimensions ( Self Centered, Blaming others, Misleading, and Assuming the worst), Family Relation and their dimensions (Family Belief, Cohesion, Shared Deviant Believes, Support, Organization and Community) and Deviant peers. General Strain has the positive and significant relationship with psychopathy and delinquency ( $r=.38^{**}, r=.45^{**}, p<.01$ ). Delinquency has significant relationship with outcome variables, and mediating and moderating variables. The strength and direction of relationship between predictive, outcome and contextual variables is in the expected direction and support the literature.

### **4.3 Mediation Analysis**

This analysis of mediation was introduced to analyze the independent and dependent variables in the fortune of the third variable. Mediation is a process that comes where the third variable pretends to be a bridge between an independent and dependent variable and checking their impact on each other (Hayes, 2013). Mediation analysis were carried out through using SPSS-Process Macro. To check the mediation role of negative affect temperament and cognitive distortions with general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile offenders, simple mediation analysis model 4 having bootstrapped grounded on 5000 samples with the confidence interval of 95% applied. Only significant mediation model results have been presented in this section.

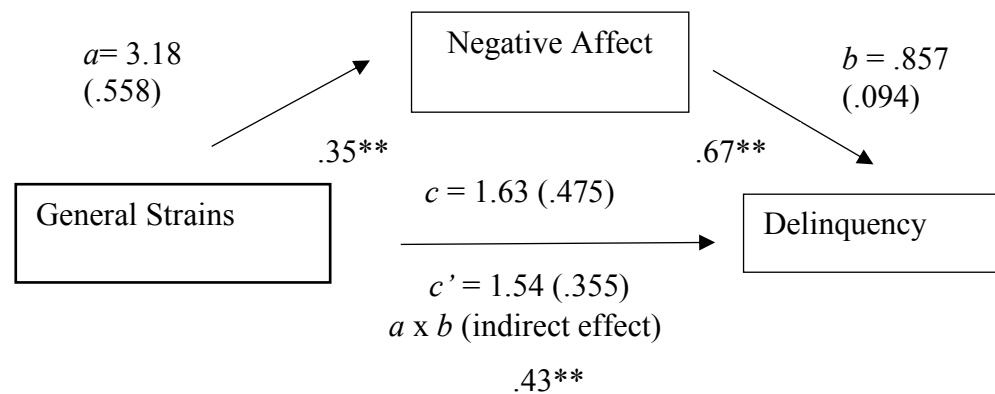
**Table 4.5**

*Simple Mediation on the impact of general strain, delinquency by Negative Affect (N = 141)*

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	-14.82*	-33.80***	-47.67	-19.9
General Strain	3.18***	1.63***	.691	2.57
Total Negative Affect		.857***	.67	1.04
Indirect effect- GS → Delinquency		1.54***	.86	2.2
$R^2$	.18	.49		
$\Delta R^2$		.31		
$F$	32.43***	66.84***		
$\Delta F$		34.41		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

Table 4.5 shows that the B value for the indirect effect is significant. 31% variance is explained in model 2 when adding temperamental negative affect as a mediator. The results show that in the relationship between general strains and delinquency, temperamental negative affect acts as a positive mediator. By adding negative affect, general strains exacerbate delinquent behavior in the adolescents. The figure 4.1 (below) also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between general strain and delinquency.



**Figure 4.1:** Mediation model of negative affect between general strains and delinquency

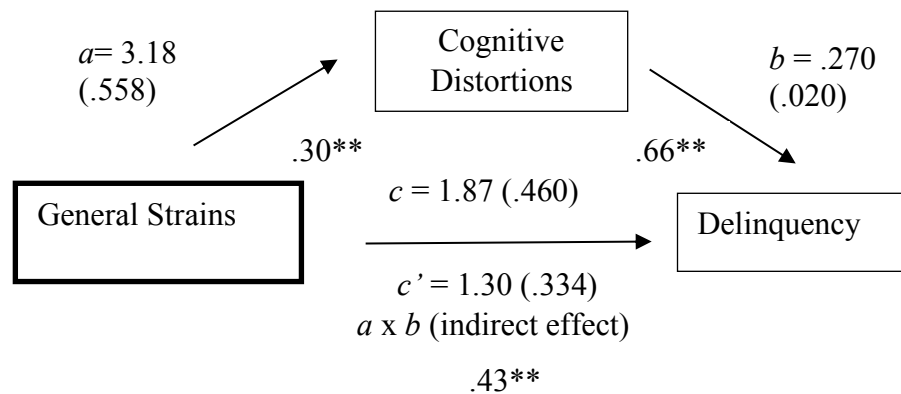
**Table 4.6**

Simple Mediation on the impact of general strain, delinquency by Cognitive distortions ( $N = 141$ )

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	-14.82*	-32.68***	-46.30	-19.07
General Strain	3.18***	1.87***	.96	2.7
Cognitive distortions		.27***	.21	.32
Indirect effect-GS → Delinquency		1.30***	.67	1.98
$R^2$	.18	.50		
$\Delta R^2$		.32		
$F$	32.43***	70.03***		
$\Delta F$		37.6		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The mediation model presented in the above table shows significant indirect effect coefficient. 32% variance is explained in model 2 when adding cognitive distortions as mediator. The results show that in the relationship between general strains and delinquency, cognitive distortions act as positive mediator. By adding mediator, general strains exacerbate delinquent behavior in the adolescents. The figure 4.2 depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between general strain and delinquency.



**Figure 4.2:** Mediation model of cognitive distortions between general strains and delinquency



**Table 4.7**

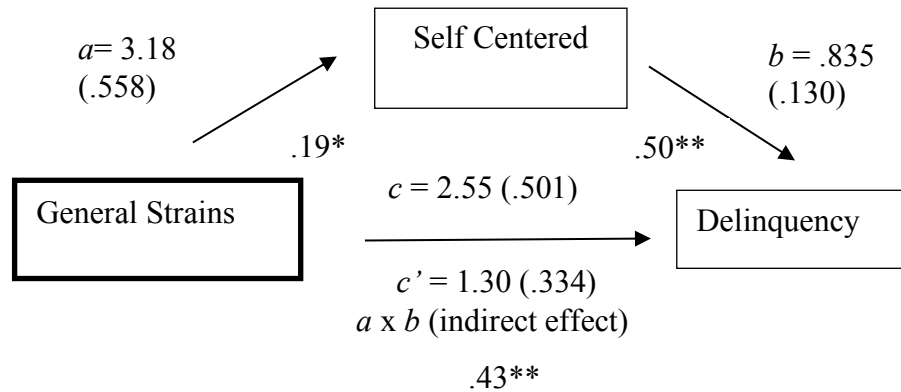
*Simple Mediation on the impact of effect of general strain, delinquency by self centered (N = 141)*

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	-14.82***	-31.86***	-47.45	-16.27
General Strain	3.18***	2.55***	1.55	3.54
Self-Centered		.83***	.57	1.09
Indirect effect-GS → Delinquency		.62***	.13	1.17
$R^2$	.18	.37		
$\Delta R^2$		0.19		
$F$	32.43***	41.46***		
$\Delta F$		9.03		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The results in Table 4.7 shows that the B value for the indirect effect is significant. 19% variance is explained in model 2 when adding cognitive distortions-self-centered as mediator. The results show that in the relationship between general strains and delinquency, self-centered-cognitive distortion act as a positive mediator. By adding mediator, general strains exacerbate delinquent behavior in the adolescents.

The figure 4.3 also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between general strain and delinquency.



**Figure 4.3:** Mediation model of self-centeredness between general strains and delinquency

**Table 4.8**

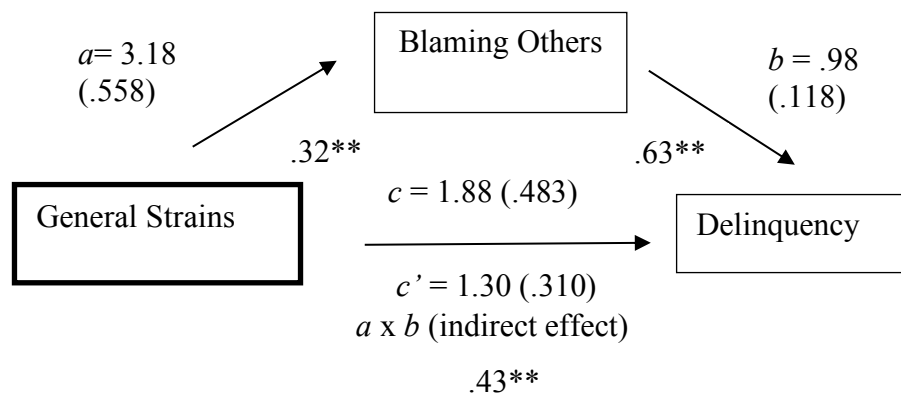
Simple Mediation on the impact of general strain, delinquency by blaming others ( $N = 141$ )

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	-14.82*	-28.99***	-43.05	-14.93
General Strain	3.18***	1.88***	.92	2.83
Blaming others		.98***	.75	1.22
Indirect effect-GS → Delinquency		1.30***	.71	1.92
$R^2$	.189	.459		
$\Delta R^2$		0.27		
$F$	32.43***	58.63***		
$\Delta F$		26.2		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The mediation model presented in the above table shows significant indirect effect coefficient. 27% variance is explained in model 2 when adding cognitive distortions-blaming others as mediator. The results show that in the relationship between general strains and delinquency, blaming others act as positive mediator. By adding mediator, general strains exacerbate delinquent behavior in the adolescents.

The figure 4.4 also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between general strain and delinquency.



**Figure 4.4:** Mediation model of blaming others between general strains and delinquency

**Table 4.9**

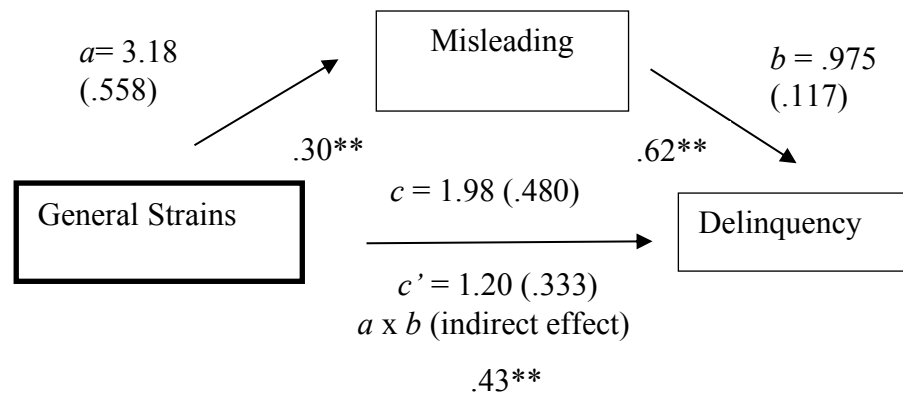
*Simple Mediation on the impact of general strain, delinquency by Misleading (N = 141)*

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	-14.82*	-30.05***	-44.19	-15.90
General Strain	3.18***	1.98***	1.03	2.93
Misleading		.97***	.74	1.20
Indirect effect-GS → Delinquency		1.20***	.57	1.88
$R^2$	.18	.45		
$\Delta R^2$		.27		
$F$	32.43***	58.33***		
$\Delta F$		25.9		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The mediation model presented in the above table shows significant indirect effect coefficient. 27% variance is explained in model 2 when adding cognitive distortions-misleading as mediator. The results show that in the relationship between general strains and delinquency, misleading act as positive mediator. By adding mediator, general strains exacerbate delinquent behavior in the adolescents.

The figure 4.5 also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between general strain and delinquency.



**Figure 4.5:** Mediation model of misleading between general strains and delinquency

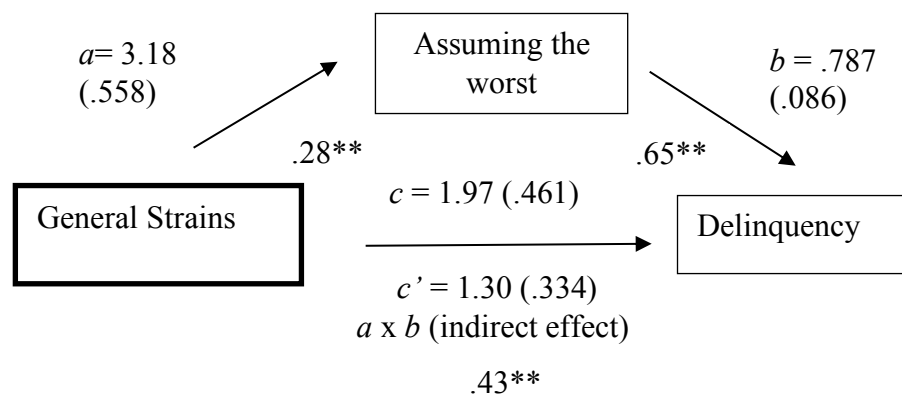
**Table 4.10**

Simple Mediation on the impact of general strain, delinquency by Assuming the worst ( $N = 141$ )

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	-14.82*	-27.08***	-40.54	-13.63
General Strain	3.18***	1.97***	1.06	2.88
Assuming the worst		.78***	.61	.95
Indirect effect-GS → Delinquency		1.20*	.52	1.95
$R^2$	.189	.495		
$\Delta R^2$		.30		
$F$	32.43***	67.75***		
$\Delta F$		35.32		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The mediation model presented in the above table shows significant indirect effect coefficient. 30% variance is explained in model 2 when adding cognitive distortions-misleading as mediator. The results show that in the relationship between general strains and delinquency, assuming the worst act as positive mediator. By adding mediator, general strains exacerbate delinquent behavior in the adolescents.



**Figure 4.6:** Mediation model of assuming the worst between general strains and delinquency

The figure 4.6 also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between general strain and delinquency.

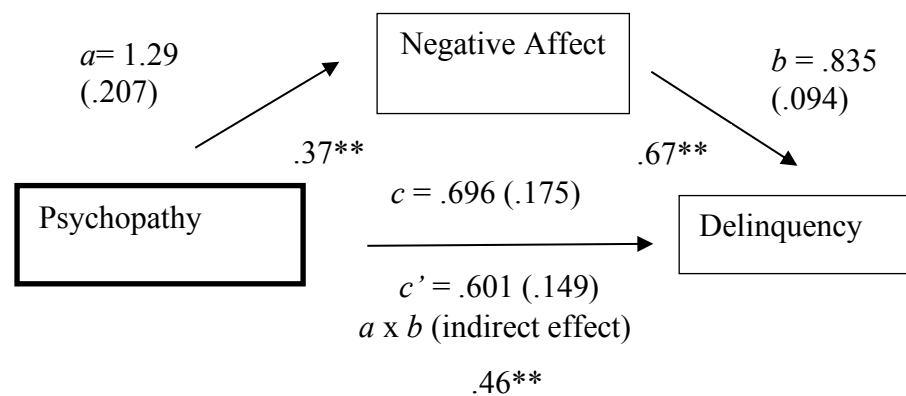
**Table 4.11***Simple Mediation on the impact of psychopathy, delinquency by negative affect**(N = 141)*

Predictors	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	3.56	-24.00***	-33.77	-14.24
Psychopathy	1.29***	.69***	.34	1.05
Total Negative Effect		.83***	.64	1.02
Indirect effect-GS → Delinquency		.60***	.33	.92
$R^2$	.21	.50		
$\Delta R^2$		.29		
$F$	39.08***	69.79***		
$\Delta F$		30.71		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The mediation model presented in the above table shows significant indirect effect coefficient. 29% variance is explained in model 2 when adding negative affect as a mediator. The results show that in the relationship between psychopathy and delinquency, negative affect act as positive mediator. By adding mediator, psychopathy exacerbates delinquent behavior in the adolescents.

The figure 4.7 also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between psychopathy and delinquency.



**Figure 4.7:** Mediation model of negative affect between psychopathy and delinquency

**Table 4.12**

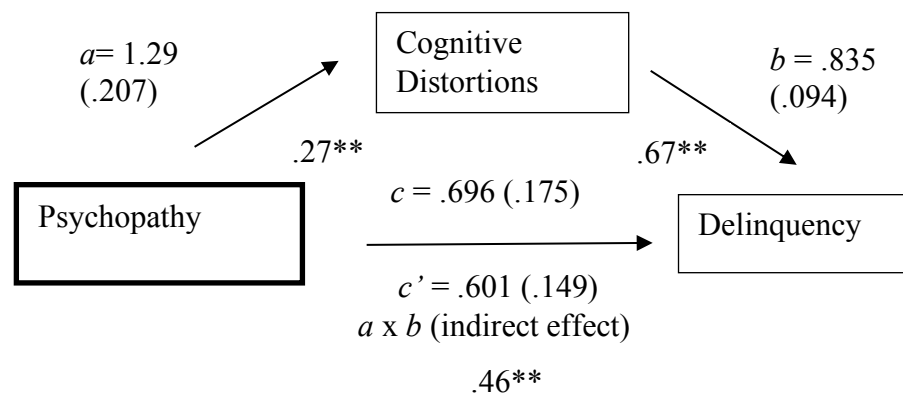
Simple mediation on the impact of psychopathy and delinquency by cognitive distortions ( $N=141$ )

Variables	Model 1	Model 2	95% CL	
	B	B	LL	UL
Constant	3.56	-23.32***	-32.55	-14.09
Psychopathy	1.29***	.85***	.51	1.18
Cognitive Distortions		.26***	.21	.32
Indirect effect-PC → Delinquency		.44***	.20	.72
$R^2$	.21	.53		
$\Delta R^2$		.32		
$F$	39.08***	78.14***		
$\Delta F$		39.06***		

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$



The mediation model presented in the above table shows significant indirect effect coefficient. 32% variance is explained in model 2 when adding cognitive distortions as mediator. The results show that in the relationship between psychopathy and delinquency, cognitive distortions act as positive mediator. By adding mediator, psychopathy exacerbates delinquent behavior in the adolescents.



**Figure 4.8:** Mediation model of cognitive distortions between psychopathy and delinquency

The figure 4.8 also depicted the significant relationship between predicting variable, mediating variable and outcome variable. Significant indirect effect exists between psychopathy and delinquency.

#### **4.4 Moderation by parenting practices, family relations and deviant peer**

SPSS was used using rejection analysis in order to identify the parenting practices, family relations and deviant peer as moderators on the association of general strains, psychopathy and delinquency. Moderators will in general influence the relationship of two variables or factors as a third variable and will in general fortify or weaken the relationship of these factors and variables. The effect has also been identified at different levels of moderators.

##### **General Strains and Delinquency**

The impact of parenting practices, family relations and deviant peer as moderators on the association of general strains and delinquency. The results for parenting practices, family relations except organization and deviant peer as a moderator on the effect of general strain and delinquency among adults of young age twisted out to be non-significant ( $\beta = -.02; p > .05$ ). Only those numbers of outcome were reported which was significant.

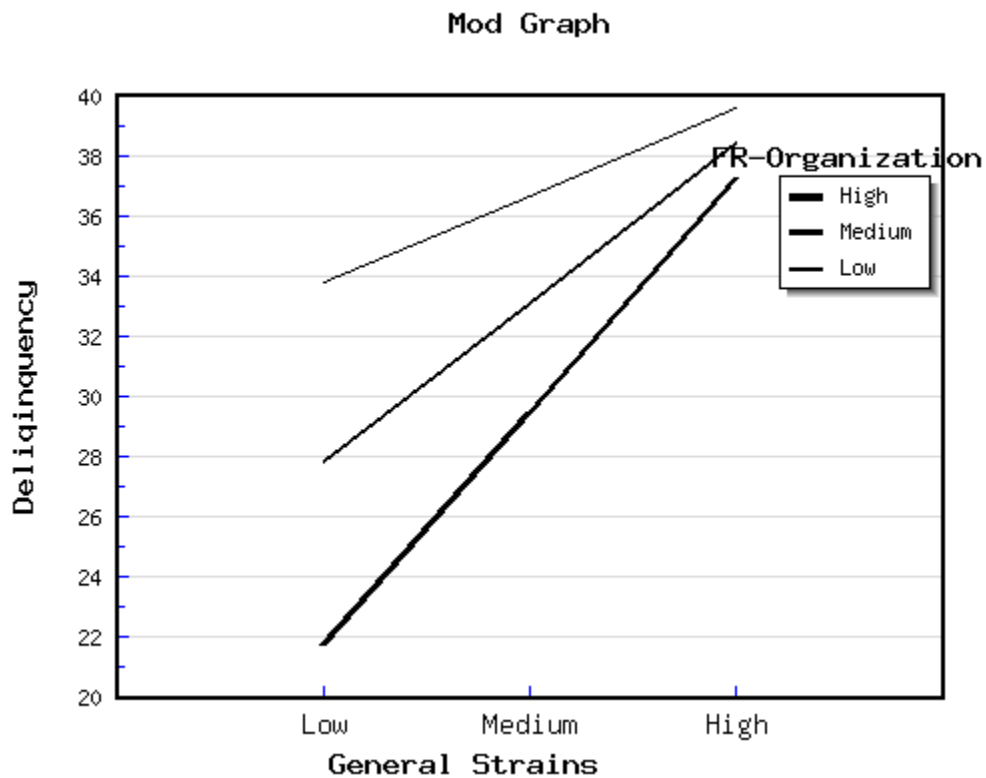
**Table 4.13**

*Moderating effect of Family Relation subscale Organization between general strains and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency		95% CI	
	B	t	LL	UL
Constant	33.09***	31.60***	37.01	39.81
General strains	5.32***	4.99***	1.79	4.67
FR-Organization (Moderator)	-3.59	-3.32	-1.22	1.72
General Strains x FR-Organization	2.42***	2.43***	-2.88	-.61
$R^2$	.30			
$\Delta R^2$	.04			
F	19.75***			
$\Delta F$	5.93***			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

Table 4.13 presents the results for moderating role of family characteristics-Organization between general strains and delinquency in adolescents. The table depicts the moderation effect of organization between general strains and delinquency. The unstandardized coefficient (B) gained in case of link (general strains x FR-Organization) is significant in nature ( $\beta = 2.42$ ;  $p < .001$ ) and predict 30% variance. The change produced by this link is 4%.



*Figure 4.9: Moderating effect of Organization between general strains on delinquency*

Mod graph (Figure 4.9) explains the effect by showing that low levels of family organization boosted the effect of general strains on delinquency. Slops of the graph shows that with decrease in family organization as medium and low, impact of strains on delinquency also increase. While for high levels of family organization increase shows the impact of general strains decrease on delinquency.

### Psychopathy and Delinquency

Like The impact of parenting practices, family relations and deviant peer as moderators on the association of general strains and delinquency. Only of outcome significant results reported here.

**Table 4.14**

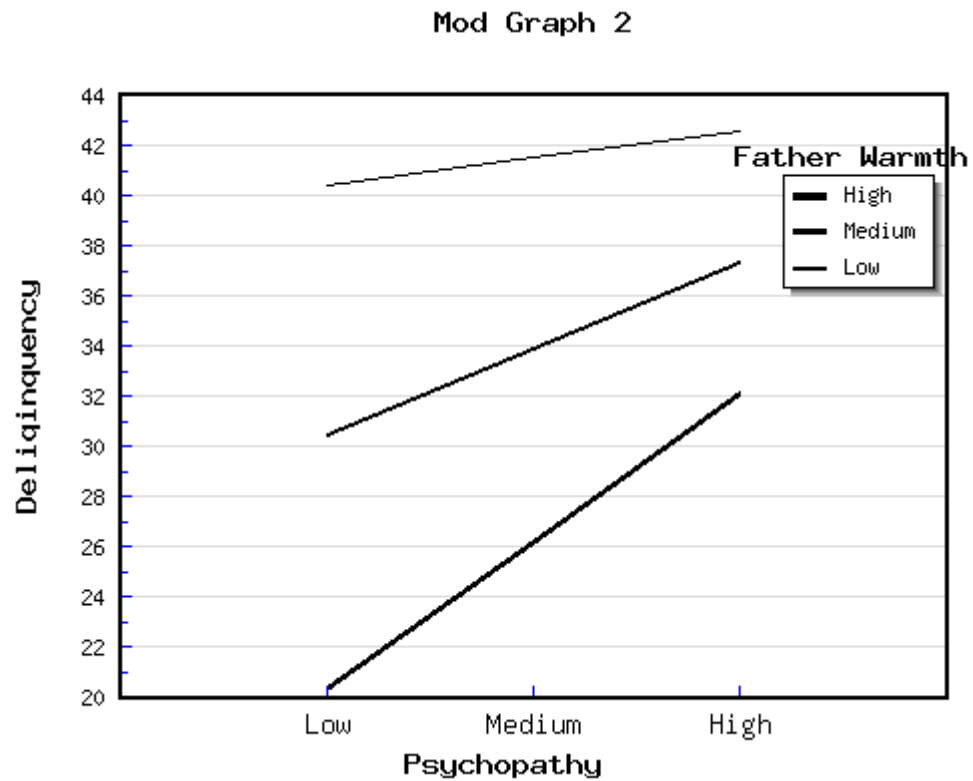
*Moderating effect of Parental acceptance rejection subscale Father warmth between of psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency		95% CI	
	B	t	LL	UL
Constant	33.84***	32.30***	41.33	74.01
Psychopathy	3.47	3.35	.271	1.04
Father Warmth (Moderator)	-7.64***	-7.41***	-2.03	-1.18
Psychopathy x Father Warmth	2.38**	2.09**	.138	4.62
$R^2$	.46			
$\Delta R^2$	.03			
F	39.34***			
$\Delta F$	4.40**			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table reveals that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x father warmth ( $B = -7.6$ ;  $p < .001$ ). The discrimination occurs by the association is 3% with 46% variance explanation. The father warmth as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome. The positive interaction value between

Psychopathy x Father Warmth indicates the father warmness weaken the association between psychopathy and delinquency among adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.10:** Moderating effect of parenting practices (Father Warmth) between psychopathy on delinquency

Mod graph (Figure 4.10) explains the effect by showing that low levels of Father warmth boosted the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slopes of the graph shows that with decrease in father warmth as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also increase. While for high levels of father warmth shows the impact of psychopathy decrease on delinquency.

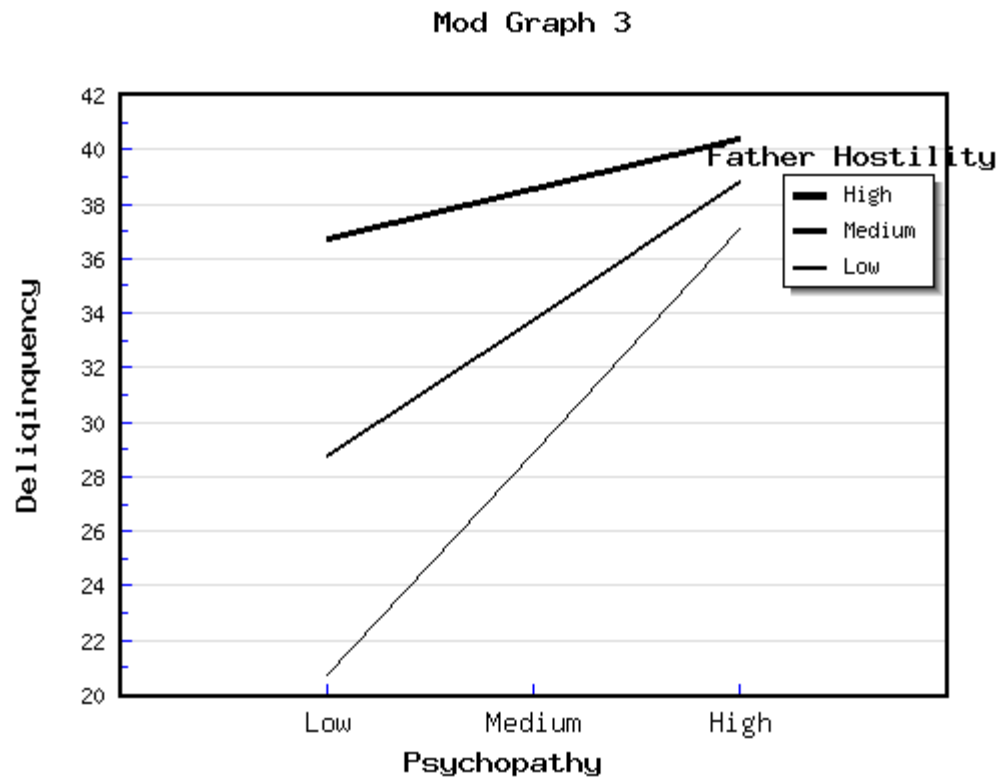
**Table 4.15**

*Moderating effect of Parental acceptance rejection subscale Father hostility between of psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency		95% CI	
	B	T	LL	UL
Constant	33.73***	32.05***	31.65	35.81
Psychopathy	5.02***	4.83***	2.96	7.08
Father Hostility (Moderator)	4.83***	4.57***	2.74	6.92
Psychopathy x Father Hostility	-3.16*	-2.62*	-5.5	-.78
$R^2$	.37			
$\Delta R^2$	.03			
F	27.12***			
$\Delta F$	6.8*			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x father hostility ( $B = -3.16$ ;  $p < .05$ ). The discrimination occurs by the association is 3%. With 37% variance explained by the link. The father hostility as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome variables. The negative interaction value between Psychopathy x Father hostility indicates the father hostility strengthen the association between psychopathy and delinquency among adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.11:** Moderating effect of parenting practices (Father Hostility) between psychopathy on delinquency

Mod graph (Figure 4.11) explains the effect by showing that low levels of Father hostility decrease the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slopes of the graph shows that with decrease in father hostility as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also decrease. While for high levels of father hostility the impact of psychopathy increases on delinquency.



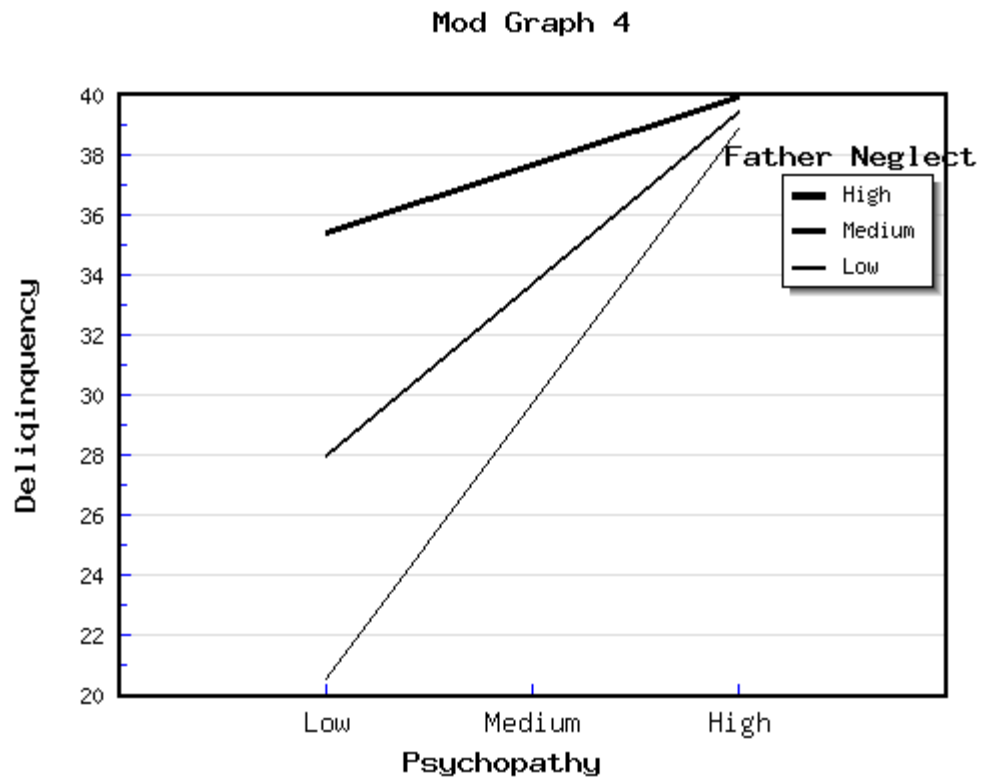
**Table 4.16**

*Moderating effect of Parental acceptance rejection subscale Father Neglect between of psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency			
	B	t	95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	33.69***	32.74***	31.65	35.72
Psychopathy	5.73***	5.58***	3.70	7.76
Father Neglect (Moderator)	3.98**	3.56**	1.77	6.19
Psychopathy x Father Neglect	-3.4**	-2.91**	-5.8	-1.11
$R^2$	.38			
$\Delta R^2$	.03			
F	28.10***			
$\Delta F$	8.48**			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x father neglect ( $B = -3.4$ ,  $p < .01$ ). The discrimination occurs by the association is 3% and the variance explained by this interaction is 38%. The father neglect as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome. The negative interaction value between Psychopathy x Father neglect indicates that when children experience neglect from fathers, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.12:** Moderating effect of parenting practices (Father Neglect) between psychopathy on delinquency

The mod graph in figure 4.12 explains the effect by showing that low levels of Father neglect decrease the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slopes of the graph shows that with decrease in father neglect as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also decrease. While for high levels of father neglect the impact of psychopathy increases on delinquency.

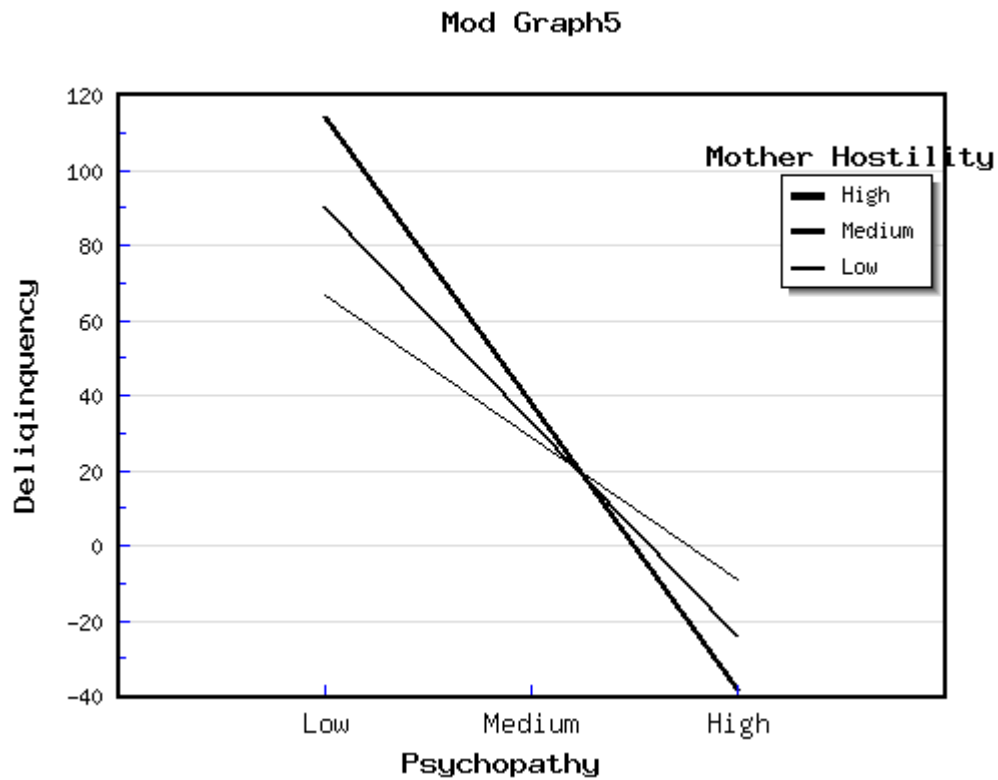
**Table 4.17**

*Moderating effect of Parental acceptance rejection subscale Mother Hostility between of psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency			
	B	t	95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	18.47***	5.52	11.85	25.09
Psychopathy	6.19***	6.65***	4.35	8.03
Mother Hostility (Moderator)	1.04***	4.69***	.60	1.48
Psychopathy x Mother Hostility	-4.44***	-4.63***	-6.33	-2.54
$R^2$	.45			
$\Delta R^2$	.08			
F	38.15***			
$\Delta F$	21.43***			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x mother hostility ( $B = -4.44$ ,  $p < .001$ ). The model explains 45% variance. The mother hostility as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome. The negative interaction value between Psychopathy x mother hostility indicates that when child experience rejection and hostility from mother, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.13:** Moderating effect of parenting practices (Mother Hostility) between psychopathy on delinquency

Mod graph (Figure 4.13) explains the effect by showing that low levels of Mother hostility decrease the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slops of the graph shows that with decrease in mother hostility as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also decrease. While for high levels of mother hostility the impact of psychopathy increases on delinquency.

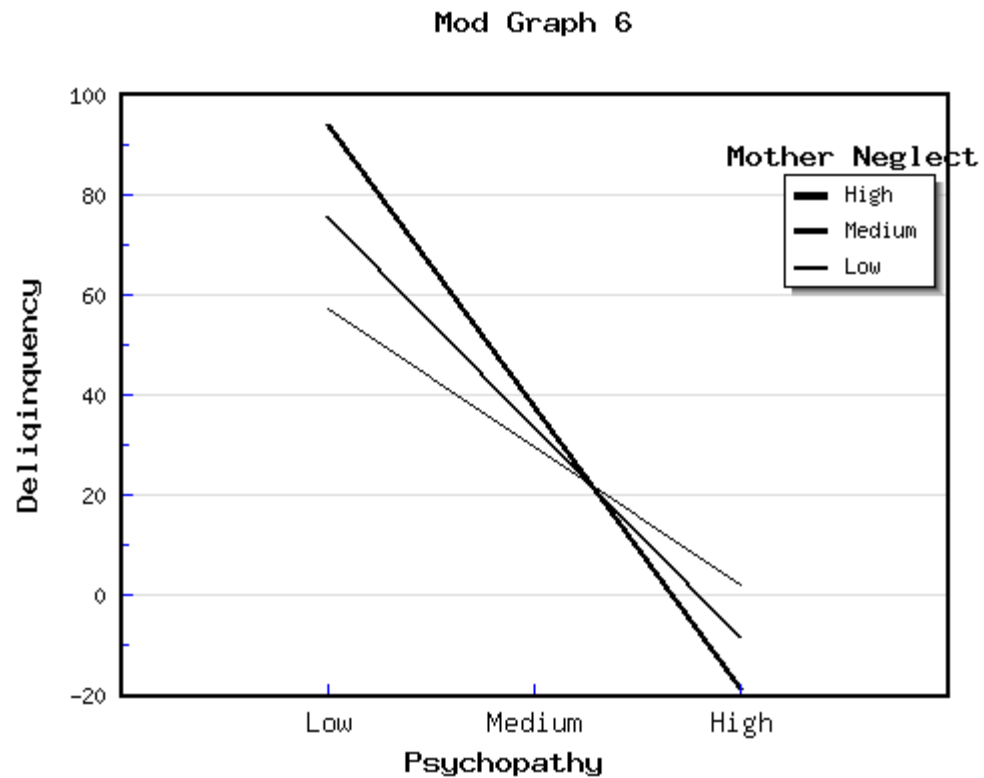
**Table 4.18**

*Moderating effect of Parental acceptance rejection subscale Mother Neglect between of psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency			
	B	t	95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	20.01***	5.29***	12.53	27.49
Psychopathy	5.84***	5.75***	3.83	7.84
Mother Neglect (Moderator)	.97***	3.80***	.47	1.48
Psychopathy x Mother Neglect	-3.45**	-2.97**	-5.74	-1.15
$R^2$	.37			
$\Delta R^2$	.04			
F	27.48***			
$\Delta F$	8.85**			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x mother neglect ( $B = -3.45$ ,  $p < .01$ ). The interaction model explains 37% variance. The mother neglect as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome. The negative interaction value between Psychopathy x mother neglect indicates that when mother neglect the children, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.14:** Moderating effect of parenting practices (Mother Neglect) between psychopathy on delinquency

The mod graph in figure 4.14 explains the effect by showing that low levels of mother neglect decrease the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slopes of the graph shows that with decrease in mother neglect as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also decrease. While for high levels of mother neglect the impact of psychopathy increases on delinquency.

**Table 4.19**

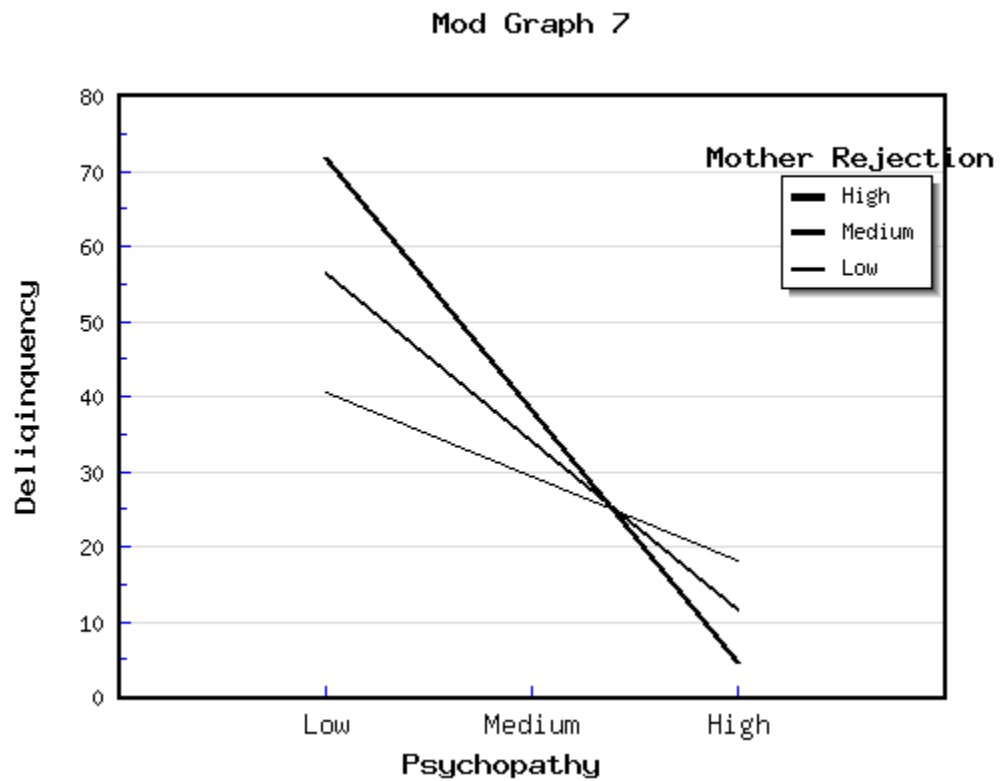
*Moderating effect of Parental acceptance rejection subscale Mother Rejection between psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency			
	B	T	95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	23.03***	7.17***	16.68	29.38
Psychopathy	5.24***	5.02***	3.18	7.31
Mother Rejection (Moderator)	1.23***	3.76***	.58	1.88
Psychopathy x Mother Rejection	-3.17*	-2.57*	-5.61	-.73
$R^2$	.38			
$\Delta R^2$	.03			
F	28.40***			
$\Delta F$	6.62*			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x mother rejection ( $B = -3.17$ ,  $p < .05$ ).

The interaction model explains 38% variance. The mother rejection as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome. The negative interaction value between Psychopathy x mother rejection indicates that when children got rejected by their mothers, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.15:** Moderating effect of parenting practices (Mother Rejection) between psychopathy on delinquency

The mod graph in figure 4.15 explains the effect by showing that low levels of mother rejection decrease the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slopes of the graph shows that with decrease in mother rejection as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also decrease. While for high levels of mother rejection the impact of psychopathy increases on delinquency.



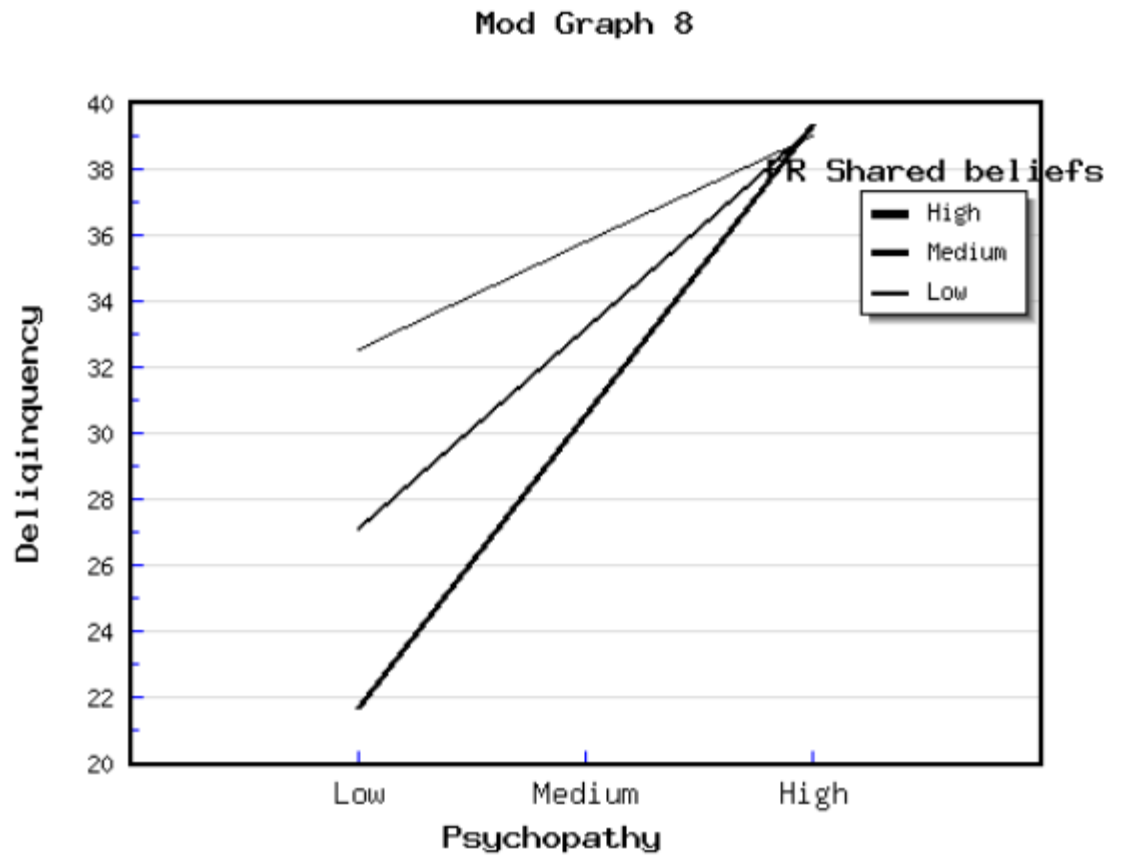
**Table 4.20**

*Moderating effect of Family Relation Shared Deviant Beliefs between psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency			
	B	t	95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	33.14***	31.29***	31.05	35.24
Psychopathy	6.05***	5.64***	3.93	8.17
FR shared deviant beliefs (Moderator)	-2.63*	-2.47*	-4.74	-.52
Psychopathy x FR Shared Deviant Beliefs	2.80*	2.49*	.58	5.02
$R^2$	.28			
$\Delta R^2$	.03			
F	18.52***			
$\Delta F$	6.22*			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x shared deviant beliefs in family ( $B = 2.80$ ,  $p < .05$ ). The 28% variance is explained. The shared deviant beliefs in family as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome variables. The positive interaction value between Psychopathy x shared deviant beliefs in family indicates that when the family member shared deviant beliefs and behaviour, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.15:** Moderating effect of Family Relations shared deviant beliefs between psychopathy on delinquency

The mod graph in figure 4.15 explains the effect by showing that low levels of shared deviant beliefs in the family decrease the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slops of the graph shows that with decrease in shared deviant beliefs in the family as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency also decrease. While for high levels of shared deviant beliefs in the family, the impact of psychopathy increases on delinquency.

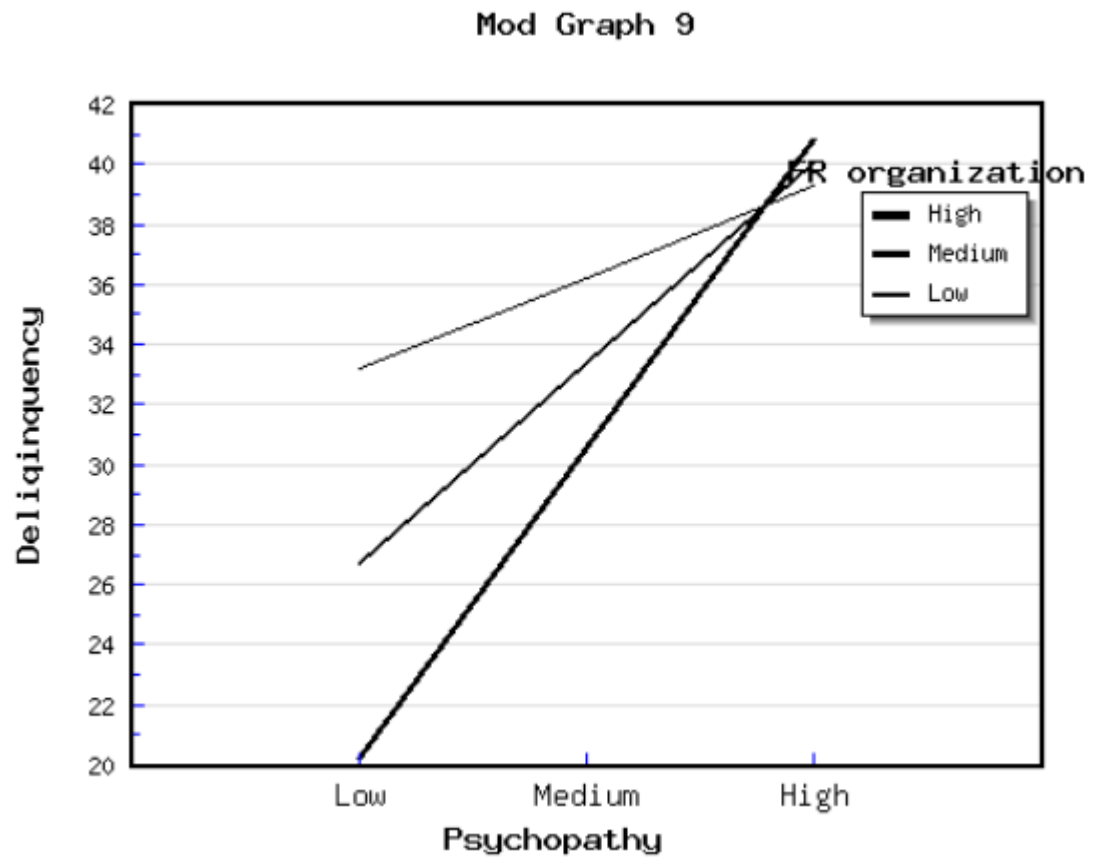
**Table 4.21**

*Moderating effect of Family Relation Organization between psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	B	t	Delinquency	
			95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	33.38***	32.78***	31.37	35.40
Psychopathy	6.67***	6.46***	4.63	8.72
FR organization(Moderator)	-2.84**	-2.66**	-4.96	-.73
Psychopathy x FR Organization	3.62**	3.48**	1.56	5.67
$R^2$	.34			
$\Delta R^2$	.05			
F	24.46***			
$\Delta F$	12.14**			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x organization in family ( $B = 3.62$ ,  $p < .01$ ). The discrimination occurs by the association is 5% and 34% variance explained. The organization in family as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome variables. The positive interaction value between Psychopathy x organization in family indicates that when the family member lack organization in the family, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.16:** Moderating effect of Family Relations Organization between psychopathy on delinquency

The mod graph in figure 4.16 explains the effect by showing that low levels of organization in the family increase the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slops of the graph shows that with decrease in organization in the family as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency increase. While for high levels of organization in the family, the impact of psychopathy decreases on delinquency.

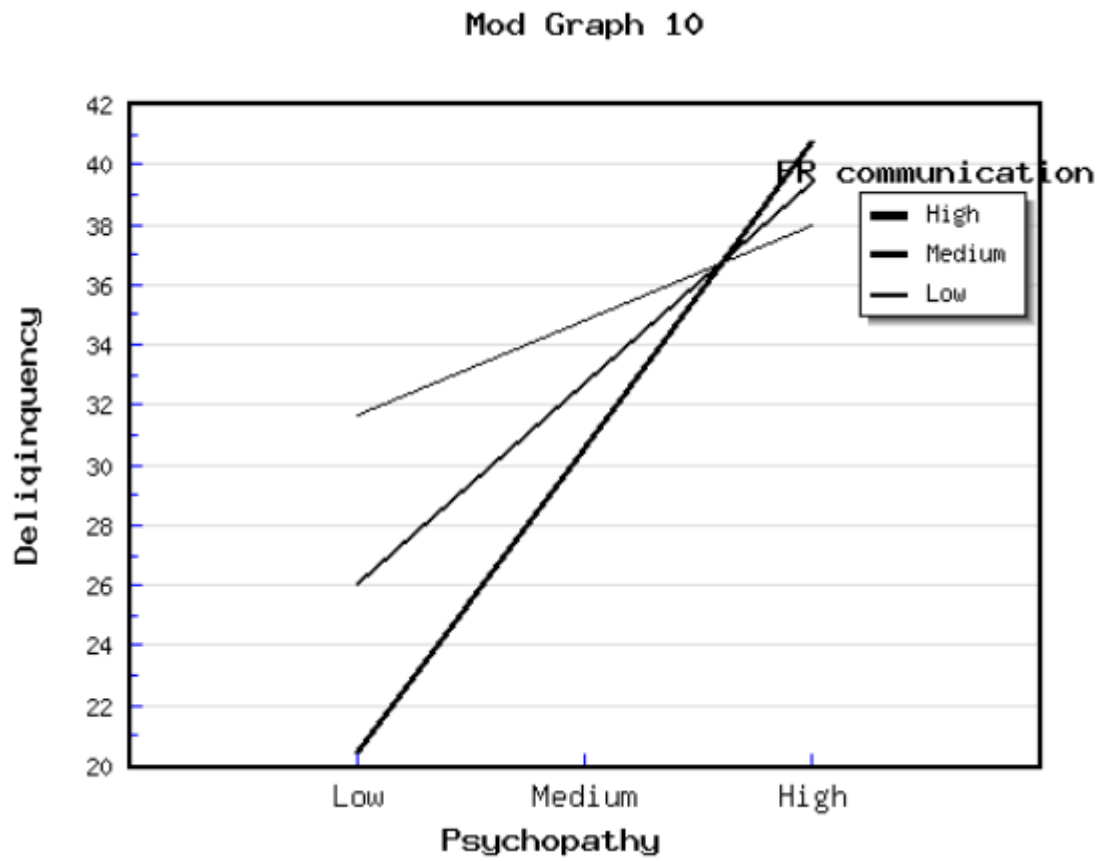
**Table 4.22**

*Moderating effect of Family Relation Communication between psychopathy and delinquency among adolescents (N = 141)*

Predictors	Delinquency			
	B	t	95% CI	
			LL	UL
Constant	32.71***	31.40***	30.65	34.77
Psychopathy	6.66***	6.36***	4.59	8.73
FR communication (Moderator)	-2.12*	-2.02*	-4.20	-.04
Psychopathy x FR communication	3.50**	3.08**	1.26	5.75
$R^2$	.29			
$\Delta R^2$	.04			
F	19.22***			
$\Delta F$	9.53**			

\* $p < .05$ , \*\* $p < .01$ , \*\*\* $p < .001$

The above moderation table revealed that unstandardized coefficient (B) is significantly linked to psychopathy x communication in family ( $B = 3.50$ ,  $p < .01$ ). The discrimination occurs by the association is 4% and 29% variance explained. The communication in family as a moderator has a greater impact on the connection between the predictor and outcome variables. The positive interaction value between Psychopathy x organization in family indicates that when the family member lack communication in the family, the association between psychopathy and delinquency becomes stronger for adolescent boys.



**Figure 4.17:** Moderating effect of Family Relations Communication between psychopathy on delinquency

The mod graph in figure 4.17 explains the effect by showing that low levels of communication in the family increase the effect of psychopathy on delinquency. Slops of the graph shows that with decrease in communication in the family as medium and low, impact of psychopathy on delinquency increase. While for high levels of communication in the family, the impact of psychopathy decreases on delinquency.

## CHAPTER 5

### DISCUSSION

#### 5.1 Summary

The current research study was designed to explore the link between general strains, psychopathy and delinquency among juvenile delinquent adolescents with an emphasis to investigate the mediating and moderating role of contextual factors. The potential contextual mediators identified to investigate in this research study were child related temperamental negative affect and cognitive distortions whereas potential moderators were the parenting practices, in terms of parental acceptance and rejection, family relations, and deviant peer associations. In order to explore these objectives, data was collected from different jails of Punjab, Pakistan. The official required procedures were used to get permission from the Inspector General Jail, Punjab after the institution approval of the study from NUML BASR. Due to Covid-19 outbreak, Jails were also closed for visit due to lockdown in the country, when the lockdown was get little bit relaxed and IG Punjab Jails granted the permission to visit the juvenile jails in December 2020, so the data was collected in one month time period (Dec-2020 to January 2021) by following Covid-19 related SOPs. The age range for the sample was 10-18 years. The participants were all males and juveniles. This current research was comprised of two parts i.e. pilot study and main study. The pilot study was designed to check the suitability and cultural adaptation and translations of the scales. The sample size of pilot testing was 30 juvenile offenders. The psychometric properties of the measuring scales show the appropriateness of the translated versions to use with Pakistani sample. The second phase which consisted on the main study and hypothesis testing based on available research literature. For

main study a sample of 141 juvenile delinquent male adolescent was draw from different jails of Punjab.

## **5.2 Psychometric Properties of the Research Variables**

The current research objectives were achieved with the help of Urdu version scale related to parental acceptance and rejection questionnaire which has father and mother forms too (PARQ-F/M; Malik & Musaffa in 2012) in event to access the parenting practices from mother and father among adolescents. The instrument has consisted of four sub scales like Warmth/Affection, Hostility/Aggression, Indifference/Neglect, and Undifferentiated Rejection. In instance to access psychopathic traits, Childhood Psychopathy Scale (PCL-R; Hare 1991, 2003) was been utilized as an instrument and was been translated in the Urdu language in regard for this current study. Delinquent behavior was measured to use scale of self-reporting like delinquency scale which is developed by Naqvi and Kamal (2008). How I Think Questionnaire (Barriga et al., 2001) that is consist of 54 items and is usually measure to access the self-serving cognitive disturbances. Some of the distortions include self-centeredness, blaming on others, labelling without proof and misassumption which is usually the worst. There is another questionnaire which is measuring Early Adolescent Temperament (EATQ; Capaldi & Rothbart, 1992) which was then updated and been revised for the betterment and to access better factors of self-regulation and temperament in adolescents. The scale which are assessing the aggression and depression state of mood are collected to explore the relationships and to differentiate between their temperaments and their role in the socialization. The family relation scale is developed by Gorman-Smith, Tolan, Zelli & Huesmann 1995. The measure consists of 5 subscales (1) emotional cohesion (2) support (3) shared



deviant beliefs (4) Family relation organization (5) Family Relation communication.

A general strain questionnaire was used to measure the general strain among adolescents.

The internal consistency for all scales was checked by using the alpha coefficients in the first phase which is a pilot study as well as in the second stage that is the main study of this research. The Cronbach's alpha was identified from all of the mentioned scales in both phases of this research work. The results (Table 4) showed that scales for this research are consistent internally as well as for sub-scale was accurate and reliable to use for the study. The average to moderate and high Cronbach's alpha reliability values of the translated versions of measuring scales depicted the appropriateness of the measures for Pakistani sample. The skewness and kurtosis were also observed for further statistical analysis as scales and subscales data met the assumptions of normality. The values are acceptable and within the range for all the scales and their subscales. The results showed that the parental acceptance-rejection scale for father and mother, self-centered, and Family Relation cohesion have positive values of kurtosis, and the distribution curve was light-tailed and pointed. All other scales and subscales have negative kurtosis that Self-reported delinquency scale, temperament scale, How I think Questionnaire, childhood psychopathy scale, family relation scale, and general strain scale. Negative values show a flat and heavy-tailed distribution of the scores found out from the research sample.

### **5.3 Relationship between Study Variables**

The first and main objective of the present study was that there is a positive relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency among juvenile

delinquent Adolescents which was been validated by this study results. Many adolescents involve in criminal activities just because of not fulfilling their desired needs and what actually they wanted to do which leads them towards delinquent behavior. There are multiple strains that have been discussed in this research study that provoke an individual towards a criminal activity that can be sexual abuse, aggression, physical abuse, property victimization, and other adverse life activities that leads them towards delinquency. Juvenile psychopathy also leads an individual towards a criminal activity that may be inborn tendency to act that activity antisocial behavior is more prominent in psychopaths. Most delinquency behaviors shown in young adolescents are age. There is a chance that an individual involves in criminal activity can prone to later life criminal activities and maladjustment problems. To evident our results many studies have shown that there are higher risk factors of delinquent behavior shown at a young age then it is more likely that the individual will fall more towards it (Mmari, Blum, &Teufel-Shone 2010). First, empirical research has revealed a link between strain and adolescent criminality (Froggio & Agnew, 2007). Second, delinquency not only generates immediate issues for adolescents (e.g., increased victimization) but also raises the chance of later life maladjustment (Kennedy & Baron, 1993). (Moffitt, 1993; Sampson & Laub, 1993). Psychopaths exhibit violent and antisocial behaviors that they picked up from their ancestral environment. They are distinguished by a greater proclivity to be impulsive and visibly furious (Hare & Neumann, 2008). The personality traits which includes many unnatural or fantasized charming personality, lack of guilt or remorse feeling towards others, not very reliable for society and themselves, they have poor judgmental qualities and mostly behavior which is not appropriate or is usually called as antisocial (Cleckley, 1941).

The second study's aim was that there is a positive relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and negative affect temperament among juvenile delinquent Adolescents. Many individuals have temperamental issues just because of not fulfilling their desirable needs. That negative temperament involves depressive thoughts, aggression, and frustration which comes from lack of desire needs, abusive behavior, not giving proper education, medical facility, love, proper food that is child basic needs, and other multiple adverse life events which causes depression, frustration, and aggression. Many studies showed that the link between general strain and psychopathy had a connection with child negative temperament. The low socio-economic level is a direct predictor of physical aggression, it is not at all the predictor of indirect kind of aggression like relational aggression. When a person is on the edge of poverty then he feels that all the coming laws and legalities are absurd and he just has to fulfill his needs by hook or crook then he goes against the law and get involved in the criminal acts (Spieker et al., 2012). General strain theory holds that each time a person is exposed to stress, they will feel at least one bad feeling, known as a negative affect. While sadness and fear are two of the most common negative affective states, they are not the only negative emotional states that might express themselves in such ways. Anger, in particular, Agnew posits to be an extremely significant negative effect and as it is a motivation for strain-induced deviation, it may be seen as a powerful motivator. While the propensity to be angered results in a desire for revenge, anger is one of the most powerful reactive emotions owing to its capacity to develop that desire. Individuals are “.....driven towards delinquency by the distressing emotions that typically arise from unhappy relationships, such as wrath and similar feelings”, as he explains. However, Agnew notes that, while not everyone who has tension or unpleasant feelings commits crimes, certain individuals might nonetheless

be predisposed to criminal behavior. Negative emotion does not necessarily result in an unlawful reaction if other coping techniques and conditioning variables are present. Studies have found that those who possess nonconforming or maladaptive personalities are more likely to have aggressive and antisocial conduct in adulthood and childhood (Blackburn & Coid, 1998; Caspi et al., 1997; Caspi et al., 1994; Cloninger, 1987; Eysenck & Eysenck, 1985; Eysenck & Gudjonsson, 1989; Farrington, 1986, 1992). Psychopathy will lead to an increase in bullying, and bullying will in turn correlate with future delinquent and antisocial behavior.

The other aim of the study was to investigate the relationship between negative affect and delinquency. There is a positive relationship between negative affect and delinquency. There are multiple reasons that cause an individual aggressive, depressive and frustrated which leads them towards delinquency. Moreover, there are other factors related to conditioning has shown a negative or bad effect of anger, depression, anxiety and possible resentment and it is linked or predicted with the theory of general strain (Brezina, 1996; Jang & Johnson, 2003). Colleagues and Mazerolle (2003) has proposed that the major discrimination in the anger type for example situational or traits has defined the incompatibilities and it is regarded with the negative effect or role of it. The anger is a trait which has the negative effect on the physique moreover it is most common among delinquent members in society. There are two types of anger violent or non-violent. The violent ones include physical actions like destruction and being physical with anyone whereas, the other form of violence include verbal in which abusing or loud voice or shouting at others has the form in which most of the delinquents are been involved. They also make it in the favor of those who wants to use anger as a weapon against their anger. Withholding anger is another shot and being angry with someone is easy

for them to show their rage or outburst. Sever type of outbursts can be expected with these delinquents as they have little or no control on themselves (Capowich, Mazerolle, & Piquero, 2001).

Parenting practices is another important aspect in the child life. The parenting style/behavior of both father and mother plays an important role for children development. If parents take good care of their children who got involved in criminal activity can moderate their role between general strains, delinquency, and psychopathy. Many people become psychopaths when not dealt with properly by their parents or other caregivers. They act differently in society and perform such behaviors that are socially unacceptable (Edens, Skeem, Cruise, & Cauffman, 2001; Seagrave & Grisso, 2002). The present study also elaborates that there is a positive association between parental rejection, hostility, and neglect with psychopathy, and delinquency among adolescents. There are studies that explained the contextual factors that lead to criminal behavior among adolescents. One of the studies performed by Racz and McMahon (2011) revealed that family has an important role on individual personality, poor parenting is a possible predictor of behaving out of the boundary or the way that is not under social norms. It consequently leads them toward delinquent behavior like street robbing or stealing. Another study carried by Palacios (1999) stated that the parenting style such as authoritarian gives a restrictive view to their children as they give them so many punishments and controlled environment. All of these restrictions and passiveness make their children rebel against them more and more and results in causing out-of-context behaviors such as delinquency.

#### 5.4 Role of contextual Factors

Another main objective of the study was to investigate the role of contextual factors in the development of delinquent and criminal behavior in adolescents. There are so many contextual factors e.g., child characteristics (temperament, adverse life events, social cognitions, cognitive distortions and biases, information processing styles, etc.), family related factors (i.e., parenting practices, communication, parent's psychopathology, violence and aggression in family, chaotic families, sibling's relation, family history of crime, SES, Education etc.), peer factors (delinquent peers, peer rejection, group activities or hanging with delinquent peer group, peer influence and conformity etc.) and environmental factors (high crime neighborhood, drug abuse/use, poverty, etc.) that play the role of mediators and/or moderators to increase or lessen the intensity of the outcome variable. Like deviant peer plays as a moderator between general strain, psychopathy, and delinquency. An individual who has deviants peer in their circle can enhance them to commit criminal activity as studies suggest that The individual who is involved in deviant behavior and always does the opposite of what is expected from him has more chances to get involved in criminal activities or to join a group which gives him the liberty to do anything he wants to do or any way he wants to behave in the society or in other relevant situations (Bernburg and Krohn, 2003). There is a most common risk factor of peer norms and how an individual interacts with the society for the attachment (Hoeve et al. 2009). When it comes to peers then the bad influence of peers will lead the individual towards gang stealing, friends that mostly are delinquent and it affects their quality of peer relationship (Wong, Slotboom, & Bijleveld 2010). Early exposures to negative peer influence make it more prone for the individual to engage in risky delinquent behavior. It also allows them to bunk their schools and give less

concentration towards the study which ultimately makes them away from social norms. It is more likely happen that the peers who have a society that uses drugs are more prone towards adapting the same habit earlier (Odgers et al. 2008). Another factor is parenting practices which means that an individual who enjoys parental warmth, have chances of the lower level of delinquent behavior expected which means parents play an important role to children for their behavior like if a child is involved in some activity that enhances him towards criminal activity but due to mother and father affection and affiliation they can stop them from that criminal activity.

As previous studies show that one of the studies performed by Racz and McMahon (2011) revealed that family has an important role on individual personality, poor parenting is a possible predictor of behaving out of the boundary or the way that is not under social norms. It consequently leads them toward delinquent behavior like street robbing or stealing. Another study carried by Palacios (1999) stated that the parenting style such as authoritarian gives a restrictive view to their children as they give them so many punishments and controlled environment. All of these restrictions and passiveness make their children rebel against them more and more and results in causing out-of-context behaviors such as delinquency.

There are other multiple factors that allow an individual's towards criminal activity like low socioeconomic status, poor grades in the school cause them towards aggression socioeconomic status like poverty plays as a moderating factor. The sample of the present research belongs to low socioeconomic status group. They are deprived from basic need and rights like education, food, and poverty level is high which make the young children more vulnerable to indulge into criminal behavior or hanging with such groups. Studies show that low socioeconomic level is a direct

predictor of physical aggression, it is not at all the predictor of indirect kind of aggression like relational aggression. When a person is on the edge of poverty then he feels that all the coming laws and legalities are absurd and he just has to fulfill his needs by hook or crook then he goes against the law and get involved in the criminal acts (Spieker et al., 2012). There are various longitudinal studies that connected few problems that relate to low socio-economic level with the behavior of delinquency. These problems include their poverty and oppressive circumstances, moreover, they have the need to be autonomous and take command of their own lives (Elliott and Ageton, 1980; Bjerck, 2007). Other studies show that the ones who have to bunk or have low attendance are the ones that are involved in any misconduct or other activities that are not socially acceptable (Wong, Slotboom, and Bijleveld 2010). It is more likely that the one who has been expelled from school is due to their violent behavior or because of their low performance in academics. When an individual doesn't behave properly in his/her school then there is a must need to assess their nature and get what it takes (le Vries 2015; Hawkins et al. 2000). These factors can make them more rebellious and they act in society as like they have license to do anything so it leads them towards criminal behavior (Draper and Hancock 2011).

Other factors like a family environment, children characteristics, and cognitive distortions are also mediate and moderate the relationship between general strains, psychopathy, and delinquency. In this research, there is a significant positive relationship between general strains delinquency and negative affect which means that there is also a positive relationship between the interaction effects. By adding the mediator between general strain and delinquency there shows a 31% variance after adding which means the negative effects play as a mediator between general strain and delinquency. There is a significant positive relationship between general strains,



delinquency, and cognitive distortions. By the interaction effect, it shows 32% variance which shows that the cognitive distortions play as a mediator among general strains and delinquency. Pakistan ranked at 92<sup>n</sup> on factor ranking of criminal justice. The prevalence rate of conduct disorders, aggression, violence, and delinquency is alarming and it suggests the need for interventions at early levels. The society has to play its role for the betterment of its children.

### **5.5 Limitation and Suggestions**

The present research has following limitations with so many strengths, like, targeting the difficult sample of criminal offenders, addressing potential contextual factors and its role in the development of delinquency, exploring the impact of general strains/adverse events on the life of a child and its association with the delinquent behavior. Initial aim was also to take data from street children also but due to covid-19 it was hard to approach them and the researcher got only 30 to 35 street children data on the study variables, due to the time constraints of the study program the population segment consist on street children was dropped so future researchers can add this segment and children from the schools setting for comparison.

1. Current study data are based on self-reports of the juvenile offenders only which can be a reason of personal biases, errors, and under/over-reporting. Therefore multiple source system is suggested for future research; data can be gathered from parents jail staff, etc.
2. The current study is a cross-sectional design. Future researchers can apply longitudinal designs to explore the phenomena in-depth and they can explore the persistency of delinquency and recidivism in juvenile offenders.

3. Some other variables can be added to understand the contextual factors more deeply by adding, moral design, criminal cognitions, peer pressure, anger, intolerance, apathy, dark traits, family dynamics, etc.
4. The current study is based on different barriers that had been faced by the researcher. As every officer was almost cooperative while taking interviews from juveniles but still their presence had affected a research a little bit due to child confidentiality and sensitive information sometimes it is hard for juveniles to share their personal information due to presence of staff and officers there even there is lack of accessibility to their personal profiles which we can match our data with their files so we can't validate the data due to low accessibility. Due to some illiterate participants some data had been dropped and discarded while taking interviews.

## **5.6 Future Implications**

1. The findings of the present research can be applied theoretically and practically.
2. On a theoretical level, this study adds more understanding of the role of a contextual factor in the existing literature.
3. On the Practice level, this research can be used to make some reforms and policies for young offenders. For example, in jails, some interventions can be introduced for these young kids to teach them to manage their anger, develop empathy, tolerance, and prosocial behaviors.
4. Some kind of CBT-based technique can be applied to correct their cognitive distortions.

5. This research is very helpful for the psychologists working in the prison department of Pakistan to not only understand the phenomena but to break the chain of this vicious cycle of crime and its reoccurrence.
6. Society can play a vital role to enhance family counseling and to help the family in providing care and safety and in ensuring the physical and mental well-being of children. Daycare can be provided insufficient arrangements.
7. Basic educational programs can be arranged for both parents and juvenile offenders which notify parents to how can they raise healthy children and also teach their children about the effects of different crimes like using drugs, violence, sex, etc. a basic education program must deliver to children that what they do offensively they would have an outcome. This is the most important era where youths are barraged with sex images.
8. Community-based facilities can be provided where they respond to the special needs, difficulties, interests, and worries of the youth and offer suitable counseling and direction to families and to youth can be strengthened where they exist.
9. Mass and media can play their role and they can uplift to diminish the pornography, drugs, and violence portrayed and to display violence and misuse disfavor ably as well as to avoid demeaning and humiliating presentations.
10. Recreational programs can be introduced for youth that they can interact with other adults and children in the community which can help them in later life events.

11. Free education programs can be introduced as the number of juveniles has seen from low socio-economic back grounds so they can't afford to get admission in any institute by which they try to involve in criminal acts.
12. These offenders are young kids so special focus should be given to make them productive citizens rather than throwing them into the darkness of the criminal world.

### **5.7 Conclusion**

The present research concluded that all the study variables are significantly positively correlated with each other and support the previous literature and studies. Contextual factors like temperament and cognitive distortions of the child exacerbate the delinquent behavior in the child. Negative life events and trauma have significant effects on a child's behavior and the outcomes are more severe. Family, parents, and peers play a vital role in the social, emotional, and cognitive development of a child and the present study concluded that negative parenting practice, rejection, neglect, and poor family relations also exacerbate antisocial behavior.

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