

Review Date: 12/18/13

Name/Title: Developmental Sequences of Girls' Delinquent Behavior

Author: Girls Study Group, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

Media Type: (Book, CD, Flyer, Poster, Website, etc) report

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Language: English

Usefulness Rating:

1. Excellent
2. Good XX
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. Rated by: (CSSRC staff member) Alice
6. Comments:
 - a. This report reviews multiple studies of delinquent behavior in girls to discover patterns.
 - b. It is found that girls do not have a standard or typical sequence of delinquent behaviors. For example, girls' delinquency does not always begin with running away. Girls begin engaging in delinquent behavior at different times throughout childhood and adolescence, and transition in and out of delinquent behavior at different times.
 - c. Many girls are low-level offenders whose delinquency involves truancy, public disorder, and alcohol use. Other than substance use, girls tend to commit offenses relatively infrequently, averaging fewer than ten offenses of any one kind throughout a year. Girls committing the most serious offenses tend to desist within a year or two.
 - d. Intervention efforts should consider the unique offending behaviors of girls. It is recommended that service providers pay careful attention to using evidence-based successful interventions to avoid using an intervention that exceeds the time during which girls engage in offending behavior.
 - e. Substance use, particularly alcohol use, should be addressed for all delinquent girls due to the large overlap in substance use with other delinquent behaviors.
 - f. Prevention efforts need to address boys and girls at an early age because many girls begin offending at a young age.



CSSRC Resource Review

Category: (Prevention, Mitigation, Protection, Response, Recovery, Promotional Item) Prevention, Response

Topic: (Bullying, Substance Abuse, Threat Assessment, etc) Substance Abuse, Violence, Truancy

Audience: (Administrators, Counselors/Psychologists/Social Workers, Emergency Responders, Health Professionals/Nurses, Law Enforcement/SROs/Security, Parents, Teachers, Other School Personnel) Counselors/Psychologists/Social Workers, Health Professionals/Nurses, Law Enforcement/SROs/Security

Intended Age Group: (pre-K, elementary, middle, high, higher education) elementary, middle, high school

Cost: 0

Additional Comments: Colorado features prominently in this report. The Girls Study Group includes Dr. Del Elliott, Director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado. David Hulzinga, who is acknowledged at the conclusion of the report, is a senior research associate at the Institute of Behavioral Sciences at the University of Colorado. Two surveys comprise the bulk of resources for this report, one of which is the Denver Youth Survey.

