

JUVENILE

DELINQUENCY

A Sociological Approach

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Allyn and Bacon Boston · London · Sydney · Toronto To our mothers—Frances Bynum and Flora L. Thompson—and to the memory of our fathers—Jack E. Bynum, Sr. and Edwin N. Thompson—who through their precepts and examples helped us become the authors of this book and not the subjects.

Managing Editor: Mylan Jaixen Series editor: Karen Hanson

Production/editorial services: Editing, Design & Production, Inc.

Production administrator: Peter Petraitis

Text design: Editing, Design, & Publication, Inc.

Cover coordinator: Linda Dickinson Composition buyer: Linda Cox

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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Bynum, Jack E.

Juvenile delinquency: A sociological approach / Jack E. Bynum, William E. Thompson.

p. cm. Includes index. ISBN 0-205-11774-0

1. Juvenile delinquency—United States. I. Thompson, William E. (William Edwin), 1950– . II. Title.

HV9104.B9 1988 364.3'6'0973—dc19

88-19077

CIP

Printed in the United States of America
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 93 92 91 90 89 88

Photo Credits:

H. Armstrong Roberts xx, 7, 18, 42, 62, 98, 114, 176, 214, 238, 257, 281, 310, 327, 346, 375, 400, 418, 473 Zefa, 475

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COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY begins by looking at the nature of social groups and their impact upon individuals. It then proceeds to explore the influence of family, youth values, and peers on juvenile behavior. Part IV CONFRONTATION: SOCIETY AND THE JUVENILE DELINQUENT introduces the concept of social arena, and look at the three major social arenas in which the juvenile delinquent interacts: school, streets, and court. Part V CONTROL: STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, first describes the basic elements of social control which exist in virtually every society, before going on to detail specific strategies for the treatment and prevention of juvenile delinquency. It ends with a final chapter which reiterates the social nature of delinquency and challenges the reader to rethink the basic social issues related to juvenile delinquency as a social problem.

Each of the five parts is divided into three topically related chapters. Each chapter begins with a list of Reading Objectives for that particular unit of content. These alert the readers in advance to the specific learning expectations for that chapter so that they may identify, extrapolate, and integrate major concepts while proceeding through the chapter. The learning objectives are reemphasized at the end of the chapter through the use of Questions and Topics for Study and Discussion which are designed to help prepare students for examinations and to stimulate class discussion. Each chapter also includes a Concept Application which allows the student to identify and apply abstract concepts in some type of concrete example.

This book provides a basic sociological foundation for the study of juvenile delinquency. We encourage the reader to build upon this foundation.

While the authors assume final responsibility for the book, as with any other work of this magnitude, numerous people made significant contributions for which we are indebted. Special thanks go to Deanna Applegarth, Virginia Cunningham, Jan Fitzgerald, Jean Kay, Debi Lutke, Jean Ryan, and Vicki Thornton for their "behind the scenes" work. We also appreciate the support and encouragement received from our colleagues. We are indebted to the staff of Allyn and Bacon for their help and technical assistance, especially Bill Barke, Karen Hanson, and Alicia Reilly. We are very grateful for the insightful suggestions and comments from reviewers Benedict S. Alper at Boston College, Billy Hu at Central Missouri State University, and Robert M. Regoli at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Finally, our most heartfelt thanks and love go to Margaret Bynum, and Marilyn, Brandon, and Mica Thompson for their love, support, and encouragement throughout this entire project.

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