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# Impact Factors of Delinquent Behavior in Middle Adolescence: A Systematic Literature Review Study

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#### ABSTRACT

Middle adolescents are vulnerable to chaos because they are still in search of self-identity. Delinquent behavior is the result of an imperfect socialization process. Various factors can impact delinquent behavior in these middle adolescents. The purpose of writing this article is to review several research papers that suggest factors related to delinquent behavior of middle adolescents. The method used was to review 1636 articles that were selected according to keywords and the sample in this writing was 14 international articles. The type of research is both quantitative and qualitative, which was selected from the Google Scholar and Scopus database sources. The conclusion obtained in this paper is that parents, social environment and self-control need special attention in preventing delinquent behavior.

Keywords: Delinquent Behavior, Factors Impact, Middle Adolescents.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Delinquency is a form of behavior that deviates from the rules that apply in society can violate the law so that it can be subject to law by the authorities (Garvin, 2017). Kartono (2017) also said that delinquent behavior is juvenile delinquency which is a social pathological symptom caused by social neglect so that they develop deviant behavior. In addition, Bynum & Thompson (2017) provide an understanding that delinquent behavior is an illegal form of behavior where there is continuous delinquency and this behavior has been considered a very serious deviation by society. In addition, Hoffmann & Dufur (2018) said that there is an influence of social learning provided by the family on delinquent behavior by adolescents. This is supported by research conducted by Sumara et al. (2017) that parents must provide examples in the form of positive behavior because these will be carried by children to interact in their social environment. An increase in the problem of delinquent behavior occurs during adolescence in high school age which has disturbed society (Kamaluddin et al., 2016).

According to TUBIM (2020)the level of substance use among adolescents is known to be quite high, this is what causes delinquent behavior which causes neurological disorders, violence and even commits an act that causes death (Bilaç et al., 2014). The immature thinking of adolescents, unable to think about the consequences of the actions they take even though they can be characterized as crimes (Karatas, 2020). When adolescents become involved in criminal acts for any reason, it is referred to as delinquent behavior(Baysan Arabaci & Tas, 2017; World Youth Report, 2003). These adolescent problems will usually be referred as forensic cases to child and adolescent psychiatry treatment outpatient clinics for professional judgment (Ayaz et al., 2012).

According to Dou et al (2020) say that delinquent behavior is more likely to be carried out and increased by younger ages. Puberty occurs in adolescence ranging from 15 to 18 years, so at this time there are often symptoms called the "negative phase". Berk (2018)says adolescents aged 15 to 18 years are in a period of development from a biological and social perspective. This is supported by Susilawati (2016) who says at the age of 15 to 18 years there is a psychological impact of puberty, confusion to understand about good behavior and deviant behavior, where this can occur due to a lack of information on good behavior that adolescents have so that it can lead to deviant behavior. The majority of adolescents engage in premarital sexual behavior for the first time at the age of 15-18 years, namely the majority at the age of Senior High School (SMA) or other equivalent (Saputro&Soeharto, 2014). Previous research conducted (Saputro&Soeharto, 2014) on high school students aged 15 to 18 years which is based on the consideration that at this age a person is likely to be unstable so as to increase the frequency of delinquent behavior such as consuming illegal drugs, sexual activity at a young age, violating various school rules and norms in society.

The majority of juvenile delinquency occurs in adolescents under the age of 21, and the highest rate of juvenile delinquency is at the age of 15 to 18 years. At this age, adolescents are still in junior or senior high school. In other words, junior or senior high school students often deviate behavior both while at school and in the community (Kartono, 2017).

The characteristics of delinquent behavior possessed by adolescents are deviant behavior that tends to persist, cannot be silent, yells, makes noise in class, is against adults, disturbs the surroundings, bullying both physically, verbally and socially, damages property or public facilities (Hamat & Bakar, 2020; Hartati, 2018). In addition, according to Turgay (Hartati, 2018) there are several characteristics of delinquent adolescents, namely long-lasting behavior, rebellion, hostility towards people who have authority over them but do not engage in severe antisocial behavior. However, Turgay (Hamat & Bakar, 2020) also said that even if delinquent adolescents do not engage in severe antisocial behavior, they will still behave uncooperatively, rebelliously and aggressively towards adults.

There are four aspects of delinquency according to Jensen (Sarwono, 2016)namely delinquency that causes physical victims (fighting, rape, robbery and murder), delinquency that causes material victims (vandalism, theft, extortion), social delinquency that does not cause victims on the part of others (prostitution, drug abuse and free sex) delinquency against status (denying children's status as students by skipping class, running away from home and refusing orders). Bynum & Thompson (2017)state several factors that influence delinquent behavior, namely biological factors, and psychogenesis, sociogenesis. Biological factors can be seen through trait-carrying genes in offspring or combinations between genes, then through the inheritance of (abnormal) types of behavior that give rise to delinquent behavior, and through inheritance of physical weaknesses and can lead to delinquent behavior. Psychogenetic factors include personality traits such as psychopathic or sociopathic traits, poorly developed morals and adolescent identity crisis. While sociogenesis factors include social factors and the role of family, peers and the community environment.

Based on the results of the explanation above, there are various conditions faced by adolescents, so that they are involved in various delinquent behaviors. Delinquent behavior is a worrying problem and society's greatest fear of the younger generation. This is because delinquent behavior committed by adolescents causes the destruction of the future of adolescents, losses not only for themselves but also have an impact on their environment. Therefore, it is important to know the things that become risk factors for adolescent delinquent behavior in terms of the biology, psychology and social aspects of these adolescents.

### 2. Methods

This research uses a systematic literature review to process data and analyze the data obtained with the help of Pop (Publish or Perish) and Mendeley. Systematic Literature review is one of the data analysis techniques to determine a new conclusion from various kinds of data (Rother, 2007). The data contained in this study came from journals, theses and international publications from Scopus with the help of the Rayyan application to sort journals and theses

There are several processes in conducting a systematic review, namely planning a review (identifying benefits and developing), conducting a review (journal search, primary journal selection, assessing journal quality, data extraction and synthesis), and reporting. The planning of the review by the author begins with creating a research question using the systematic review question formulation, namely SPIDER (Sample, Phenomenon of Interest, Design, Evaluation, Research Type). The research question in this review is, what types of variables influence delinquent behavior. The author then determined the search terms and designed the search protocol. The author derived terms from the research question and expanded on the terms to create a comprehensive list of search words. The search words used were juvenile delinquency, adolescent delinquency, social delinquency, crime delinquency, delinquency behavior, adolescent, youth violence and senior high school.

The search words were used to search for articles in the Google scholar and Scopus databases. The next stage all journals were checked for duplication by the author using Rayyan. The author filters all journals that have passed the duplication check based on the title and abstract. Journals that have passed title and abstract screening are then analyzed based on the full version of the journal. After selection from 1636 journals found, 14 journals were obtained that discussed the influence of delinquent behavior on middle adolescents. The author determines the limitations in this review, namely: (1) the journal discusses what influences delinquent behavior (2) the subjects are middle adolescents, (3) quantitative and qualitative research types (4) English language journals, and (5) the research was conducted from 2014 to 2024. Journals that were not included in the criteria were: (1) Indonesian language journals, (2) articles with the type of reports, books and research whose methods are not clearly described.

#### 2.1 Search and Screening

During this literature search, 1636 articles were identified from Scopus (n=580) and Google Scholar (n=1056). The citations were entered into a review management program, and 80 duplicates were removed. A total of 191 articles were found for full-text testing after the initial screening stage. The final result was 14 articles selected for review analysis. Figure 1 describes the study selection procedure using the Prisma Graph.

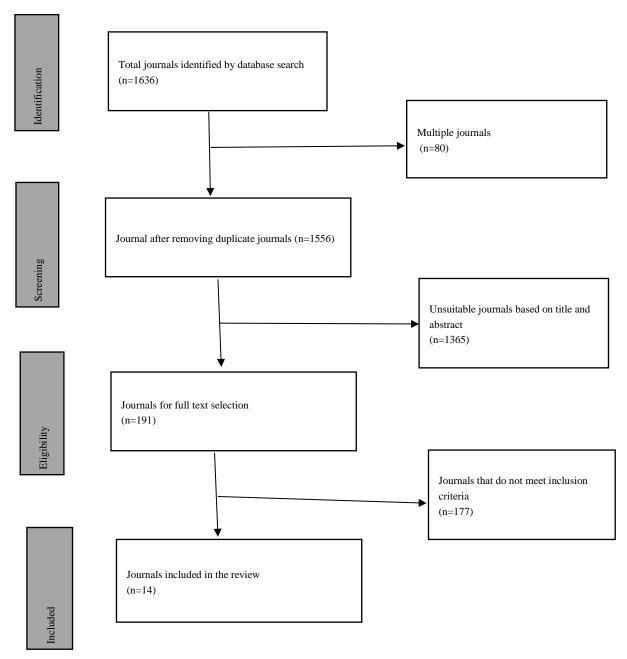


Figure 1. PRISMA Graph for Journal Selection Flow

# 3. Results

## 3.1 Demographic Characteristic of Studies

There are 14 studies included in this literature review, where the studies were published based on different geographical regions, namely: Africa (Kago, 2018), Hong Kong and China (Bao et al., 2015; Chan, 2021; Zhu & Shek, 2021), Norman Oklahoma United States (Pittman, 2019), California (Carter, 2019), Croatia(Vrselja et al., 2018), Turkey (Solakoglu& Yuksek, 2019), Morocco (Zouini et al., 2019), Canada (Rouvès& Poulin, 2014), Colombia (Shanti & Gryselda, 2021), Auburn United States (Hinnant & Forman-Alberti, 2019), Europe (Huijsmans et al., 2019), Norway (Seglem et al., 2015). Then, the subjects contained in the research in this literature review are at an average age of 12 to 19 years.

# 4. Discussion

Some of the factors that influence the formation of delinquent behavior in adolescents from 2014 to 2024 are the role of father's involvement in parenting, parental behavior control in parenting, sociodemographics, peer rejection, unemployment, school involvement, the influence of problematic peers, the role of parents, criminal experience, problematic parents, low SES, dating relationships with the opposite sex, parental monitoring, self-control, genetics

and the environment. Research conducted(Kago, 2018)concluded that father accessibility affects delinquent behavior. Some of them do not have a father figure and in some cases, the presence of a father is no longer present in most cases of children aged six months. Most children do not have the opportunity to live with their fathers until the age of five. Some children involved in delinquent behavior were found to have no father figure. (Zhu & Shek, 2021) there is a parallel development between parental behavioral control and child delinquent behavior and describes the reciprocal influence

between paternal behavioral control and juvenile delinquency. Pittman (2019) says in conclusion, it seems that overt and relational aggression, as well as peer rejection, do have their own role in negative life course outcomes. It is often the case that overt aggression is found to lead to persistent problems and ultimately criminal behavior, as found here.

Carter (2019)says that the findings from this study point to many types of situational engagement through which the long-term negative consequences of adolescents' risky employment choices can be attenuated or reinforced. More specifically, research (Vrselja et al., 2018) shows that poor parenting/supervision, as well as more deviant peer associations, are associated with delinquency among both male and female adolescents. For both male and female adolescents, deviant peer associations mediated the relationship between poor monitoring/supervision and delinquent behavior. Research by Chan (2021)suggests that adolescents in general are often reported to engage in various types of problematic (or at-risk) delinquent behaviors and activities. This research is important not only in terms of its contribution to the body of knowledge on juvenile delinquency, but also specifically for the advancement of such knowledge through the under-researched population of Hong Kong adolescents.

Solakoglu& Yuksek (2019)This suggests that living with an arrangement other than two parents may not explain the probability of being involved in delinquency in Turkey, due to a more collectivist culture. Instead of nuclear families that only include parents, the focus is on families in Turkey that include relatives, such as uncles and aunts, grandparents, and parents who help single mothers or single fathers to increase social control over adolescents and provide more care. Then the study (Zouini et al., 2019) said that adolescents who have experiences of physical abuse tend to have high levels of delinquent behavior. In addition, this study also said that adolescent boys have delinquent behavior that tends to be higher than girls.

Research by Bao et al (2015)on adolescents in China, showed that low SES is one of the factors that influence the occurrence of delinquent behavior in adolescents. Adolescents classified as low SES have higher delinquent behavior scores than other SES groups. The difference in SES results in cultural differences at each level which also causes levels of delinquent behavior. In addition, research(Rouvès& Poulin, 2014) shows that adolescents who have romantic relationships with the opposite sex have high levels of alcohol use. The longer the relationship is established, the higher the level of alcohol use, this is because when they meet and gather, the desire to engage in delinquent behavior arises, namely using alcohol so that it can hinder the development of these adolescents.

Research (Dittus et al., 2023) states the factor of monitoring by parents to reduce the potential for delinquent behavior. Parents who do not monitor and know the daily activities carried out by their children are more likely to cause delinquent behavior in adolescents. In addition, this study says parental supervision is more prevalent in adolescent girls than boys. This is because adolescents need support and guidance to make decisions to be able to behave well and correctly. Research (Hinnant & Forman-Alberti, 2019) found problematic peer factors and self-control in the act of delinquent behavior. Often, a problematic peer environment leads to a lack of self-control in the adolescent, resulting in delinquent behavior.

In addition, in this study it is also said that cognitive factors are negatively related to delinquent behavior. The better cognitive the teenager has, the more able the teenager is to control, plan and make decisions for every action he takes. This is also said in research (Huijsmans et al., 2019) that self-control is a strong predictor for adolescents to commit delinquent behavior. Furthermore, research conducted by (Seglem et al., 2015) that there are impulsivity factors from genetic and environmental factors that support the formation of delinquent behavior. In this study, impulsivity is strongly related to delinquent behavior, this is due to behavior that cannot be controlled by a person. Then environmental factors are also the biggest influence in delinquent behavior committed by a person.

List of journals that contain factors influencing Middle Adolescent Delinquent Behavior

No	Authors	Title	Country	Sample	Outcome
1	Moffat M Kago (2018)	Relationship between Paternal Involvement and Adolescent Delinquency: A Cace of IncarceratedI Juveniles in Nairobi Country, Kenya	Africa,Kenya	Adolescents aged 12 to18 years in Nairobi Country correctional institutions	There are three factors that influence delinquent behavior in adolescents: father's accessibility involvement (presence or absence of father) and father's parenting style.
2	Xiaoqin dan Daniel (2021)	Parental Control and Adolescent Delinquency Based on Parallel Process Latent Growth Curve Modeling	Hongkong, China	A sample of 3973 adolescents in China who were in high school.	the impact of parental behavioral control on the formation of delinquent behavior in children.
3	Lindsey (2019)	Peer Relations and Aggression: Precursors to	Amerika Serikat,	A population of 569 students in grades	Sociodemographic influences and peer rejection play a role in

		Adolescent Delinquency and Risk-Taking Behavior	Norman, Oklahoma	10, 11 and 12 in the Northeast.	influencing problem behaviors in adolescents.
4	Angela (2018)	The Consequences of Adolescent Delinquent Behavior for Adult	California	16 yearold teenager	Joblessness is one of the things that affect juvenile delinquency
		Employment Outcomes			
5	Vrselja et al. (2018)	The Effects of Ecological Family Disadvantage on Male and Female Adolescent Delinquency	Zagreb, Kroasia	Adolescent boys aged 15-17 years old who are in senior high school grades 1 to 3	Positive activities for children provided by parents, this can provide a positive socialization influence and thus reduce maladaptive behavior patterns, including delinquency.
6	Chan (2019)	Violent Offending, Nonviolent Offending, and General Delinquency: Exploring the Criminogenic Risk Factors of Hong Kong Male and Female Adolescents	Hongkong	A sample of 892 adolescents aged 13 to 18 years old who were in high school in Hong Kong	the impact of deviant peers tends to have an overwhelming influence on the formation of delinquent behavior.
7	Solakoglu dan Yuksek (2019)	Delinquency Among Turkish Adolescents: Testing Akers' Social Structure and Social Learning Theory	Turky	High school teens in Turky	The role of parents is very influential on adolescent behavior, where adolescents will behave criminal and deviant due to a weak family role.
8	BtissameZouini et al. (2019)	Self-reported aggressive and antisocial behaviors in Moroccan high school students	Maroko	375 high school students in Morocco	The factor of abuse experience and problematic parental factors (alcoho use) that adolescents have become factors that influence delinquent behavior and antisocial attitudes in adolescents.
9	Wan-Ning Bao et al. (2015)	Life Strain, Social Control, Social Learning, and Delinquency: The Effects of Gender, Age, and Family SES Among Chinese Adolescents	China	Chinese teenagers aged 13 to18	The research found that low SES and problematic peer selection are factors of juvenile delinquency in China.
10	Ve 'roniqueRouve's dan Franc ois Poulin (2016)	Romantic involvement and alcohol use in middle and late adolescence	Kanada	Teenagers aged 16 to 20	Adolescents who have a romantic relationship with the other sex and are dating have a high involvement in deviant behavior (such as alcohol use), the longer they date the higher the level of alcohol use.

11	Patricia J. Dittus, PhD et al. (2023)	Parental Monitoring and Risk Behaviors and Experiences Among High School Students — Youth Risk Behavior Survey, United States, 2021	Kolombia	Students in grades 10 to 12	The factor of parental monitoring of adolescents is one of the causes of delinquent behavior.
12	J. Benjamin Hinnant dan Alissa B Forman-Alberti (2018)	Deviant Peer Behavior and Adolescent Delinquency: Protective Effects of Inhibitory Control, Planning, or Decision Making?	Auburn, Alabama, Amerika Serikat	15year-old teenager	Delinquent behavior is influenced by cognitive factors, peer factors and self-control of the teenager.
13	Twan Huijsmans et al. (2019)	Social influences, peer delinquency, and low self- control: An examination of time-varying and reciprocal effects on delinquency over adolescence	Eropa	Adolescents aged 13 to 17	Self-control factors are strong predictors of delinquent behavior in adolescence.
14	Karoline B. Seglem (2014)	Weak etiologic links between control and the externalizing behaviors delinquency and substance abuse in adolescence	Norwegia	Adolescent twin boys and girls aged 15 to18 years old	The impact of impulsivity from genetic and environmental factors is a contributing factor to delinquent behavior in adolescents.

#### 5. Conclusions

This research shows that parental or family factors are the most frequently stated factors in the involvement of adolescents in delinquent behavior compared to other factors. However, all factors are interrelated between one another. Today's teenagers need to have a solid identity so that they can control themselves from getting caught up in delinquent behavior. Measures that need to be given attention to adolescents can be wise in making decisions and always choosing to be in a good and positive environment. This is because, if a teenager is in a good environment or 'circle' then it will help the teenager to be more encouraged and inclined to do good things and at the same time also train the teenager in a positive attitude. In addition, parents and families are advised to take on the role of providing care and affection for each other, such as spending time with family and children in their spare time doing meaningful activities. This is very important in the process of building closer relationships with family and adolescents themselves. Conversely, adolescents who are ignored or excluded by their parents and families can contribute to the formation of delinquent behavior among adolescents.

Furthermore, there is a self-control factor in adolescents. Teenagers who have low self-control tend to want to achieve something easily and quickly. However, these adolescents do not have cognitive skills and are only looking for sensations, while adolescents who have high self-control tend to be careful and will think in doing something. In this case, self-control in making choices will function well with the existence of an opportunity, freedom or possibility for adolescents to choose various possible actions.

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