

CHAPTER VIII

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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Family

Size of the Family

Overcrowding in the Home

Cohesiveness in the Family

Broken Families

Social and Group Living in the
Family

Provision for Recreation in the Home

Discipline in the Family

Neighbourhood

FAMILY

The family is the basic primary group and the most essential unit of society. In it lies the tremendous forces which determine the behaviour of the children. The position of the family group is unique. In India the family is the focus of all virtues and activities. In our country family life is definitely structured and uniform. It is the foundation of the Indian social and economic structure. It is the foremost effective means of social control as well as the most potent instrument for developing social attitudes. (18). It is the first institution of learning that can make or mar the child's - personality (40). Here that child receives first rewards and punishment, success and frustrations. In the family the child gradually becomes a social being, learning self control, shaping the personality - characteristics and acquiring habits and attitudes

that are exemplified or purified by the parents. The home as the centre of family life is largely founded upon it. The home is generally regarded as one of the most influential institutions in child training, in providing affection and love, and in meeting other basic needs. Undoubtedly the family remains the important factor of influence in shaping the personality and behaviour of every individual. It draws the first impression on the clean slate of the newborn's unformed habits and unshaped attitudes. It contributes the frame work to the personality structure. Consequently, it has the highest opportunity to provide every kind of possibility to form desired personality of its own members. No doubt, the value of family life rests to certain extent upon the unity of purpose and harmony between its members. The family life covers the whole personality of the child. The functions of the family life are summarised by Prof. Neumeyer Martin [H. (32)]⁽³⁾ in the following words:- "The basic functions of family are those of reproduction and physical care of children; the informal education and training of these children, including the transmission of culture, especially moral and religious ideals and standards,

and practical knowledge; the provision of opportunities for affection, fellowship, and development of socialised personalities; the exercising of control and protection; and the economic functions of making a living and supplying the basic necessities of life. It is also a status-fixing and status-maintaining institution, giving the individual members a sense of worth and importance."

Family life plays the valuable role in the child's life. The loosening of the family ties is a predisposing cause of crime and vice. In the family where the emotional relationship between the parents and child is tenuous or exaggerated, the possible injuries to the personality are manifold (3). If it fails in performing its function, it is likely to be the most potent social force in producing antisocial tendencies and forms of behaviour. If the discord and disharmony are created in family, the even growth of healthy personality is likely to be ^{disrupted} ~~disturbed~~. Imperfect family life produces an imperfect child which may turn out in a later life a delinquent. Tensions in the family, marital discords between the parents, conflicting authorities and other emotional conditions which vastly thwart the child's needs for affectional security

and growing independence, are the breeding ground for delinquency. The extent of family dis-organization in the homes of delinquents has led some (32) to believe that the real delinquents are the parents, not their children. Technically and legally, of course, a child is always a delinquent, but morally, socially and causally it is the adult who had failed (6). Environmental pressures can either guide the adequate growth of personality or they can thwart or confuse it. To understand the child one must have to know his family, not because it surrounds him, but because the lives of its members germinate colour and shape his life. Every kind of evil flows from poisoned family life, while every good grows from pure and crystallised family life.

To quote the words of Professor Teeters and other (44)^c:

" The significance of the well-integrated and socially mature home cannot be denied. But the ideal home is very rare in these confused days when the stresses and strains of modern life make it extremely difficult to attain peace of mind. Of course, all confused homes do not produce delinquents, but neither are they especially healthful places in which to rear children".

A good home is one in which family life is well-balanced, in which each member contributes his possible share to the family as a whole. The home is the first and best effective, training ~~x~~ ground in social co-operation. Often the home is regarded as a shelter or hotel; the father is occupied in his work for the whole day and simply comes to look upon the home as a place which gives him food and comforts in return for payment towards its maintenance. The mother, if she is not engaged in remunerative work herself, may come to regard the home as her workshop and children as they grow older, may come to treat their home merely as a base for outside activities. A home of this kind has no influence and hold over the inmates, because it does not bind its members together. It has no moral spiritual unity. Indeed ~~a~~ community life would be better than such a family, because it would at least know its deficiencies and try to make up for these by direct teaching. When a member of family develops criminal behaviour, it becomes the necessity for others to check it and if possible to ascertain and remove the cause. While discussing about the roots of crime, Prof. Alexander Franz and William Healy (2) say:

"There are certain definable character trends and psychological factors which make the individual more susceptible to influences of the environment in the direction of criminality. These character trends develop chiefly under the influences of first environment of the child - namely the the family, especially of course, the child-parent relationship. In the first place, it is necessary to differentiate the close family environment (child-parents and sibling relationship) from the social environment in the broader sense, which begins to exert its influence in a later period of the individual's development- namely, namely after the child comes in closer contact with persons other than the members of his family".

It is also evident that our unfavourable home situations make easier for the young individuals to indulge in emotional conflicts which crop up in the family life as a reaction against the social order. Consequent to such conflicts there accumulated frustrations and hostilities of every sort, which result in anti-social behaviour. Like individual, family group has also a fundamental need for security, for stability of its own relationships. It is rightly said by Professor Sullenger Thomas Earl(32) in this connection:

"Unhappy or abnormal home life is a paramount cause for young peoples leaving homes; where family ties are broken or where there are step parents, or where there is financial trouble, the youth endeavours to remedy the situation by setting out in search of a change. There general psychology seems to be that they feel that they are unwanted or a burden to their families".

Further he says:-

"A child is very much like a young tree. If the tree has a good soil, plenty of sunlight, fresh air and moisture and is not crowded, it grows straight and natural. If it becomes up in or is transplanted to poor soil, where the sun never warms it and it is crowded, it grows crooked, stunted and unhealthy. Crowded conditions in the homes and neighbourhoods react in the same general way upon the child.....
We found many delinquents poorly nourished, crowded into shacks, the floor being the only bed for the children".

Thus, good family life with mutual trust between the parents, happy family relations between the parents, a controllable size without overcrowdedness, equal opportunities to all for realising their potentialities, well balanced treatment for the children, cohesiveness in the family rare family strifes and conflicts, emotional security of love and affection, unity of purpose between the members of the family, provision of opportunities for enough recognition, worth and

importance of each family member for the healthy development of personality healthy environment and neighbored, these are extremely necessary factors for the adequate growth of the inmates in the family. Each of these is in one form or the other has been discussed in the following lines.

SIZE OF THE FAMILY

Much difference of opinion is prevailing regarding the significant relationship between the size of the family and delinquency. Professors Reckless and Smith(35)^c say -

"Size of the family seems also to be related to delinquency that is, more delinquents rather than non-delinquents are from larger families"

Prof. Nye F. Ivan (33)^a says -

"Less delinquency was found in..... small families....."

Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck(39)^d have found no significant relationship between size of the family and delinquency when they say -

"There is, however, no significant difference in the size of the households of which the delinquents and non-delinquents are a part".

Information gathered on size of the families of subjects in this study however reveals no significant

TABLE NO. 55

Size of the Family γ

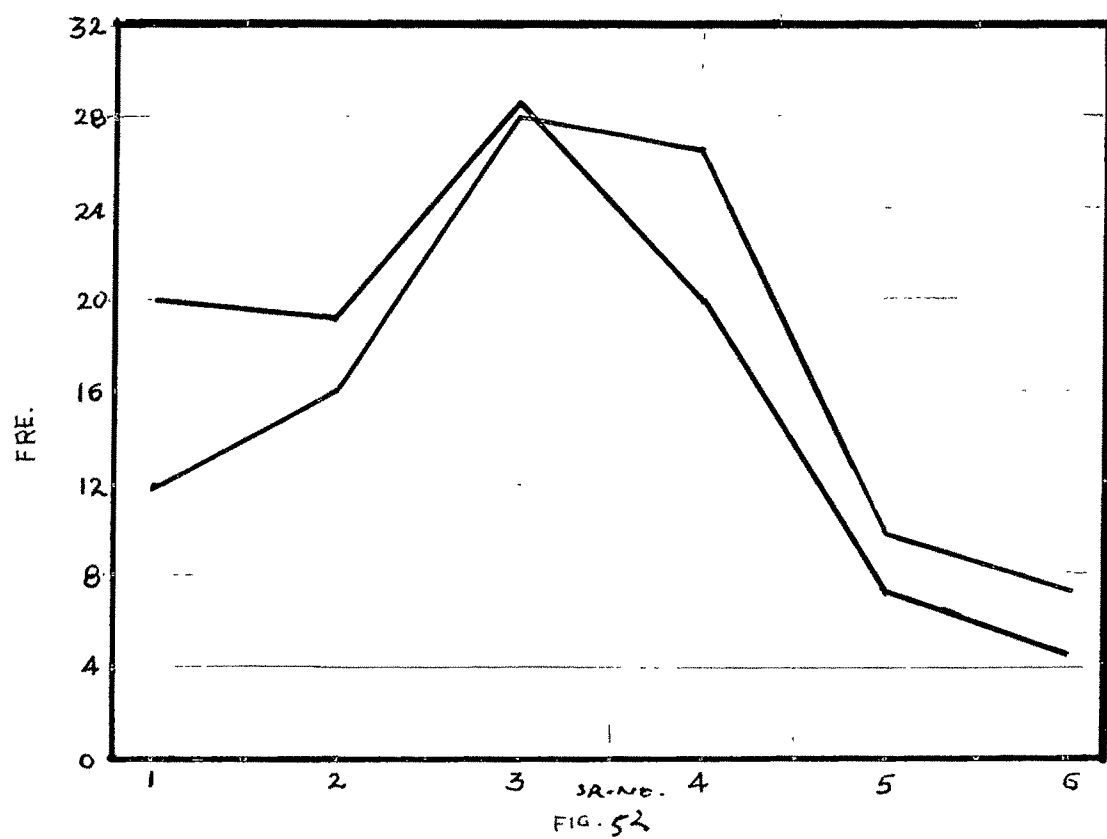
Sr. No.	Description	Delinquents		Non-delinquents	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	2 - 3	30	20.0	18	12.0
2.	4 - 5	29	19.3	24	16.0
3.	6 - 7	43	28.7	42	28.0
4.	8 - 9	30	20.0	40	20.7
5.	10 - 11	11	7.3	15	10.0
6.	12 or More	7	4.7	11	7.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 6.52^{*}$$

$$p < 0.05$$

Non-significant

SIZE OF THE FAMILY.



— DEL.

- - - NON-DEL.

relationship between delinquency and the size of the family. The data in this investigation as represented in table no. 55 and illustrated by the graph in figure 52) are quite unique or may be revealing the normal picture as it is obtained under conditions of family structure in India. Delinquency is not significantly related to the size of the family; However, there is some trend of relation, but the direction of relation is not so easy to trace. The non-delinquents are almost distributed normally in the families whose size varies from two to twelve or more, i.e. as expected normal population comes from families of all size with a normal distribution and it is satisfying that our data come from the truly representative sample. However, delinquents are not normally distributed with the size of the family. As the data in table no. 55 show, most of the delinquents belonged to family with size up to seven in an increasing order and henceforth the frequency decreases. In families of size upto three children, there were 20. % delinquents, in size of five 19.3 %, in size of seven 28.7 %; upto nine 20.0 %; upto eleven 7.3 % and in size of twelve

or more 4.7 %. The similar figures for non-delinquents are 12.0 %, 16.0 %, 28.0 %, 26.7 %, 10.0 % and 3.3 % respectively.

The frequency in non-delinquent group went on increasing in the first part of the family curve, and then decreasing forming nearly a normal curve. The first part of the curve for delinquents resembled that for non-delinquents, but the later drop in case of delinquent was little sudden and for non-delinquents the drop resembled the earlier rise. Earlier heavy resemblance and later slight difference in trends accounted for overall lack of relation between size of family and delinquency, though it may be casually said that less delinquents are found in much bigger families.

OVER-CROWDING IN THE HOME

Like size of the family pertaining to the number of members in the family, similar another factor is the over-crowding which pertains to number of individuals per room per family, the housing space and facilities in the family. As regards the definition of 'overcrowding' more than two individuals per room were considered as a case of overcrowding in the home. For the purpose of overcrowding even children were regarded as adults. Most of workers in the field have found delinquency highly related with overcrowding in the home. So far as the present investigation is concerned, no such relation has been observed. It was expected that the two groups being matched on economic level would not show any significant differences in housing facilities enjoyed and other outcomes following. In line with this expectation there were no significant differences between the two groups in enjoying several housing facilities. In a few other respects shown later, there was some differences inspite

of equal economic status, perhaps because possessing equal economic status did not necessarily mean making equal use of the money had. Mostly, however, as expected there was a lack of significant difference. This lack of difference might be due to the equal economic status of the family in both the groups that were matched on this variable. The sampling and the design were such that the economic position of both the groups was the same because it was aimed to search into factors associated delinquency irrespective of the economic condition which usually has been observed the dominating factor obscuring others. Under these conditions of equal economic facilities, it is likely that the two groups might not differ also in other conditions following from economic status. It is thus likely that home facilities of inconveniences of space would be the same and delinquency would not show any relation to overcrowding in the home.

From Table No. 56 it becomes evident that in delinquent group more than seven in ten (70.7 %) were coming from families having overcrowding^{was} in the home and more than two and one half in ten (29.3 %) were coming from families having sufficient space in the home; similarly in case of non-delinquent group

TABLE NO. 56

Over-crowding in the Home

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Yes	106	70.7	98	65.3
2.	No	44	29.3	52	34.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 98$$

$$P < .90$$

OVER CROWDING IN THE HOME

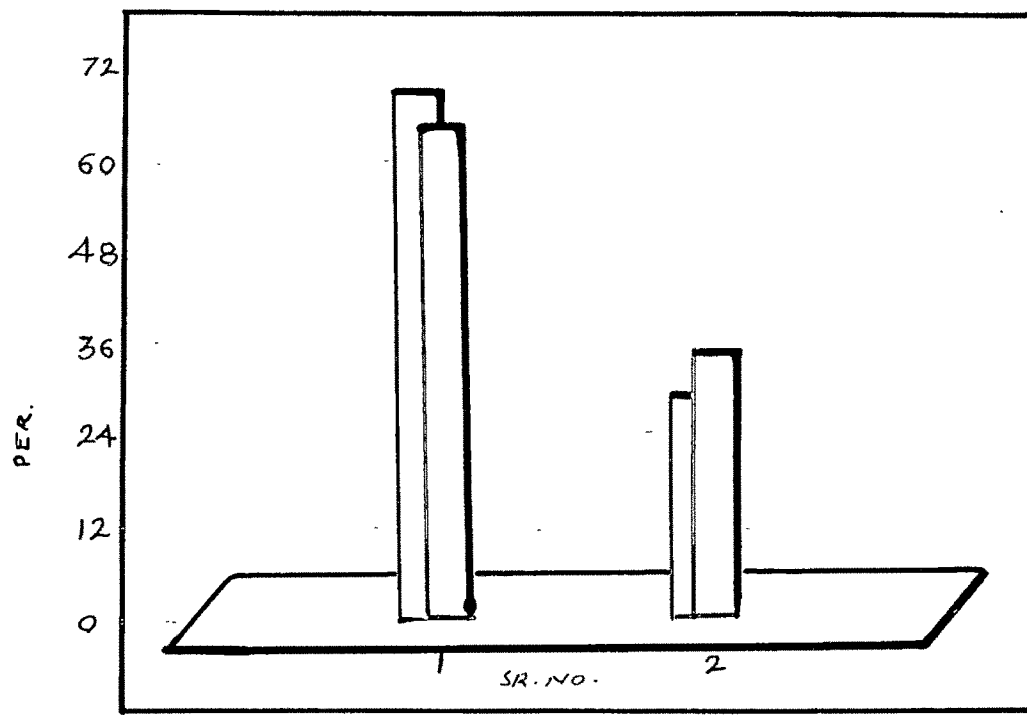


FIG. 53

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

more than six and one half in ten (65.3 %) were coming from families having overcrowdedness in the home and more than three in ten (34.7 %) were coming from families having sufficient space in the home. These are not statistically significant differences and hence overcrowdedness in the present case is not associated with delinquency.

However, scholars like Cyril Burt (5) and Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) found overcrowding in the home as a major cause of delinquency. In the present investigation, either because of controlling economic status or perhaps because of people being habituated to crowded living in a thickly populated, poor country like ours, the overcrowding does not seem to be related to delinquency.

Number of Rooms :

Overcrowding above means more number of individuals per room. Another aspect of overcrowding results from lesser number of rooms per family in the houses inhabited. This can be termed as overcrowdedness. Information on this was also gathered and both the groups differed in this respect. Table No. 57 shows

TABLE NO. 57

Number of Rooms
over crowdedness

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	One Room	71	47.3	29	19.3
2.	Two Rooms	48	32.0	31	20.7
3.	Three Rooms	20	13.3	30	20.0
4.	Four Rooms	9	6.0	25	16.7
5.	Five or More Rooms	2	1.4	35	23.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 60.26$$

$$p < .01$$

NUMBER OF ROOMS.

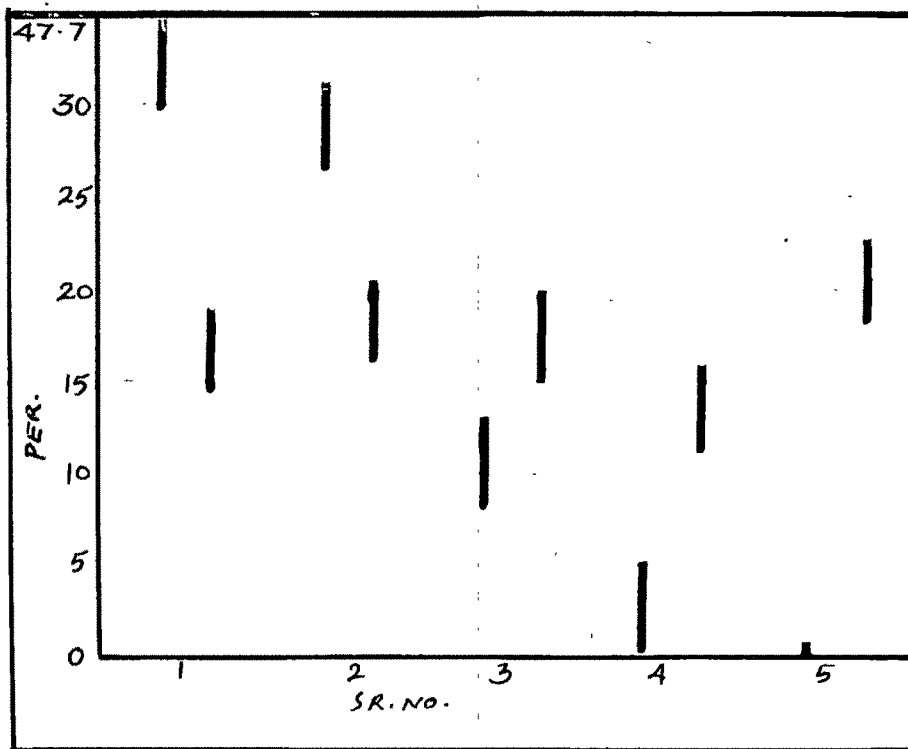


FIG. 54

— DEZ.

— NON-DEZ.

that higher number of families of non-delinquent group were living in houses having five or more rooms (23.3 % vs. 1.4 %); similarly more families were living in a house having four rooms (16.7 % vs. 6.0 %) and so also more families were living in houses having three rooms (20.0 % vs. 13.3 %), in comparison to housing facilities of delinquent group. However, below three rooms, higher number of families among the delinquent group were living in a house having only one room (47.3 % vs. 19.3 %), and also more families were living in houses having two rooms (32.0 % vs. 20.7 %) in comparison to housing facilities of non-delinquent group. It could be seen that houses inhabited by majority of delinquents had one or two rooms, while majority of non-delinquents lived in houses with rooms ranging from three to five and more. These differences were statistically significant, though overcrowding in terms of room as discussed earlier was not related to delinquency.

Number of Families Dwelling
in the same Building :

Still another aspect of overcrowdedness would be the total number of individual families that would live

together in the same building. Information regarding the number of families (including their own family) dwelling in the same building of both the groups was also obtained. It is observed from the Table No. 58 that more than three in ten (33.4 %) families among the delinquent group were living in the houses where one or two families were dwelling; more than one in ten (13.3 %) were living where there were three or four families; less than one in ten (7.3 %) were living where five or six families were dwelling; only two (1.3 %) families on the whole were living where seven or eight families were dwelling; while more than four in ten (44.7 %) were living where nine or more families were dwelling. In case of non-delinquent group, seven in ten (70.0 %) families were living in the houses where one or two families were living in the houses where one or two families were dwelling; more than one in ten (13.4 %) families were living where three or four families were dwelling; only five (3.3 %) families were living where five to six families were dwelling; and three (2.0 %) where seven to eight families were dwelling; and more than one in ten (11.3 %) were living where nine or more families were dwelling. Comparatively, higher number of families among the delinquent group

TABLE NO. 54

Number of Families Dwelling in the same Building

Over crowdedness

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	1 - 2	50	23.4	105	76.0
2.	3 - 4	20	13.3	20	13.3
3.	5 - 6	11	7.3	5	3.3
4.	7 - 8	2	1.3	3	2.0
5.	9 or More	67	44.7	17	11.4
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 51.72$$

$$P < .01$$

NUMBER OF FAMILIES DWELLING IN THE SAME BUILDING.

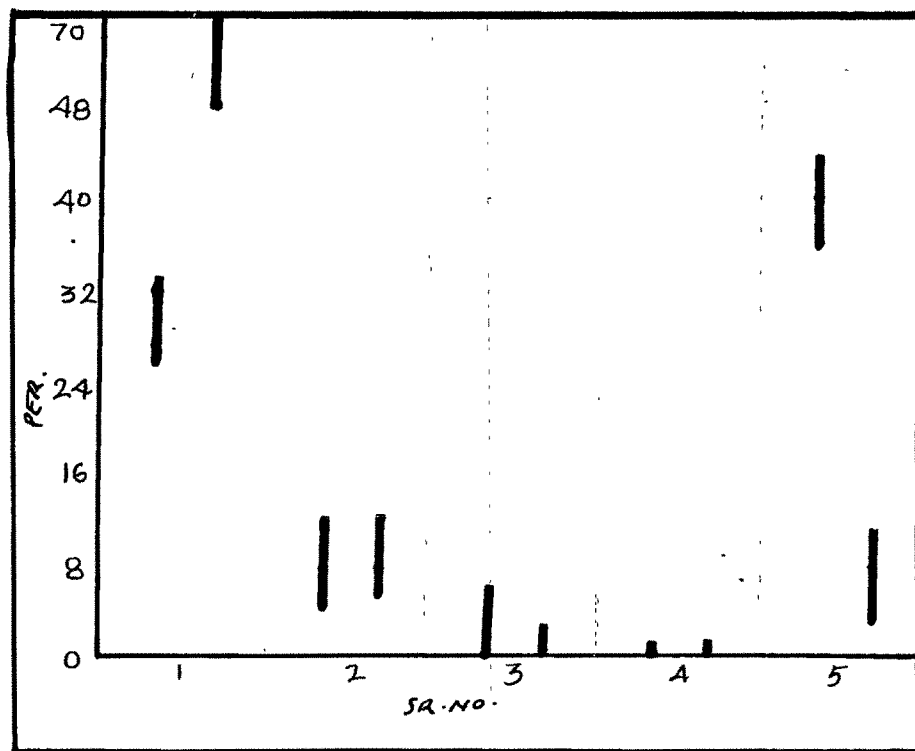


FIG. 45

— DEZ.

— NON-DEZ.

(44.7 %) were living in houses where nine or more than nine families were dwelling, in contrast to the non-delinquent group most of whom (70.0 %) lived in homes where only one or two families in all stayed. These differences were also statistically significant. In short, delinquency was not related to overcrowding in the first sense, viz., greater number of individuals per room, but overcrowdedness in sense of lesser number of rooms per family or higher number of families co-staying, was significantly associated with delinquency. It is likely that greater number of individuals per room might not be truly the overcrowdedness; it is merely overcrowding which is encouraging rather than detrimental to normal growth. However, truly harmful is the overcrowdedness resulting from lesser rooms in the house and more families staying together.

The Type of House :

By the by, it was thought to study whether the subjects were living in owned houses, rented houses or in institutional houses. Information regarding the type of house in which the families of both the groups were living was also obtained. It is observed from the Table No. 59 that more than three in ten (33.3 %)

TABLE NO. 59

Type of House

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Own	50	33.3	37	24.7
2.	Institutional	13	8.7	12	8.0
3.	Rental	87	58.0	101	67.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 3.02$$

$$P < 0.30$$

TYPE OF HOUSE .

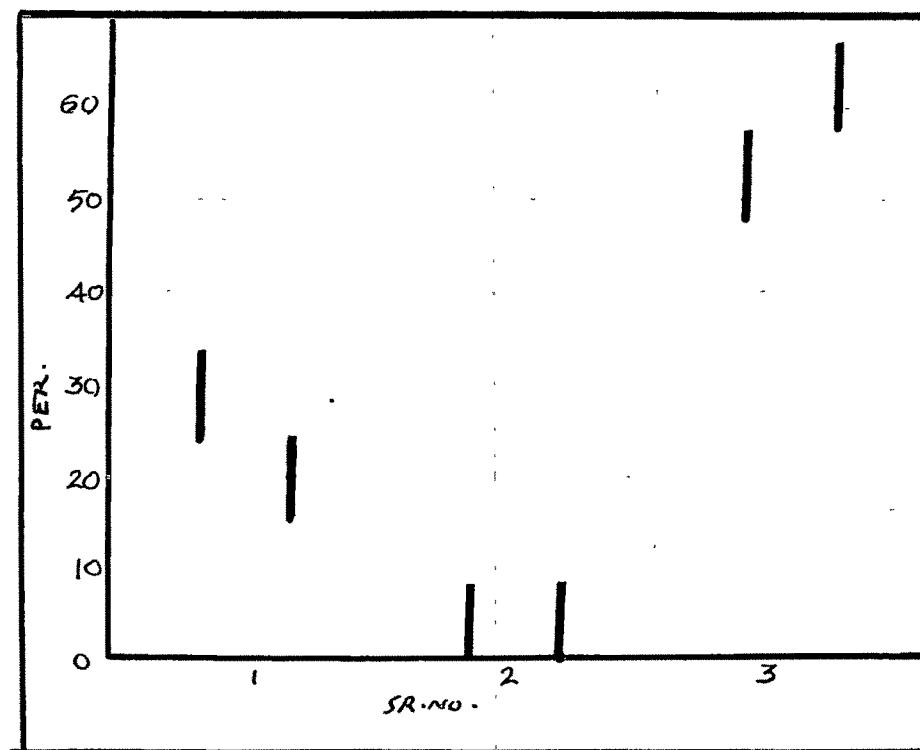


FIG. 58

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

families of the delinquent group has their own houses, less than one in ten (8.7 %) had houses provided by the institution or the employer, and more than five in ten (58.0 %) has rented houses; while more than two in ten (24.7 %) families among the non-delinquent group has their own houses, less than one in ten (8.0 %) had houses provided by the institution or by the employer, and more than six in ten (67.3 %) had rented houses. However, these differences were not significant and this can be accounted for by same economic status, as discussed earlier. It was also found that though higher number of families among the delinquent group had own houses in comparison to the non-delinquent group (33.3 % vs. 24.7 %), the houses owned by delinquent group were like huts.

Rent per Month in Rupees :

Next, Table No. 6a supplies information on rent paid per month by families in each group. It is interesting and instructive to note that though both were economically on same level, they differed significantly in amount of rent paid. Equal earning did not mean equal spending or equal enjoyment and recreation. The poor homes inhabited by delinquents

might thus be contributing to the likelihood of getting delinquents.

It is observed from Table No. 60 that more than two in ten (24.0 %) families among the delinquent group were paying monthly rent between Rs. 1 to 5; more than one and one half in ten (16.7 %) were paying between Rs. 6 to 10; less than one in ten (8.0 %) were paying between Rs. 11 to 15; less than one half in ten (2.0 %) were paying between Rs. 16 to 20 and Rs. 21 to 25; one half in ten (5.3 %) were paying Rs. 26 or more; and more than four in ten (42.0 %) were either living in their own houses or in those which were provided by the institution or the employer. In contrast to this, one in ten (10.0 %) families among the non-delinquent group paid monthly rent between Rs. 1 to 5; more than one half in ten (6.7 %) paid rent between Rs. 6 to 10; one half in ten (5.3 %) paid rent between Rs. 11 to 15; one in ten (11.3 %) paid rent between Rs. 16 to 20; more than one in ten (14.0 %) paid rent between Rs. 21 to 25; two in ten (20.0 %) paid as rent Rs. 25 or more, and more than three in ten (32.7 %) had not to pay any rent, the houses mostly being owned by them or being provided by the institution or employer. These differences were statistically significant; the delinquent

TABLE NO. 66

Rent paid per month.

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
	Rupees				
1.	1 - 5	36	24.0	15	10.0
2.	6 - 10	25	16.7	10	6.7
3.	11 - 15	12	8.0	8	5.3
4.	16 - 20	3	2.0	17	11.3
5.	21 - 25	3	2.0	21	14.0
6.	26 - onward	8	5.3	30	20.0
7.	No Rent	63	42.0	49	32.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 12.64 \quad p < .01$$

RENT PER MONTH.

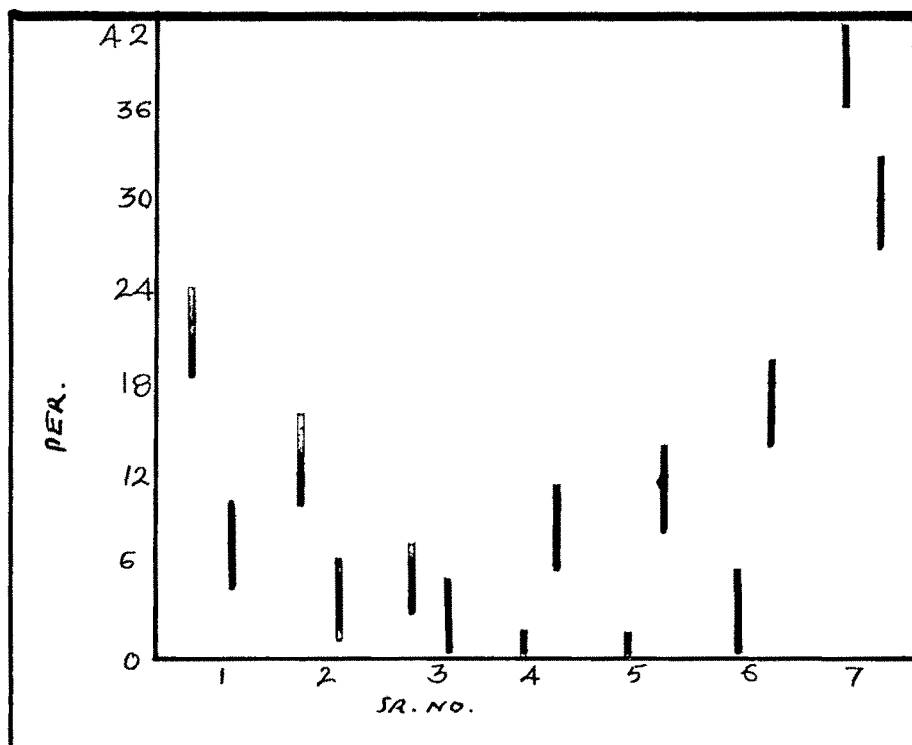


FIG. 57

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

group paid less; the non-delinquent group paid comparatively more and enjoyed facilities of housing.

Change of Residence :

Finally and incidentally, information was also collected on how unstable each group was with respect to length of staying or changing houses. Thus, Table No. 61 shows that casually a higher number of families among the non-delinquent group never changed their residence (90.0 % vs. 86.6 %); while higher number of families of the delinquent group changed their residence occasionally, i.e. about once in five years (6.7 % vs. 8.3 %) and equal number of families in both the groups changed their residence often (6.7 % vs. 6.7 %). It was expected that instability reflected in changing houses might mean lack of cordial relations with neighbourhood. However, it was observed that those families who were changing their residence on and off were serving in government departments. So with their transfer they had to change their residence. Under these circumstances, change of houses should not be taken as any sort of criterion associated with lack of cordial relations or adjustment and hence with delinquency; more or less it was normality. Moreover, the incidental differences obtained were also not significant.

TABLE NO.61

Change of Residence

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Often	10	6.7	10	6.7
2.	Occasional	10	6.7	5	3.3
3.	Never	130	86.6	135	90.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 1.76$$

$$P < 0.95$$

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE

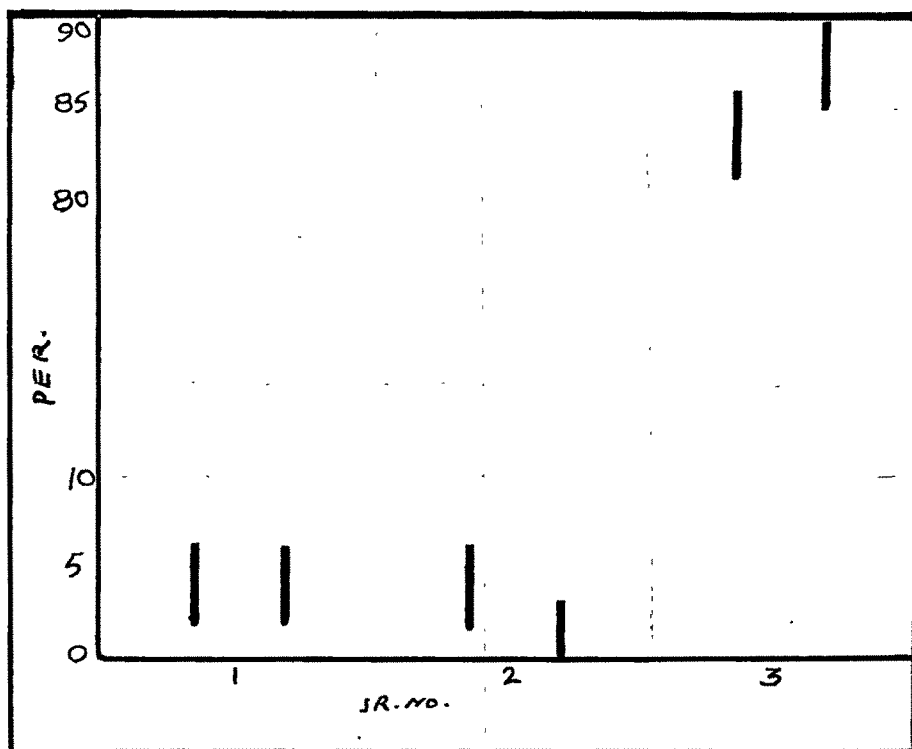


FIG. 58

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

COHESIVENESS IN THE FAMILY

Family cohesiveness is an important construct having direct bearing on the nature of growth of children. This construct refers to having strong emotional ties among the members of the family, unity of interests and purposes, pride for the home and we-feeling in general. Further, in the families with lack of cohesiveness, the individual interest clearly exceeds the family interest, the home is considered as place to take food and shelter during the night time and nothing more; everyone is indifferent to family and is self-centred. It is assumed that the lack of cohesiveness in the family has been - associated with delinquency. Where family members are quarrelling with one another, there is no common interest to bind them and the healthy development of

child's personality is thwarted. Where the family cohesiveness is wanting, there is every possibility for incidence of delinquent behaviour in the children.

An evaluation of each family on the basis of data gathered from the school record and from interviewing the child and his guardian with respect to state of cohesiveness or smoothness of family relations was made and the figures are ~~in~~ represented in table no. 62 which shows that very small number of families of the delinquent exhibited good or fair cohesiveness in the family. Poor cohesiveness was found in a vast number of families of the delinquents in comparison to non-delinquents (61.4 % 17.3 %). These figures were statistically significant.

When conflicts between the family members are constant, the child feels insecure and neglected. All members of the family are concentrating on family strifes rather than on the development of the children. Sometimes, children are exploited for the personal advantage. It is rightly said by Prof. Stott that one unhappy person within a family circle means other

TABLE NO. 62

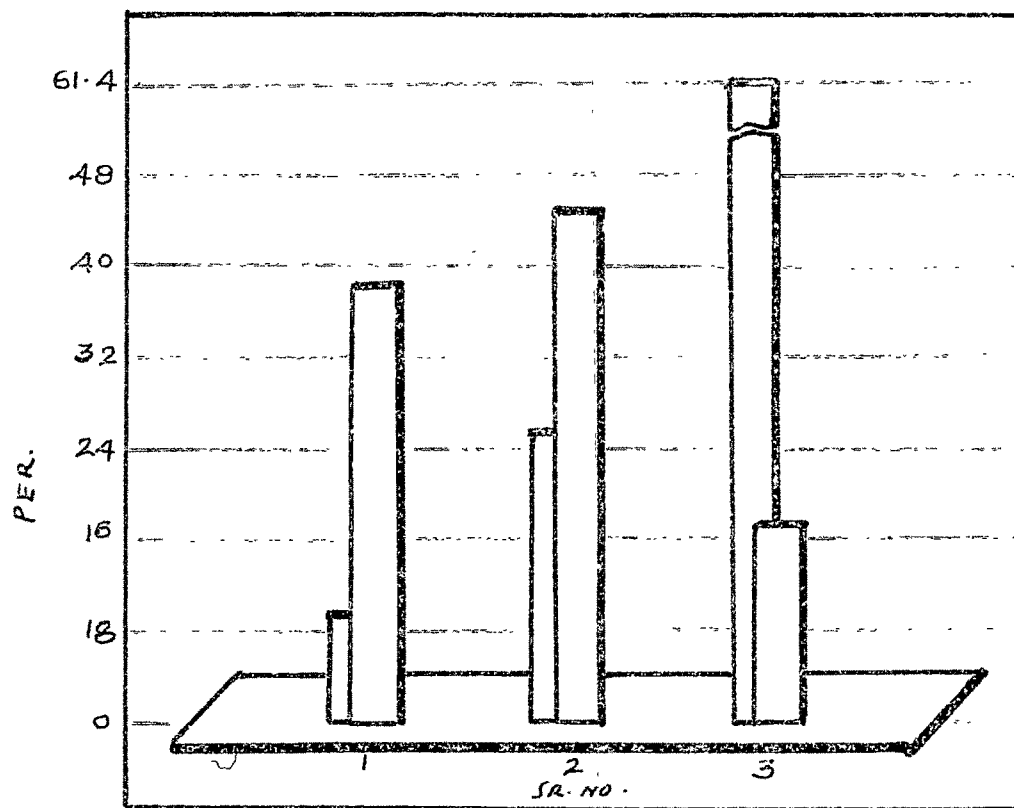
Cohesiveness in the Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Good	20	13.3	57	38.0
2.	Fair	38	25.3	67	44.7
3.	Poor	92	61.4	26	17.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 31.36$$

$$P < .01$$

CO-HESIVENESS IN THE FAMILY.



— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

FIG. 85

unhappy people(41). A tough-minded member of the family constantly involved in the family quarrels has his combativeness aroused and the accompanying emotion of anger tends to become so forceful that it easily gets beyond control and induces criminal conduct, directly or indirectly; the person becomes habitually irritable and pugnacious as a result. The tender-minded and submissive person in similar circumstances is apt to develop a feeling of insecurity which may prove a handicap to future success in life(13). Constant family conflicts and strifes lead to family disorganisation. The family disorganisation is a process of disruption and the disrupting factors that lead to a broken home may have more harmful effects on children than the actual break. The difficulties are likely to arise, when the balance and unity of a group are upset. Children learn how to live with others first in the homes, then in the play group and the school group. A maladjusted home is likely to produce disintegrated personalities which may turn out delinquents at a later period. When there is lack of harmony in the home, love and security are poles apart. To the child, home is a place of peace and tranquility.

But when it is full of strifes and conflicts, his hopes are dashed to pieces. Prof. R. S. Singh(40) says -

"Harmony in the home is as necessary for the proper development of the child's personality as are the air, sun-shine and water for the healthy growth of his blood and bones".

Mary chadwick as quoted by Prof. R. S. Singh(40) rightly suggests -

"A good many of the difficulties that arise in a family as children grow older originate from lack of harmony between the parents".

Prof. Abrahamson is also of the same view as quoted by Prof. Neumeyer Martin H.(32):-

"There was much more family tension in the families of 100 offenders than in the homes of 100 non-offenders".

And in the same tune Professor Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck(39) hold -

"Thus in the highly important quality that is both expressive of loyalty to the blood-group and supportive of the individual in his sense of security viz. family cohesiveness the delinquents were far more deprived (of cohesiveness) than the non-delinquents".

In short, in agreement with all these authors, the present investigation supplies empirical evidence supporting that family cohesiveness, harmony or well-feeling has a large share in moulding the child growing in the family.

BROKEN FAMILIES

Lack of family cohesiveness is one of the components of a 'broken home'. A home is said to be 'broken home' when either parent is missing due to death, divorce, desertion or long separation. It is generally agreed by almost all the research workers in the field that higher number of delinquents come from broken homes than from normal homes. Authorities like Cyril Burt (5), William Healy and Augustus Bronner(21), and Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) also supported the same view. The present author also to seek any such relation assorted the subjects under each category viz., those coming from normal home and those coming from broken homes as defined above. The data are represented in Table No. 3 from which it is evident that not fewer than seven in ten (73.3%) of the homes of the delinquents, compared with

TABLE NO. 63

Broken Families

Sr. No.	Status	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Broken	110	73.3	32	21.3
2.	Normal	40	26.7	118	78.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 81.34$$

$$P < .01$$

BROKEN FAMILIES

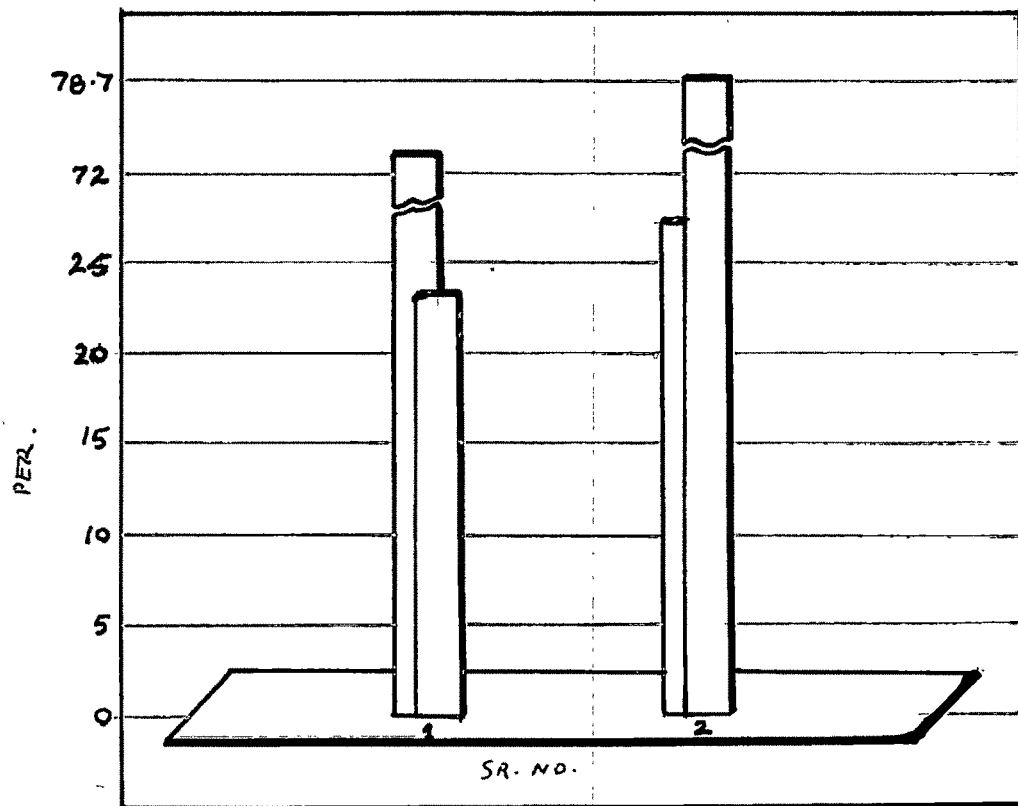


FIG. 60

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

two (21.3 %) in ten of the homes of the non-delinquents, had in fact been broken by death, divorce, desertion or long separation; only 26.7 % delinquents come from normal homes against 78.7 % non-delinquents. Thus, almost three fourth of cases had broken homes. These are very significant figures.

Next, it is also observed from the later table that even among the broken homes, more families of the delinquent children in comparison to those of the non-delinquent children were broken ~~were~~ due to divorce (2.0 % vs. 0.7 %).

When the parents are separated from each other, the most tragic is the fate of their young children. They lack in nurture and guidance, ideal of true life, family life filled with love, warmth and affection which have good influences upon the character formation of the young child. By break in the family generally the handicaps are too great for a small child to overcome. When a child is uprooted from his natural home, he suffers from emotional disturbances and insecurity. Break in the family creates new situations and sometimes it becomes very difficult for the young child to adjust to new ones. All the good influences

of the real home life are taken away from the child when the parents are separated. When either parent remarries, the most disastrous result is the inadequate development of the personality of the child and this is in the long run more tragic than the actual break in the family. It is also generally agreed by the magistrates and probation officers working in such areas that want of parental love is the root cause for trouble in a great many cases of this sort (31).

Mother and father are just like the two wheels of chariot which cannot move smoothly if either of them is separated (40). Broken family is also an important cause of child neglect. Where the father is separated, anxiety and over-protectiveness cause child neglect in the sense that the child is not allowed to grow as individuals. Break in the family by the death of father carries all the social damages that are possible, but usually it has also the loss of economic support for the family. When the break in the family is caused by divorce or desertion, conflicts of loyalties in the home will have far-reaching effects on the personality development in case of both parents

as well as children (22). In the broken families the process of socialization and development of mature personalities are retarded. Children from broken families lack personality integration and adjust poorly in life because they cannot effectively combine their motives, past experiences and the necessities of the present situations. Thus, a broken home eventually is the predisposing cause of disorder of conducts (30). In the broken families children remain at a far distant end of proper parental care; other members of the family or near or distant relatives or neighbours become the immediate guardians of the children when they lack either parent. All try to take advantage of such children, but in return no one is prepared to look after their necessities. They consequently lack efficient direction, effective control and sincere guidance of the true parents. They wander about and mix with undesirable elements in the society. All these situations provide nurture for behavioural disorder. The role of broken families in producing juvenile delinquency is brought out also by other investigators too; e.g. Hermann (27)^a observes :

" Approximately one-third of all cases come from broken homes".

Further Thomas Earl Sullenger (42)^d and others
remark :

" Many studies, ranging from an analysis of a few individuals to the intensive analysis of 4,000 children by Healy and Bronner, indicate that from 25.0 % to 60.0 % of delinquents are the products of broken homes".

Further,

" Home broken by divorce has a more disastrous effect than any other. The effects of divorce are not always expressed in delinquents but produce abnormal situations that are very harmful to the child's social nature".

" About 80.0 % of our controls come from normal families consisting of father, mother and children. About 68.0 % of our delinquents come from such (broken) families".

(39)8

" More of the parents of the delinquents than the non-delinquents are separated, divorced, have never been married to each other, or are no longer living".

Other relevant information on parents is
given in the following lines :

Marital Status of the Parents :

The marital status of the own parents is also evident from Table No. 64 . It is observed that the more parents of the delinquent children remarried, (21.7 % vs. 4.0 %), divorced (2.2 % vs. 0.7 %), desired (8.0 % vs. 1.3 %), separated (2.7 % vs. 0.7 %) and very few were living together (26.7 % vs. 78.6 %) in comparison to the parents of the non-delinquent children.

Existence of either Parents :

Table No. 65 shows that more number of delinquent children were found to have lost their fathers only (20.7 % - 13.3 %), mother only (19.3 % - 8.0 %) and both parents (33.3 % - 0.0 %) in comparison to non-delinquent children. Further, comparatively fewer delinquents had their both parents living, in comparison to non-delinquents children (26.7 % - 78.7 %).

Boys Living with own Mother and Father :

Table No. 66 shows that higher number of non-delinquent children were living with their own

TABLE NO. 64

Marital Status of the Parents

Sr. No.	Status	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Normal	40	26.7	118	78.6
2.	Death	58	38.7	22	14.7
3.	Divorced	3	2.2	1	0.7
4.	Deserted	12	8.0	2	1.3
5.	Separated	4	2.7	1	0.7
6.	Parent Remarried	33	21.7	6	4.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 81.54$$

$$P < .01$$

MARITAL STATUS OF THE PARENTS.

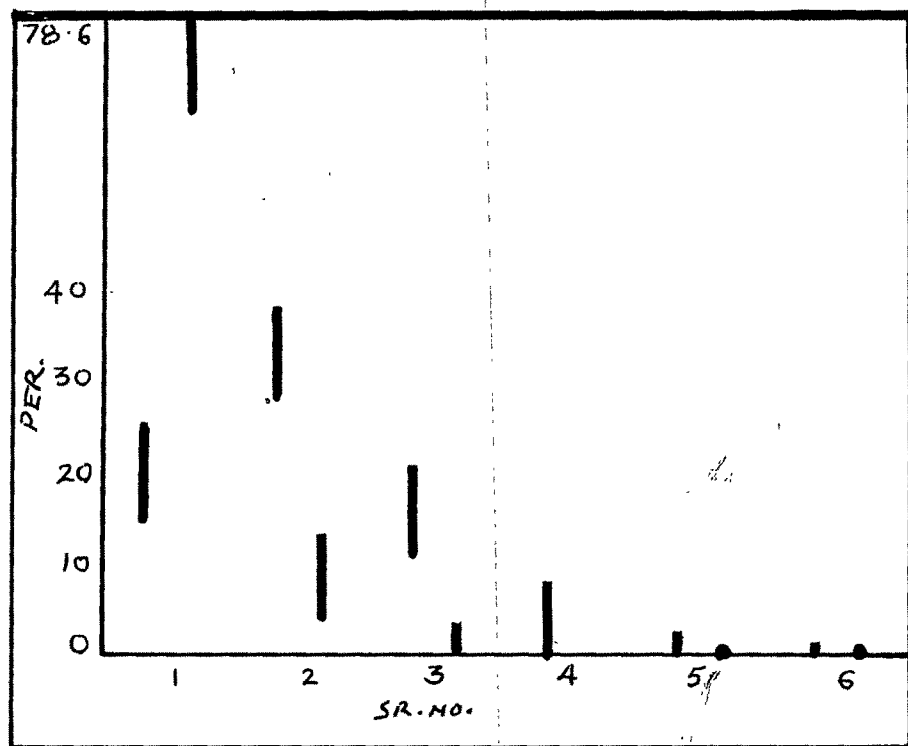


FIG 6/

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TABLE NO.65

Existence of Either Parent

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Father - Died or Disappeared	31	20.7	20	13.3
2.	Mother - Died or Disappeared	29	19.3	12	8.0
3.	Both - Died or Disappeared	50	33.3	-	-
4.	Both Living	40	26.7	118	78.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 98.22$$

$$p < .01$$

EXISTENCE OF EITHER PARENT.

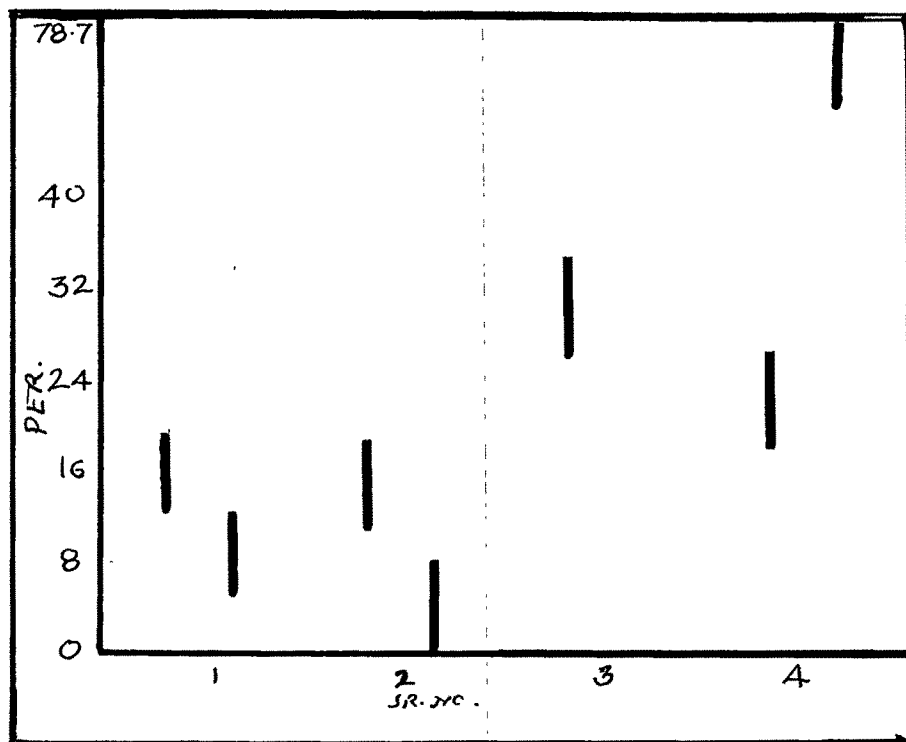


FIG. 62

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

TABLE NO. 66

Number of Boys Living with own Father

Sr. No.	Status	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	With own Father	69	46.0	130	86.7
2.	Not with own Father	81	54.0	20	13.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

TABLE NO. 67

Number of Boys Living with own Mother

Sr. No.	Status	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	With own Mother	71	47.3	138	92.0
2.	Not with own Mother	79	52.7	12	8.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

NUMBER OF BOYS LIVING WITH OWN FATHER.

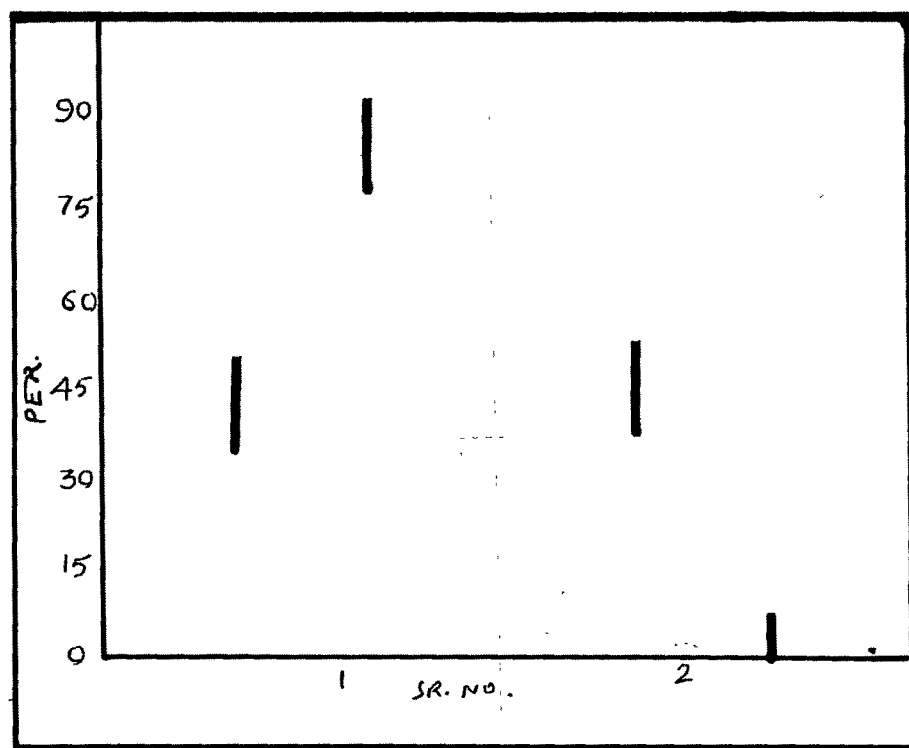


FIG. 63

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

NUMBER OF BOYS LIVING WITH OWN MOTHER

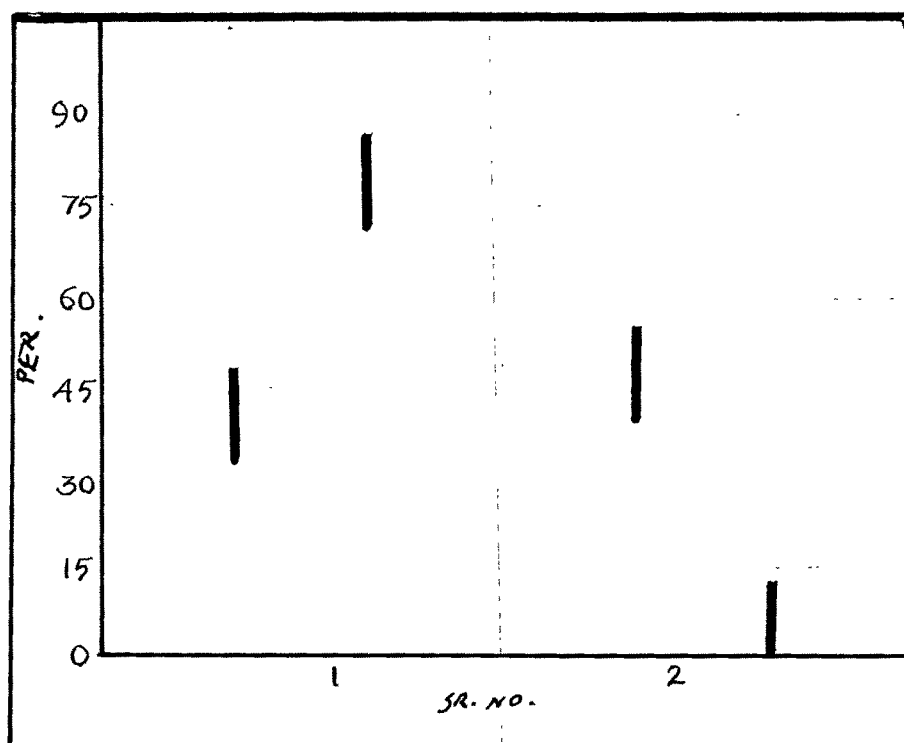


FIG. 64

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

father rather than with others (86.7 % vs. 13.3 %), while more delinquent children were found living with step father or other rather than with own father (54.0 % vs. 46.0 %). As regards the life with mother practically half the delinquent children were found living with own mother and half with step mother or others (47.3 % vs. 52.7 %), while higher number of non-delinquent children were found living with own mothers rather than living with step mothers or so (92.0 % vs. 8.0 %).

Type of the Family in
which Child was Living :

The family is said to be joint when the uncle, aunt, children, grand children, nephew, niece and others are living together, enjoying the same property, and have a common mess; otherwise it is a case of a separate family.

(Table No. 68)

It is evident that higher number of non-delinquent children were observed to be living in joint family system and few in separate family system (64.7 % vs. 35.3 %); while reverse was the case with delinquent children (11.3 % vs. 88.7 %).

TABLE NO.68

Type of Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Joint	17	11.3	97	64.7
2.	Separate	133	88.7	53	35.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 90.57$$

$$P < .01$$

TYPE OF FAMILY.

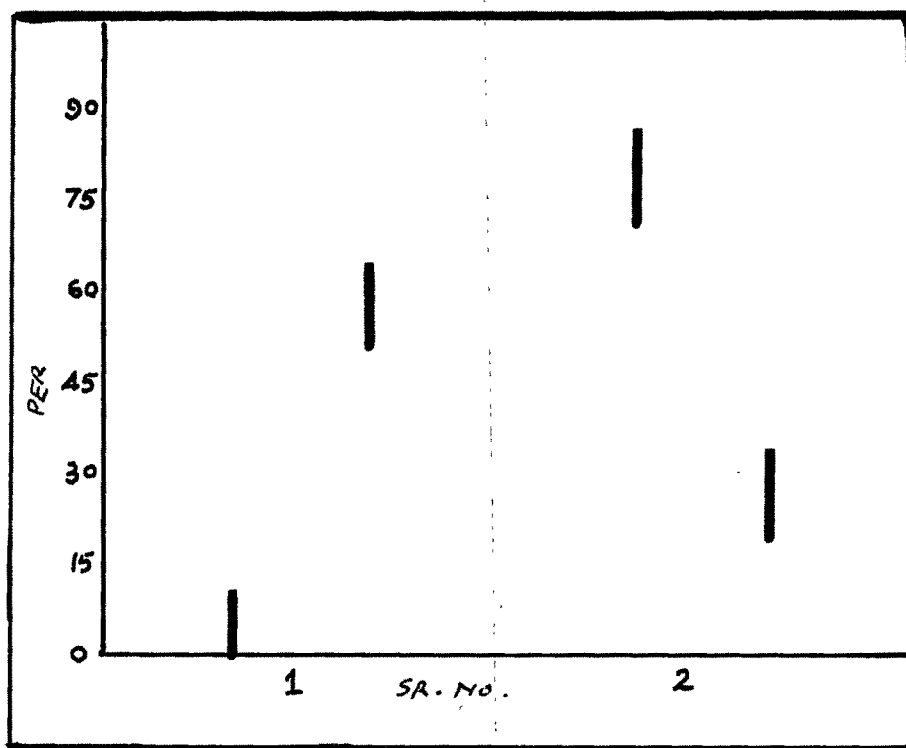


FIG. 65

— DEL.

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It is statistically significant that delinquent children mostly come from a family which was separated from its base. It is likely that under such separated system, there are no elderly persons to guide and take care of children nor younger members to help when the father is busy for the whole day with his service outside and the mother engaged in domestic routine work. A joint family as in our country is economically as well as psychologically safe and sound. In separated system, when father is away outside and mother is busy inside, the life under such circumstances becomes very mechanical and dull and children usually often do not even see the face of the father returning home in late hours after work. It is likely that under such low economic conditions the joint family system is psychologically a blessing for growth of children though for other purposes it is often a curse. Anyway, the data obtained or present sample seem truly representative of conditions of our country and reveal the significant relationship between the incidence of delinquency and the separated family, though it might be a different case in other countries.

SOCIAL AND GROUP LIVING IN THE FAMILY

Family is primarily the some influencing factor affecting the child's personality. Social living, aimed at having and cultivating the emotional ties between the family members through group recreational activities in the family, is one of the important contributor to the healthy growth of each member. Such activities strengthen the family attachment and their lack weakens the family ties. Such family recreational activities include different types of group engagements, such as going out together for a walk or on a picnic, temple attending or some sermons, visiting a picture-house or garden or participating in any other entertainment, function or organising daily mass prayers at home either in the morning or in the evening or having some sort of assembly of all members for some common discussion daily after work hours or even weekly, or any such group meetings of all family members. During interviews,

information was gathered on such group affairs.

It is evident from table No. 69 that higher number of families among the delinquent group has practically no family group activities of any kind (66.6 % vs ^{27.0}~~60.0~~ %), ^{few had occasional (27.7% vs 60.0%)} and very few had often (4.7 % vs 15.3 %) in comparison to similar figures for non-delinquent group. These differences were highly significant.

Such recreational life in family group creates an atmosphere for strong emotional ties between the members of the family. Enjoying such group life in the family strengthens one's security of love, affection and recognition of status among its component members. It develops we-feeling among the members, and respectful understanding of members and their problems. The presence of family group recreation opens the safety valve for the pent-up emotions of the children to be directed along the proper channels. It provides emotional outlet of safest kind. Enjoying and participating in such group living, the child does not feel that he is neglected or excluded and thus there are less chances for cultivating hostilities among members of the family. In other words, provision of

TABLE NO. 69

Social and Group Living in the Family

Sr. No.	Frequency	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Often	7	4.7	23	15.3
2.	Occasional	43	27.7	91	60.7
3.	Never	100	66.6	36	24.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 55.89$$

$$P < .01$$

SOCIAL AND GROUP LIVING IN THE FAMILY.

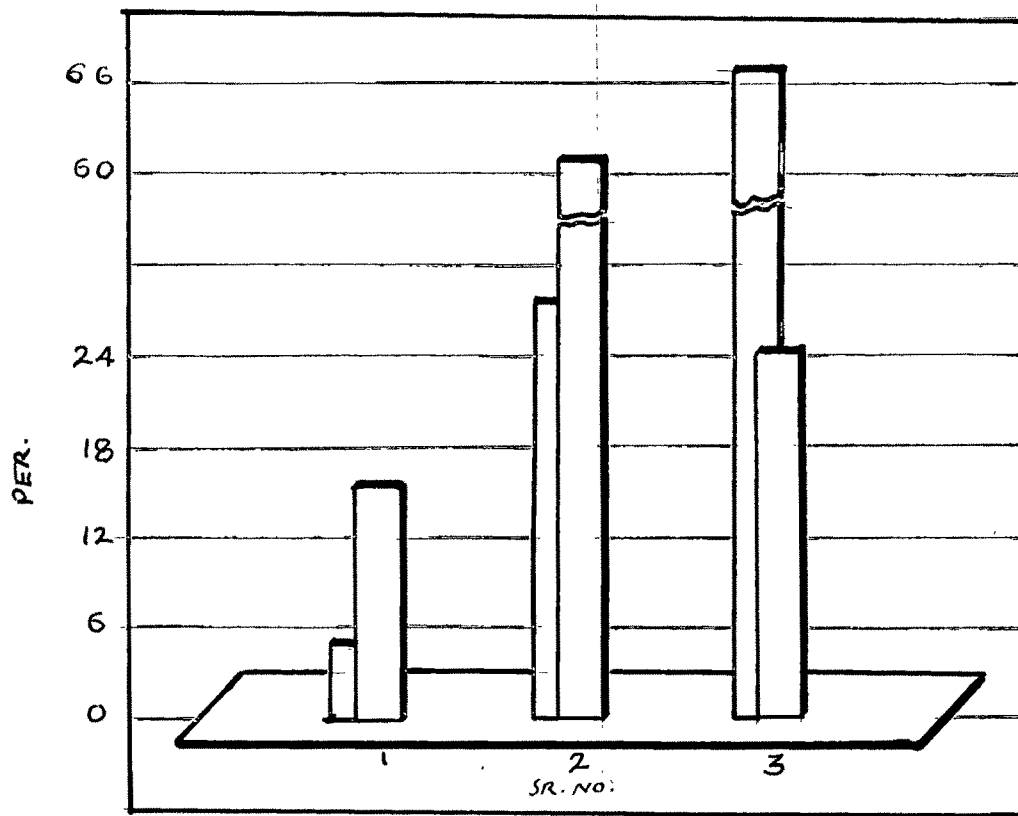


FIG. 66

— DEL.
— NON-DEL.

adequate group recreational living keeps the participants away from harbouring criminal tendencies or indulging in any antisocial behaviour. Juvenile delinquency is sometimes entirely due to failure to meet adequately the family group recreational opportunities whenever possible.

Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39)⁴ also say -

"Failure of the parents to foster recreational outlets (provision for recreational activities for the family) in which all members of the family could participate strongly reflects less cohesiveness in the families of the delinquents than in those of the non-delinquents, and lack of family cohesiveness increases the tendency to act with little regard for family desires and standards".

Attitude Taken by the Family in
entertaining the child's friends
in the home:

Another consideration similar to group living of family members is the provision for the group living of children with their associates. To provide for group living to the children, their friends are a better source and parents' attitude towards entertaining child's friends is an important factor

determining the growth of such group living. Information was obtained in this respect also and summarised in Table No. 70 --. It is found from Table No. 70 that more families among the delinquent group were comparatively "inhospitable" (36.6 % vs 9.3 %) to the friends of their children. This inhospitality was indicated by actively discouraging bringing them at home or by insulting or threatening or consciously neglecting them if brought at home. Five in ten (54.7 %) among the families of the delinquent and six in ten (60.8 %) among the families of the non-delinquent group were indifferent towards their friends visiting the home; while less than one in ten (8.7 %) in the families of the delinquents and three in ten (30.9 %) in the families of the non-delinquents were found showing warm attitude towards friends of children, visiting home. Warm attitude meant consciously welcoming or encouraging their coming and giving proper responses to them. These differences between two groups were statistically significant. Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck also observed significant differences between both the groups regarding the attitude adopted in the family towards the child's friends coming to

TABLE NO. 70

Attitude Taken in Entertaining the
Child's Friends at Home

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Warm	13	8.7	45	30.0
2.	Indifferent	82	54.7	91	60.7
3.	Inhospitable	55	36.6	14	9.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 42.42$$

$$P < .01$$

ATTITUDE TAKEN IN ENTERTAINING THE
CHILD'S FRIENDS AT HOME.

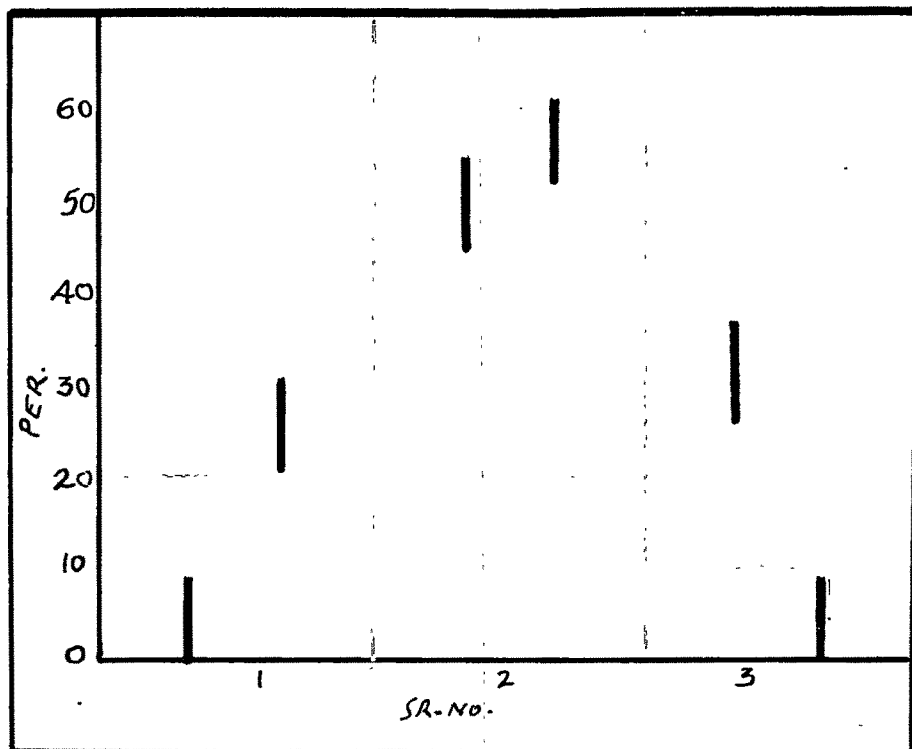


FIG. 67

DEL.

NON-DEL.

their home (39).

In brief, provision of social, recreational life either within and between the members of the family or along with other friends of the children has an important bearing on the development of healthy outlook and consequent healthy behaviour pattern.

PROVISION FOR RECREATION IN THE FAMILY

Practically as in western countries, families in India are not insisting on or particular about the adequate provision for recreation in the home for children. That may be either due to poor economy or due to poor insight in the child's nature, which may be in turn because of lack of education on the part of the parents. It is usually said that adequate opportunities and facilities for recreation and education for leisure protect the growing youths from the evil influences of this machine age.

Professor Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) found significant relationship between the provision for recreation in the home and delinquency. They found higher number of families among the delinquent group has meagre (53.4 % vs 35.7 %), few had some (42.6 % vs 50.3 %) and very few had adequate (4.0 % vs 13.8 %) facilities for recreation in the home in comparison to non-

delinquent groups.

Even the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection (46)^d held the same view in the following words :

" That much juvenile delinquency is due to our failure adequately to meet the play needs of children and the recreational needs of young men and women".

Prof. Kr. Singh R. S. (40)<days :

" As a matter of fact a child is the symbol of activity. It is an old saying that youth is wild. He is full enthusiasm and energy. He is spirited like a soda water bottle. Now in order to consume his energies there must be some recreational outlet. But if the energies are unconsumed and stored, there is every chance for them to flow in the wrong channels".

In view of the importance of recreations for growing children and youths, particularly in this busy complex life, an attempt has been made in this investigation too to find out its relation to nature of growth of personality, if any, under the conditions existing in our country. Hence, data as shown in Table No.7 | were obtained on availability of

TABLE NO.7/

Provision for Recreation in the Home

Sr. No.	Facilities	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Adequate	10	6.7	14	9.3
2.	Some	28	19.7	40	26.7
3.	Meagre	112	74.6	96	64.0
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 4.02 \quad P < 0.20$$

PROVISION FOR RECREATION IN THE HOME.

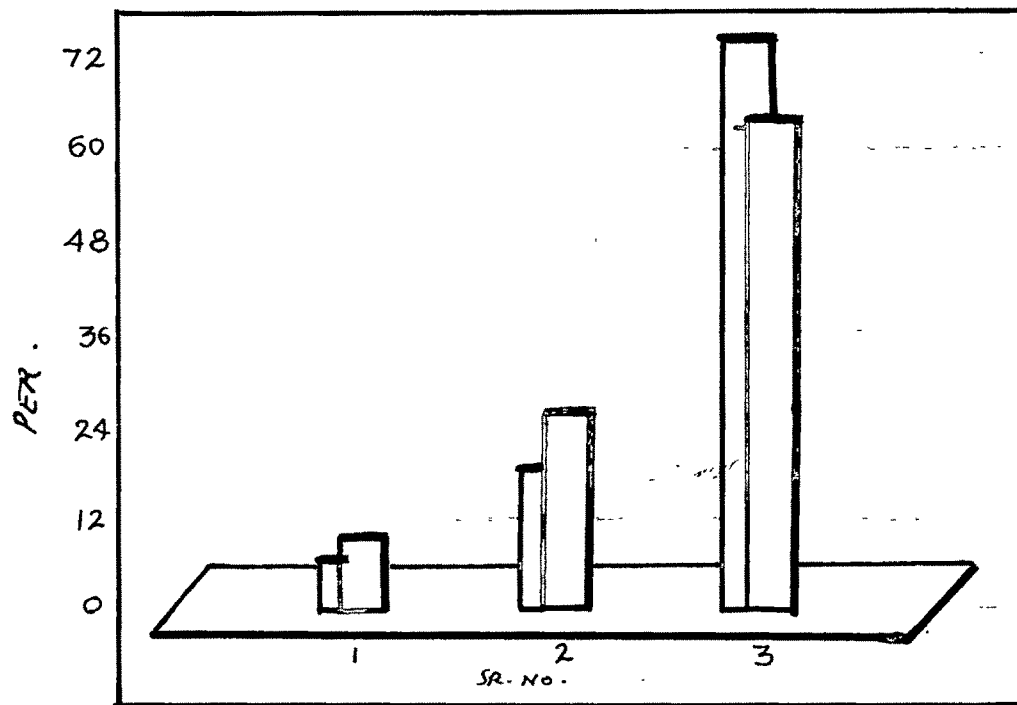


FIG. 68

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

recreation in home of all children studied in order to find out any relation of lack of recreation to incidence of delinquency. However, the present data showed that delinquency was not observed to be significantly related to lack of recreation in the home, though it was observed by investigators in foreign countries. Thus, though there is no significant relation, casually Table No. 71 shows a trend that higher number of families among the delinquent group had 'meagre provision' for recreation in the home (74.6% vs 64.9%). This means having no toy except a piece of stone or wood or some broken toys. Few delinquents had 'some provision' for recreation in the home (19.7% vs 26.7%); 'some' provision means having some toys or occasional books to read and some kind of indoor games like playing cards and kosis and marbles, and no other facilities like 'a good library, radio, etc. Very few of delinquents had 'adequate' facilities for recreation in the home (6.7% vs 9.3%), like books to read pictures books, varied types of indoor games, opportunities for outdoor games and recreation and at some places even radio etc. However, these differences between two groups in respect of facilities for recreation were not statistically significant.

In the present investigation the observation regarding the relationship between provision for recreation in the home and delinquency is contrary to those by Dr. Cyril Burt (5). Kr. R.S. Singh (40), Professors Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39) and the opinion of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection (45). This lack of relation or observation contrary to expectation might be accounted for by special outlook or attitude to recreation among Indian families and folks. Indian philosophy or viewpoint of recreation is in sharp contrast to the western viewpoint. Indian saints have extolled the virtues of hard life at cost of recreation and this philosophy prevalent in most Indian families seems to have dictated the ways of living of members who consequently look upon recreation not as essential for adequate growth of personality. Thus, it is likely that even normal group studied did not differ much from delinquent group so far as provision or recreation was concerned.

Earning Members in the Family :

Perhaps, poverty is the root cause of all evils. How can one earning member in the family provide for recreational activities when he has not enough even

for bare existence and maintenance of all members in the family ? Usually in Indian structure of family life, one member earns and others are parasites. Data were gathered in this respect too on both groups of subjects.

From Table No. 22 it is clear that fourteen families of delinquents had no earning family member or members, while all the families of non-delinquents had someone or more members earning. Further, it was observed from interview that mostly all the earners were contributing for the maintenance of the family in non-delinquent group; while in some cases of delinquent group where even more than one members were earning, they were not contributing for the maintenance of the family. It is observed from Table No. 71 that higher number of non-delinquents' families were having one earner in the family (54.0% vs 46.7 %) in comparison to figures for families of the delinquents. Practically there were equal number of families in both the groups which had two earners (28.0 % vs 27.3 %) and three earners (8.7 % vs 8.7 %); the table speaks other casual figures too.

In short, less earning members, more members to be maintained and consequent lack of means for subsistence as well as for recreation or relaxation

TABLE NO. 72

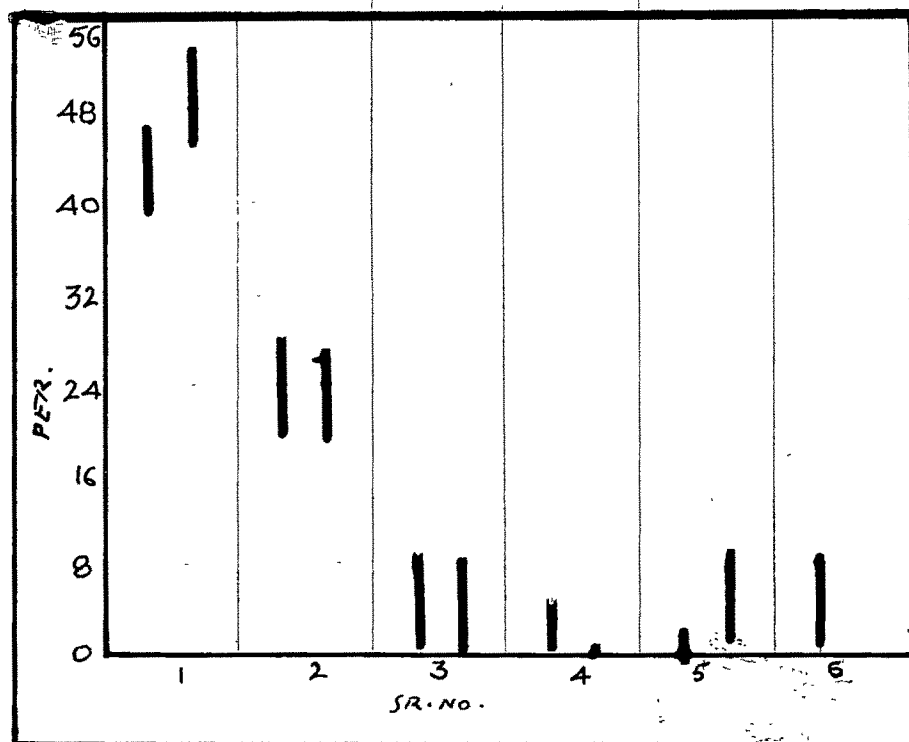
Earning Members in the Family

Sr. No.	Earners	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Only one	70	46.7	81	54.0
2.	Two	42	28.0	41	27.3
3.	Three	13	8.7	13	8.7
4.	Four	8	5.3	2	1.3
5.	Five or More	3	2.0	13	8.7
6.	No	14	9.3	-	-
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 24.76$$

$$P < .01$$

EARNING MEMBERS IN THE FAMILY.



FIG, 69

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

are the usual concomittants of poverty and sometimes associates of delinquency.

DISCIPLINE IN THE FAMILY

Disciplinary practices adopted by the father and mother in the family have very important effect upon the formation of the concepts of the right and the wrong by the child and ultimately that developed concept exerts its influence in guiding the child through the various courses of conduct. It has a far-reaching effect upon the development of personality and character of the young child. It is said that strong-willed parents have weak-willed children. In view of this, during the interviews information was gathered orally as to how the children viewed the parent or the general atmosphere in the family, whether it was strict, normal or lacking in any disciplinary measure.

It is evident from Table No. 73 that more parents of the delinquent group (30.0 % vs 20.7 %) were found strict with their children, that is, they were harsh, unreasonably demanding complete obedience

TABLE NO. 73

Discipline in the Family

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Strict	45	30.0	31	20.7
2.	Normal	25	16.7	99	66.0
3.	Nil	80	53.3	22	13.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 85.18$$

$$P < .01$$

DISCIPLINE IN THE FAMILY.

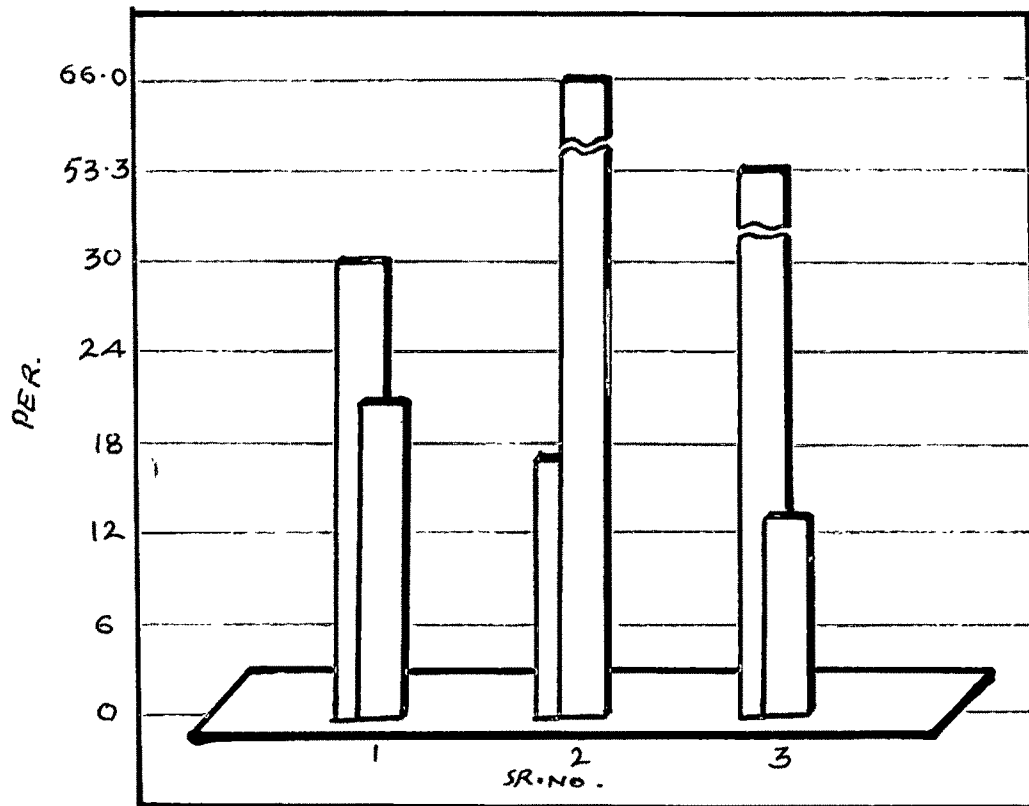


FIG. 7b

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

through ~~and~~ fear and vigorous in their punishment; very few (16.7 % vs 66.0 %) were found normal in the treatment of their children, i.e. they were not harsh, were reasonable and acting through persuasion, rarely taking the course of physical punishment and again a greater number of parents of delinquent group (53.3 % vs 13.3 %) were found having no disciplinary control over the children that is, they were indifferent to their behaviour irrespective of good or bad in contrast to the parents of non-delinquent group. These differences between two groups were highly significant.

Further, it would be also seen that lack of discipline is a stronger associate of delinquency than stricter discipline through both extremes are unhealthy situations. Generally normal disciplinary attitude of the parents towards their children is most essential for the proper growth of the child. The most inimical to right development is the changing, forcible as well as feeble type discipline. Where discipline is nil or weak, the children run wild in absence of any direction. If the disciplinary attitude is strict, children will have to repress their inner urges and natural desires. Lack of expression through safe outlets due to fear of parent's anger results in some kind of compensatory act of

disobedience, aggression, regression or even frustration on part of children.

Entertaining faulty views on discipline and indulging in consequent practice in the home of delinquents tend to be important contributors to delinquency. Lack of proper guidance and lack of constructive discipline lead to lack of integration of personality, which may produce delinquency (30).

Inconsistent and excessive anger coupled with strictness is fruitful source of emotional distortion and undesirable behaviour, ultimately resulting in ambivalence towards or defiance of authority.

Inconsistency in the disciplinary attitude by the parents creates sense of uncertainty and hence insecurity and unwantedness. The child feels that he is unloved and unwelcomed. Ultimately the child tries to gratify his frustrated emotions by taking recourse to delinquent acts. Under emotional conflict which child is not habituated to face he falls an easy prey to delinquency as a last resort. Developing antisocial attitudes and practising anti-social activities, the child tries to satisfy his frustrated ego or express his repressed urges.

Prof. Carr (6)^a says-

" Excessive pepression tends to produce neurotism; parental rejection tends to turn a boy into the 'Lone worlf' type of delinquent; and parental neglect and social exposure tend to develop the gang boy".

Thus , it is in fitness of things to say that every child from his infancy needs wise and continous discipline, tempered with love. It is said every by Prof. Cyril Burt (5)^f-

"Thehourgy nagging for neglected taske, the daily slap for noisiness or carelessness, or simply the irksome restraints of a puritanical code, become in the end too depressaive to bear; the child broods; and in brooding, doubtless magnifies his grievance and ill-treatment; then, after little or no warning, the actual precipitating impulse, the spark that fires train, flashes up in a second from some trivial scene". Further he says :-

"To escape chastisement, to baffle rebuke, and to gain his private ends, the child finds it easier to cultivate the habit of decit and double dealing".

Dr. Marfatia (29)^f while criticising the strict parental disciplinary attitude towards childred says -

"Rejection, when manifested by strictness or punishment and cruelty, produces in the child hostility towards theparent. This hostility later spreads to anything that stands for power and authority".

It is generally recognised that disciplinary attitude of the parents towards the child is a contributing factor. Even Healy and Bronner also found that 40.0 % of 4000 cases of delinquent children in Chicago and Boston came from homes where there was either a definite lack of effective discipline or where disciplinary measures were too strict, too lax, unjust or too inconsistent, as quoted by Prof. Neumeyer Martin H. (32)¹. He himself while giving his opinion on it says -

"Whether the parents are too strict or too lax or erratic in the discipline, delinquency is more prevalent in such homes than in those in which parents are firm but reasonable and kind in their discipline".

Even Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck (39)² also summarise thus -

"All in all, the most marked difference between the disciplinary practices of the parents of the delinquents and those of the non-delinquents is found in the considerable greater extent to which the former resorted to physical punishment and lesser extent to which they reasoned with the boys about their misconduct. In interpreting this, it should be kept in mind that the delinquent boys, being so continually involved in misbehaviour, might have called for more rigid or more erratic control on the part of their parents. Nevertheless the above analysis is a revealing commentary on the relative effectiveness of physical punishment as opposed to an appeal to reason in the control of child behaviour".

Methods adopted by the parents in controlling the
Child:

Besides the information on general nature of discipline, the methods of disciplinary measures adopted by each parent were also analysed and these data are summarised in Table No. 74 and 75

For the father and the mother respectively. It is observed from Table No. 74 that a greater number of fathers of the delinquents (40.0 % vs 20.0 %) were favouring the corporal punishment in controlling the child; while a greater number of fathers of the non-delinquents were (16.7 vs 8.7 %) favourable to deprivation of privileges in the family (.e.g. refusing to pay pocket money, fining meals, refusing to prepare new clothes or supply other necessities etc.); so also a greater number of fathers of non-delinquent group (32.7 % vs 5.3 %) were scolding and threatending the child; or were resorting to reasoning (13.3 % vs 2.7 %) for controlling the child. Similarly, it is evident from the Table No. 75 that more mothers of the delinquents were favourable, like fathers to the corporal punishment for controlling the child (17.3 % vs 10.0 %); next, mothers of both the

TABLE NO. 74

Methods Adopted by the Father to control
the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Corporal Punishment	60	40.0	40	20.0
2.	Deprivation of Priviledges	13	8.7	25	16.7
3.	Scolding and Threatening	8	5.3	49	32.7
4.	Reasoning	4	2.7	20	13.3
5.	U. K.	65	43.3	16	10.7
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 66.90$$

$$p < .01$$

METHODS ADOPTED BY THE FATHER TO CONTROL THE CHILD.

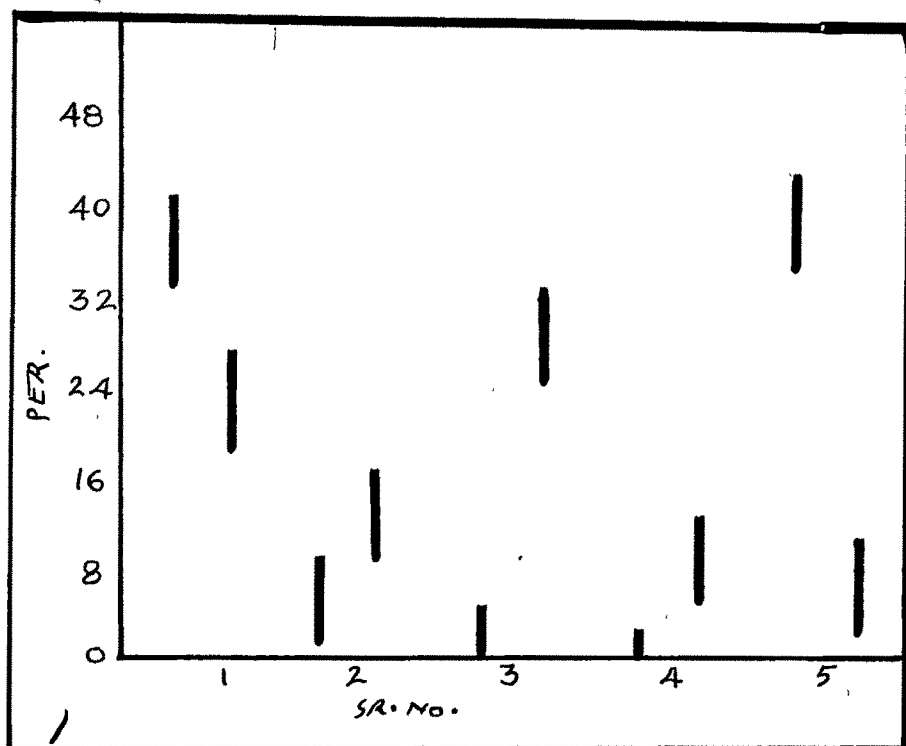


FIG. 71

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

TABLE NO. 75

Methods Adopted by the Mother to Control
the Child

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Corporal Punishment	26	17.3	15	10.0
2.	Deprivation of Privileges	40	26.7	40	26.7
3.	Scolding & Threatening	17	11.3	47	31.3
4.	Reasoning	11	7.3	43	28.7
5.	U. K.	56	37.4	5	3.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 72.52$$

$$p < .01$$

METHODS ADOPTED BY THE MOTHER TO CONTROL THE CHILD.

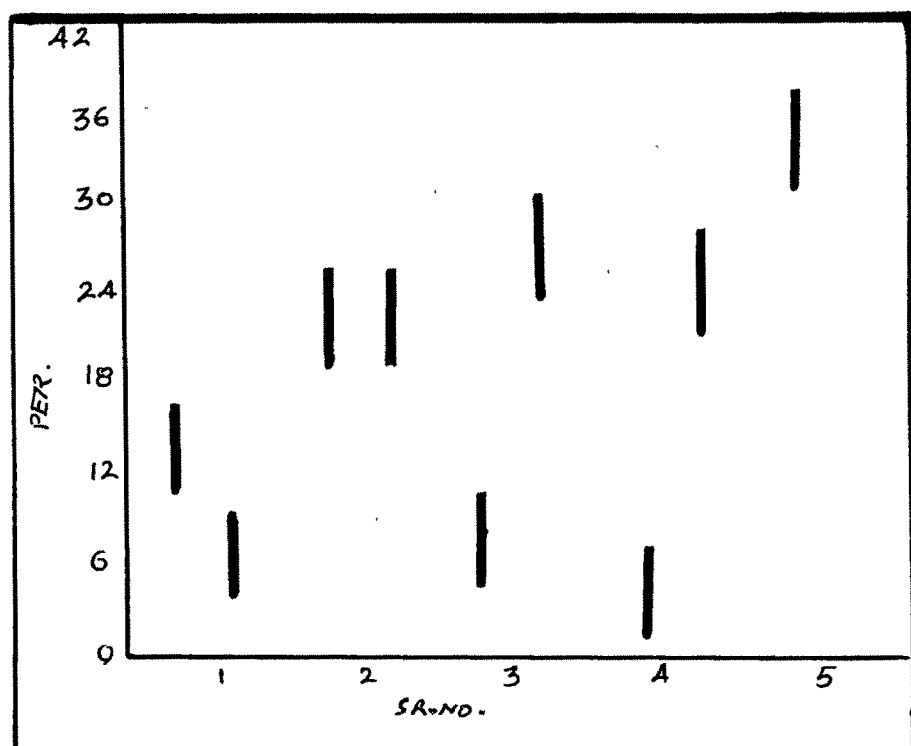


FIG. 72

— DEL.

— NON-DEL.

groups were equally favourable to deprivation of privileges (26.7 % vs 26.7 %); but again more mothers of the non-delinquent group were favourable to scolding and threatending (31.3 % vs 11.3 %) and also reasoning (28.7 % vs. 7.3 %) in comparison to mothers of the delinquent group. All these differences were significant. Where the information regarding the methods adopted by the father or mother was not traced, such cases have been put under another category, namely 'unknown'.

Again, comparing both tables, it is seen that fathers of both the groups were more favourable to corporal punishment than the mothers (N.D. 40.0 % and D. 20.0 of fathers vs. N.D. 17.3 % - D. 10.0 of mothers). Mothers deprivation of privileges (N.D. 26.7 % & D. 2.7 % vs N.D. 16.7 % F. & D. 8.7.%) and reasoning (N.D. 28.7 % M. & D. 7.3. % vs. N.D. 13.3 % & D. 2.7. %). It is quite natural that father being stern and generally staying outside the home and engaged in business work may adopt more vigorous method to get quicker control over the child, while mother being tender at heart for her children and staying larger period of day in the home may prefer milder and slower forms of method at her disposal for controlling the child.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

It has been also said that besides the family influence, environmental influences of neighbourhood have also their due share in development of delinquency. It is generally agreed by research workers such as Kvaraceus (24), Earl Thomas Sullenger (42) and Martin H. Neumeyer (32) that delinquency has a definite relation with the type of neighbourhood. Next to family, neighbourhood is one of the important factors affecting the development of personality. Hence, data were gathered during the interview regarding the general type of neighbourhood in which the family of the subjects inhabited. The term neighbourhood for this purpose was extended to include the area immediately enclosing the family quarters.

From table No. 26 it is found that higher number of delinquents (68.8 % vs. 25.3 %) were observed coming from 'poor' neighbourhood, determined by thickly populated people of menial, hand-to-mouth workers of low castes, and with no adequate opportunities or wholesome facilities for recreation; few

TABLE NO. 76

Types of Neighbourhood

Sr. No.	Description	Delinquent		Non-delinquent	
		No.	%age	No.	%age
1.	Good	15	10.0	33	22.0
2.	Fair	33	22.0	79	52.7
3.	Poor	102	68.0	38	25.3
Total		150	100.0	150	100.0

$$\chi^2 = 54.92 \quad P < .01$$

TYPE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD .



FIG. 73

→ DEL.

— NON-DEL.

(22.0 % vs. 52.7 %) were from fair neighbourhood, indicated by absence of wholesome facilities for recreations and presence of neighbours of higher middle class with all types of vices; and very few (10.0 % vs. 22.0 %) from 'good' neighbourhood, meaning absence of centres of vices, availability of wholesome facilities for recreation and lack of usual conflicts between the neighbours. These differences between the neighbours. These differences between the two groups were statistically significant, meaning that most delinquent children were products brought up in poor neighbourhood.

It is generally agreed that next to family, neighbourhood is the most potent factor in influencing the children's conduct. Generally, neighbourhood is a family of families knit-to-gether. Good neighbourhood means security and poor neighbourhood means insecurity. Conduct of immediate neighbours, like the conduct of close members in the family, also affects the children's ways of behaving. Some cases neighbours act as guardians. The child's society next to family is neighbourhood. It is the intermediary link between the family life and social life in general. Good neighbourhood helps to form better norms of conduct in the children; while poor neighbourhood which

consists of gang life or people with different cultural standards, constantly quarreling in the near vicinities, presence of the centres of vices, lack of wholesome recreational facilities of children etc., sows the seeds of criminal tendencies in the children. At such places children find all opportunities to observe and mix with anti-social adult criminals and learn the first alphabets of crimes. Crime-producing areas are generally areas of deprivation and frustration. In such areas, sometimes even the cheap commercialised, apparently recreational but truly detrimental opportunities are available, which attract easily the growing immature children, and soon lead them to live delinquent life. Prof. Dollard J. and others (10)^a say -

"Despite the great importance of conditions within the home in determining the character development of children, the standards and practices of neighbourhood contemporaries also have a significant influence although socially inferior neighbourhoods also likely to be areas of deprivation and frustration, their main contribution to the ranks of criminality probably results from the fact that the extra legal penalties for misconduct are less than in other communities".

Even Earl Thomas Sullenger (42)^e in his book "Social Determinants of Juvenile Delinquency" says that neighbourhood is the important geographical, cultural unit in determining delinquency.

Further he says -

"The location of delinquency territory is closely related to the processes of city growth. The invasion by either industry or commerce tends to deteriorate the immediate adjacent residential areas and causes the population to move out. The dwellings thus vacated and not needed for business become undesirable, and the rents are driven down to a level which attracts the group with the lowest economic status. It is in this section that the highest percentage of delinquency appears. That their location was the business centre of the city is not accidental but full product of the process of unregulated expansion in city growth".

In this connection, Prof. Kvaraceus (24)¹ observes further :-

"The crowding together of many families, each living in its own all-too-congested living space, seems to be a depressing phenomenon likely to breed promiscuity and lack of respect for others. In such neighbourhoods a tradition of delinquent conduct is likely to arise, in which children specially boys, grow to maturity as members of self-perpetuating gangs with their own special codes of loyalty and of socially acceptable behaviour". Further, "Many other serious temptations to children exist in neighbourhoods where low standards of social behaviour prevail. The child can early become acquainted with the prostitute, the 'book-makers', and the 'fixer', and can gauge his standards of ethics by the degree of neighbourhood acceptance of the theory that it is smart business to get what you can for nothing".

Areas with high rates of delinquency have cultural, social and economic conditions that differentiate them from communities with low rates of delinquency. Certain delinquency-producing conditions seem to be inherent in certain localities especially

those in the urban zones in transmission.

Communities differ greatly in social values, norms and attitudes. In delinquency-producing neighbourhoods children encounter competing, often conflicting systems of values. The culture impact is not unified and integrated (31). Under such conditions of highly congested, unhygienic living, in industrial area with rare scope not only to have healthy recreation (excepting indulging in sexual satisfaction with no restraints), but also with no scope for sufficient air and sunshine, the area is bound to be the brooding place for delinquent behaviour. Not merely, statistical figures, but even day-to-day observation anywhere in such lower areas of industrial, living places would suffice to serve as evidences to this sad state of affairs.

In brief, the discussion in preceeding lines encompasses the varried factors that havebeen someway or the other associated with the growth of juvenile delinquency.