

Double Standard For Delinquency Hits Boys Harder

ANN ARBOR — Why are boys five to 10 times more likely than girls to become delinquents?

A University of Michigan investigator suggests that one reason is the absence of cultural and social support for delinquent behavior by girls. In other words, there is a "double standard" for delinquency.

Dr. Ruth A. Morris and associates in the U-M Institute for Social Research interviewed matched groups of delinquent and non-delinquent boys and girls in Flint — site of a continuing study of family life and youth by institute researchers.

Dr. Morris, now at Rutgers University, first reported on the research in the British Journal of Criminology.

She says that the interviews in Flint support the theory that delinquency results most often when factors prevent young people from reaching "culturally defined" success goals. These goals differ for boys and girls.

Obstacles to higher social status are most likely to lead to delinquency in boys, she points out. And obstacles to enjoying warm interpersonal relationships are most likely to lead to delinquency in girls.

Dr. Morris adds that warm interpersonal relationships are more often available to girls than social mobility is available to boys. So boys, being more often frustrated in realizing their goals, are more often delinquent.

And not only are boys

more often frustrated, their delinquency is more tolerated by others, including other youngsters, she points out.

Girls in the study were less willing than boys to admit previous contacts with police — an indication that they feel more shame about delinquent behavior.

"Evidence of greater shame on the part of delinquent girls is considered one indication of awareness of greater social disapproval toward female delinquency," Dr. Morris explains.

The results also support the belief that boys are more tolerant toward delinquent behavior and feel less social pressure against it than do female delinquents, the researcher says.

They tend also to show that there is less social disapproval of boys than of girls committing the same offense, she adds.

"All these findings combine to give considerable evidence that non-delinquents live in a social atmosphere with fewer cultural and structural supports for delinquency," Dr. Morris writes.

"Similarly, all girls, delinquents and non-delinquents, are continuously faced with a relative absence of cultural supports for delinquency and a much more stringent social disapproval of delinquency than are boys. This absence of cultural support is probably one significant factor leading to the markedly lower rate of delinquency for girls."

Ford Employment Payroll Set Records

Employment and payrolls of Ford Motor Company and its subsidiaries in the United States during 1956 were the highest in company history.

Average hourly and salary employment of 233,849 was up more than 16,000 from the 217,741 of 1955. The United States payroll was \$2,203,792,000, which topped by \$140,944,000 the 1955 record of \$2,062,848,000.

Gross average hourly earnings of \$3.57 for Ford Motor Company hourly-rated U.S. employees set a record in 1956 — passing by nine cents the 1955 average of \$3.38.

Company employment in Michigan also set a high and a record — 112,119 — 6,809 more than the previous record of 105,816 men and women employed in 1955.

Ford's Michigan payroll for 1956 — also a high — was

\$1,109,251,000, compared with \$1,029,547,000 in 1955. Gross average hourly earnings for Ford hourly-rated employees in the state were a record \$3.72 — 10 cents more than in 1955.

Livonian Is Accepted Into Grad School

John Lynn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Lynn of 34665 Wood, Livonia, has been accepted at Michigan State University's graduate school. John, presently attending MSU, expects to graduate in June with a bachelor of science degree in mathematics. He plans to do his graduate work in the field of business administration.

John holds the position of resident assistant at the Wilson Dormitory where he is the "counselor" for 48 students. This is John's second year as an "RA".

While maintaining a "B" average, John participates in many intramural sports. He has been captain of the baseball team which tied for first place. He is a 1953 graduate of Bentley High School.

Sailing Mediterranean
Radarman Third Class John M. Farmer, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Farmer of 11845 Boston Road, Livonia, is at sea aboard the U.S. Sixth Fleet destroyer USS Blandy, operating in the Mediterranean. The ship is scheduled to visit ports in France, Italy, and Spain during her four-month cruise with the Sixth Fleet.

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