

Juvenile Delinquency, and some of its causes.

Much has been written on this subject, but there is no definite rule to define its cause, or causes, however I have a few opinions during the fifteen years, of running this school.

1. Unsatisfactory homes, overcrowding, leading to bickering between parents and other adults, may send minors away from home, for lengthening periods
2. Really bad homes, which speaks for its self.
3. Movies, and comic books. influence children to a great extent, I have had boys ask me if the most fantastic things, in the comics are real in some other country.
4. Not many years ago, families went out together, on picnics, often rowing miles, in a small boat, one these days seldom sees the older minor with his parents. why? because the latter are too busy having, a good time themselves, leaving the former to ~~themselves~~ their own devices, probably a mad cycle ride through the parishes, there meeting others, and then what? the smaller children being left with, grandmother,
5. The mentally weak child is an easy prey, and is often used to advantage, by older people, who actually send them out to steal.
6. Disregard of the law, whether on the part of the parents or on the part of the child, tends to establish in the mind of the child a contempt of the law, and is therefore likely to lead to delinquency.
- 7 I have heard boys say, "papa can't lick me, I'll take him to court, if he does", and the father in many cases are not fit to punish his child, the boy may have something on him.

Cure;

This is the problem, and while humans are what we are, it will never be 100 per cent effective. It goes in cycles, as shewn in the figures mentioned below.

The new schools with the fine play grounds should be a great help, but too much must not be left to the school masters, who often are worn out,

There is not adequate after care for the boys, who have been in trouble after serving several years here, and suddenly put ashore, he needs a helping hand, many have gone back for the lack of this.

There are too many advisers, and not enough hard workers, who are willing to make the necessary sacrifice, to effectively help these youngsters.

In conclusion I would like to say that all delinquents parents are not delinquents, as some people think. I have come across really fine ones, who have tried against great odds, to bring up their children properly, and I value many letters of appreciation, from them.

Many of our old boys, are regular visitors, and deem it their duty to report themselves, some are old boys of ten years seniority. This is the brighter side.

Boys entering Nonsuch Training School from 1934 to 1950

1934 -35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50

11 6 1 10 9 4 9 11.11.10.8.12.13.14.12.13.3.

24 Boys Present to date. the smallest number for six years.