



**National Center for Mental
Health and Juvenile Justice**

NCMHJJ

Annotated Bibliography

Girls

March 2009

Books and journal articles listed herein are available from your local library or through inter-library loan. Unless otherwise noted, all other materials are available from the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice.

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Resource #: 012411 (Journal Article: 18 pages)

Citation: Aalsma, M., Lapsley, D. **A Typology of Adolescent Delinquency: Sex Differences and Implications for Treatment.** *Criminal Behavior and Mental Health* 11:173-191, 2001.

Abstract: This paper presents a test of Moffitt's theory regarding offending trajectories as it applies to a population of adolescent offenders. This study is novel since few studies have empirically explored Moffitt's theory with adolescent populations. Data were collected on 174 adolescents aged 13 to 18. Three groups of offenders were identified based on a two-step cluster analysis: well adjusted, internalizing and externalizing groups. The results provide evidence for Moffitt's theory regarding trajectories in adolescent offending. This study also provides support for the theory developed by Silverthorn and Frick regarding female offending. This was particularly evident in the rate of psychopathology evidences by a sub-sample of adolescent females in the internalizing group.

Resource #: 011511 (Report: 36 pages)

Citation: Acoca, L. **Educate or Incarcerate?** Washington, DC: National Council on Crime and Delinquency, November 2000.

Abstract: The subject of this report is a study funded by the Jessie Ball Dupont Fund and conducted by National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) with research support from the PACE Center for Girls between 1998 and 2000 on girls in the Florida and Duval County juvenile justice systems. The objectives of the study were to create a comprehensive profile of girl offenders, describe how girls are processed through the juvenile justice system, and identify the specific risk factors leading to girls' offending. The ultimate goal of the project was to develop a research-based legislative and service blueprint that will interrupt the escalating trend of girls' offending by eliminating the critical underlying risk factors. The study strongly suggests that the most statistically significant risk factor underlying girls' offending is educational failure, especially during their middle school years.

Available from: National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

Resource #: 010198 (Journal Article: 30 pages)

Citation: Acoca, L. **Outside/Inside: The Violation of American Girls at Home, on the Streets, and in the Juvenile Justice System.** *Crime and Delinquency* 44(4): 561-589, 1998.

Abstract: Girl offenders currently represent the fastest growing segment of the juvenile justice system. In this article, the continuum of violations that girl offenders typically experience before, during, and after their entry into the juvenile justice system and the damaging effects of these victimizations is explored. The conclusion of the article provides a range of concrete remedies specifically designed to prevent the continued physical, sexual and psychological violations of girls in correctional settings. These efforts include policy- and research-related recommendations and brief descriptions of specific programs and service models that could be used at various stages in the lives of girls within and on the periphery of the juvenile justice system.

Resource #: 010207 (Report: 82 pages)

Citation: Adelson, V., Alvarez, P.M. **Placement Options for Adolescent Girls in Hillsborough County.** Clearwater, FL: Juvenile Justice Council of Hillsborough County, October 2000.

Abstract: In June 1997, the Juvenile Justice Council of Hillsborough County established a Girls Initiative Subcommittee to examine the needs of girls at risk of, or already involved with the juvenile justice system. The subcommittee's mission was to meet the needs of girls and their families in Hillsborough County by assuring the provision of a full continuum of quality services. The subcommittee was to accomplish its mission by assessing the needs of the community; advocating for the needs of girls, creating community awareness of girls' issues, and improving access to services and information for girls. The gender-specific options and alternatives to out-of-home placement for girls at risk of, or already involved with the juvenile justice system in Hillsborough County, were analyzed and the findings validated the concerns that these services were insufficient. In light of these findings, the subcommittee recommends development of programs and services such as: transitional living programs; independent

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living programs; non-residential and residential programs; wraparound services; diversion programs; prevention programs; staff development; and education, awareness and advocacy.

Available from: The Phoenix Group, 2670 Red Oak Court, Clearwater, FL 33761.

Resource #: 010188 (Unpublished Paper: 3 pages)

Citation: Ambrose, A.M., Simpkins, S. **Improving Conditions for Girls in the Justice System: The Female Detention Project.** Washington, DC: American Bar Association, The Juvenile Unit of the Philadelphia Defender Association, 2001.

Abstract: The Female Detention Project's goal was to create a profile of a typical girl being detained in Philadelphia's juvenile detention center, by studying their family, social, educational and court-related histories. It was believed that girls in detention had faced similar challenges - including involvement with the child welfare system, school disruption, and behavioral and emotional disorders. This study confirmed that assumption. It also illuminated the fact that, given the myriad of problems described in the profile, Philadelphia's Juvenile Justice System did not adequately meet the needs of these girls. The results of this study were presented to the major stakeholders in the juvenile justice system in Philadelphia, and it has spurred efforts to improve services for girls.

Available from: www.abanet.org

Resource #: 010041 (Report: 47 pages)

Citation: American Bar Association **Justice by Gender: The Lack of Appropriate Prevention, Diversion and Treatment Alternatives for Girls in the Justice System.** American Bar Association, National Bar Association, 2001.

Abstract: This is a collaborative report from the American Bar Association and the National Bar Association which looks at the issues regarding the differences between the needs of female and male offenders. Over the last two decades, there has been an increase in the number of girls involved with the juvenile justice system, yet this system seems ill prepared to handle these cases. Efforts must be made to further understand the individual needs of girls in the justice system, to develop gender-specific community based services and alternatives for girls, to develop effective intervention strategies and to reduce recidivism.

Resource #: 010200 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: Archwamety T., Katsiyannis, A. **Factors Related to Recidivism Among Delinquent Females at a State Correctional Facility.** Journal of Child and Family Studies 7(1): 59-67, 1998.

Abstract: Although much of the research has focused on male delinquents, females are increasingly involved in violent crimes. This article investigates factors that may be related to recidivism among delinquent females committed to a state correctional facility. The records of 238 female delinquents were examined and 96 were found to be recidivists. The findings were consistent with previous research showing that age at first offense and first commitment differentiated recidivists from non-recidivists. Additional discriminant factors included deficits in basic math skills, gang affiliation, abuse, location of residence, and length of stay at the facility.

Resource #: 013934 (Journal Article: 8 pages)

Citation: Archwamety, T., Katsiyannis, A. **Factors Related to Recidivism Among Delinquent Females at a State Correctional Facility.** Journal of Child and Family Studies 7(1): 59-67, 1998.

Abstract: In this study, the authors investigated factors that may be related to recidivism among delinquent females committed to a state correctional facility. The records of 238 female delinquents were examined and 96 were found to be recidivists. Their findings were consistent with previous research showing that age at first offense and first commitment differentiated recidivists from non-recidivists. Additional discriminant factors included deficits in basic math skills, gang affiliation, abuse, location of residence, and length of stay at the facility (authors).

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Resource #: 011955 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Baerger, D., Lyons, J., Quigley, P., Griffin, E. **Mental Health Service Needs of Male and Female Juvenile Detainees.** Juvenile Correctional Mental Health Report 3(2): 17-18, 24-27,2003.

Abstract: In this article, the authors use data collected from a stratified random sample of 473 youth adjudicated to be delinquent by a juvenile court to examine the different mental health service needs presented by boys and girls. Comparisons were made according to a variety of clinical symptoms, risk factors, domains of functioning, co-occurring disorders, and caregiver characteristics. The female delinquents in the sample manifested significantly more depressive and anxious symptoms than their male counterparts, presented a greater suicide risk, and evidenced more severe abuse histories and traumatic aftereffects of that abuse. In contrast, the males showed significantly more conduct and behavioral disturbance than did the females, had more extensive criminal histories, and exhibited a significantly higher incidence of learning disabilities.

Resource #: 011435 (Journal Article: 23 pages)

Citation: Barnes, G., Welte, J., Hoffman, J. **Relationship of Alcohol Use to Delinquency and Illicit Drug Use in Adolescents: Gender, Age, and Racial/Ethnic Differences.** Journal of Drug Issues 32(1): 153-178, 2002.

Abstract: Alcohol use has been linked to other substance use and delinquency in adolescents. However, few studies have examined variations in these relationships in representative subsamples of gender, age and racial/ethnic groups. Respondents in this study were 19,321 New York State 7-12th grade students. After controlling for significant sociodemographic factors in a regression analysis, all of the alcohol measures remained strong predictors of both delinquency and illicit drug use. Significant interactions between alcohol measures and gender, age and racial/ethnic groups were also found.

Resource #: 011098 (Journal Article: 28 pages)

Citation: Barnickol, L. **The Disparate Treatment of Males and Females Within the Juvenile Justice System.** Journal of Law and Policy 2:429-457, 2000.

Abstract: This article examines the female youth offender's status, both past and present, within the juvenile justice system. It considers the effects that gender inequalities have on both the system itself and female offenders. After evaluating the treatment of female offenders within the juvenile justice system, this paper makes several proposals for restructuring the system. These proposals address some of the inadequacies that currently exist.

Resource #: 012183 (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Citation: Bergmann, I. **The Forgotten Few: Juvenile Female Offenders.** Federal Probation 53: 73-78, 1989.

Abstract: This article addresses the problems of young women in the juvenile justice system, including a description of who the female adolescent offender is, gender bias and stereotyping by corrections, education and administrators, and makes recommendations for much-needed policy changes to ensure equitable programs.

Resource #: 014472 (Unpublished Paper: 11 pages)

Citation: Bloom, B., Covington, S. **Effective Gender-Responsive Interventions in Juvenile Justice: Addressing the Lives of Delinquent Girls.** La Jolla, CA: Center for Gender and Justice, 2001.

Abstract: This paper addresses the gendered differences in girls' pathways into delinquency, their offense patterns, and their behavior and needs while in the juvenile justice system. Specifically, the authors argue that the system was designed to deal with delinquent boys and has neglected the gender-specific program and treatment needs of girls. Finally, they propose a framework for designing a continuum of care for girls, which includes effective gender-responsive prevention and intervention approaches (authors).

Available from: Center for Gender and Justice, 7946 Ivanhoe Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037, <http://centerforgenderandjustice.org/>

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Resource #: 010201 (Report: 63 pages)

Citation: Boles, M., Cable, N., Chittenden, R., Failor, E., Fefchak, L., Hanus, D., et al. **Providing Gender-Specific Services for Adolescent Female Offenders: Guidelines & Resources.** Des Moines, IA: Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, January 1999.

Abstract: This publication was written as a guide for those who want to use a gender-specific approach in girl-serving programs. It provides a thorough description of the gender-specific programmatic framework for creating quality services and programs for adolescent female offenders and girls in high-risk situations. Further, it includes reproducible lists of supportive actions to be taken by adults who serve in varied roles in girls' lives as well as comprehensive lists of resources, including organizations that focus on girls and curricula for girl-serving programs.

Resource #: 010962 (Journal Article: 36 pages)

Citation: Bottcher, J. **Social Practices of Gender: How Gender Relates to Delinquency in the Everyday Lives of High-Risk Youths.** *Criminology* 39(4):893-929, 2001.

Abstract: Conceptualizing gender as social practices and using those practices as the unit of analysis, data were analyzed from a study on gender and delinquency. The analysis disclosed six social practices that intertwined with delinquent activities, constraining female delinquency while enabling and rewarding male delinquency. Only a few differences emerged among three ethnic groups. The conclusion presents implications for general theoretical work on delinquency.

Resource #: 011532 (Journal Article: 13 pages)

Citation: Bowers, L. **Traumas Precipitating Female Delinquency: Implications for Assessment, Practice and Policy.** *Child and Adolescent Social Work* 7(5): 389-402, 1990.

Abstract: This article examines female delinquency as a symptom of the primary traumas of physical and sexual abuse and secondary traumas, when the environment responds with blame or disbelief. While social workers are increasingly aware that such a relationship often exists, they have yet to operationalize the relevant implications for assessment, practice, and policy in the juvenile justice system. It will be suggested that delinquency may be an act of disclosure and this effective intervention entails alleviating primary and secondary trauma at the individual-community interface.

Resource #: 011958 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Brooks, R., Harris, S., Thrall, J., Woods, E. **Association of Adolescent Risk Behaviors with Mental Health Symptoms in High School Students.** *Journal of Adolescent Health* 31:240-246, 2002.

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to examine the hypothesis that self-reported symptoms of depression and stress may be associated with other risk behaviors. A secondary data analysis of the 1992 Massachusetts Adolescent Health Survey involving a representative sample of high school students was performed. The study concluded that females had greater than threefold increased odds of reporting depression/stress. Other associations, with some gender differences, included older age, physical fights, non-use of birth control, lack of a healthy diet, and use of tobacco.

Resource #: 008104 (Fact Sheet: 2 pages)

Citation: Budnick, K.J., Shields-Fletcher, E. **What About Girls?** Washington, DC: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1998.

Abstract: State and local juvenile justice systems are increasingly called upon to address the needs of juvenile female offenders and at-risk girls. Recognizing that these needs require national attention, the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has launched a multilevel approach. This fact sheet describes OJJDP's approach, including research, training, technical assistance, and gender-specific initiatives.

Resource #: 010197 (Journal Article: 12 pages)

Citation: Caspi, A., Lynam, D., Moffitt, T.E., Silva, P.A. **Unraveling Girls' Delinquency: Biological,**

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Dispositional, Contextual Contributions to Adolescent Misbehavior. *Developmental Psychology* 29(1): 19-30, 1993.

Abstract: This article examines processes linking biological and behavioral changes in different contexts during adolescence by studying an unselected cohort of New Zealand girls from childhood through adolescence when they entered either mixed-sex or all-girl secondary schools. The impact of menarcheal timing on female delinquency was moderated by the sex composition of schools; early-maturing girls in mixed-sex settings were at greatest risk for delinquency. Individual differences in delinquency were also significantly more stable among girls in mixed-sex schools than among those in all-girl schools. These contextual variations are interpreted in terms of the differential distribution of reinforcements and opportunities for delinquency.

Resource #: 012677 (Report: 19 pages)

Citation: Castro, G, Posadas, J. **Girls on the Edge: A Report on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System.** San Francisco, CA: San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department, 2003.

Abstract: This report details the Girls Justice Initiative, a partnership between United Way of the Bay Area, the Juvenile Probation Department and 14 community-based agencies in San Francisco. As one of the first steps in establishing the project, this report was compiled to accomplish three major objectives: review national and local literature on girls in the juvenile justice system, analyze the characteristics and status of girls in the San Francisco juvenile justice system, and detail the Girls Justice Initiative strategy to address the needs of girls in the juvenile justice system. This report provides an overview of trends, issues obstacles and challenges facing the more than 1,300 girls that are cited or arrested in San Francisco each year.

Resource #: 010191 (Journal Article: 8 pages)

Citation: Cauffman, E., Feldman, S., Waterman, J., Steiner, H. **Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Among Female Juvenile Offenders.** *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 37(11): 1209-1216, 1998.

Abstract: While there is a growing body of evidence that psychotherapy is common among incarcerated boys, relatively little is known about the prevalence and manifestations of mental health problems among incarcerated girls. This study examines the incidence of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in a sample of 96 adolescent female offenders and its relation to socio-emotional adjustment.

Resource #: 010315 (Journal Article: 16)

Citation: Cecil, H., Matson, S.C. **Psychological Functioning and Family Discord Among African-American Adolescent Females With and Without a History of Childhood Sexual Abuse.** *Child Abuse & Neglect* 25: 973-988, 2001.

Abstract: The aim of this study was to examine the rate of childhood sexual abuse along with the factors (age of abuse onset, type of perpetrator, and duration of the abuse), as well as the relationship of these factors to the psychological functioning among females with a history of childhood sexual abuse. Second, to determine whether levels of psychological functioning and family discord differ among females with and without a history of childhood sexual abuse. Results indicate that adolescent females with a history of childhood sexual abuse suffer an array of negative sequelae that include psychological and family distress.

Resource #: 010190 (Journal Article: 7 pages)

Citation: Chesney-Lind, M. **What About the Girls? Delinquency Programming as if Gender Mattered.** *Corrections Today*, Feb 2001.

Abstract: Girls at risk for becoming involved in the juvenile justice system face problems regarding school and community situations, family circumstances, and individual/peer characteristics. This article examines the special dimensions these problems take on as a result of the way gender works in the lives of young women.

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Resource #: 005360 (Journal Article: 24 pages)

Citation: Chesney-Lind, M. **Girls, Gangs and Violence: Anatomy of a Backlash.** *Humanity and Society* 17(3):321-344, 1993.

Abstract: This paper is based on a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in November 1992 in response to recent attention of the media to the problems of girls in gangs. This paper attempts to pull together an understanding of girl gang members that makes their lives more accessible to others. Existing theories of crime and delinquency, because they were constructed almost entirely with boys and men in mind, would appear to be fundamentally inadequate to the task of explaining young women's crime.

Resource #: 011960 (Book Chapter: 26 pages)

Citation: Chesney-Lind, M. **Guilty by Reason of Sex: Young Women and the Juvenile Justice System.** In Price, B.R. and Sokoloff, N.J. (eds.), *The Criminal Justice System and Women.* New York, NY: Clark Boardman Company, Ltd., 1982.

Abstract: This chapter is very useful for a full understanding of the treatment of women offenders because it deals with young girls who find themselves enmeshed in the juvenile justice system. The author gives considerable data which depicts the severe response of the system to girls charged with status offenses - acts which are not crimes if committed by adults (such as running away and disobedience) but are crimes if committed by those in a juvenile status, particularly girls. The functions and purposes of status offenses for the society are carefully explained in this chapter. The author provides a good summary of what little scholarly work exists on female delinquency, and how such scholarly apathy contributed to gross distortions about female delinquency and allowed the judiciary to discriminate in its treatment against women and girls in the criminal justice system for nearly a century.

Resource #: 011961 (Journal Article: 22 pages)

Citation: Chesney-Lind, M. **Girls' Crime and Women's Place: Toward a Feminist Model of Female Delinquency.** *Crime and Delinquency* 35(1): 5-27, 1989.

Abstract: This article argues that existing delinquency theories are fundamentally inadequate to the task of explaining female delinquency and official reactions to girls' deviance. To establish this, the article first reviews the degree of the androcentric bias in the major theories of delinquent behavior. Then the need for a feminist model of female delinquency is explored by reviewing the available evidence on girls' offending. This review shows that the extensive focus on disadvantaged males in public settings has meant that girls' victimization and the relationship between that experience and girls' crime has been systematically ignored. The article suggests that the official actions of the juvenile justice system should be understood as major forces in women's oppression as they have historically served to reinforce the obedience of all young women to the demands of patriarchal authority no matter how abusive and arbitrary.

Resource #: 008540 (Paper: 25 pages)

Citation: Chesney-Lind, M. **What to do About Girls? Promising Perspectives and Effective Strategies.** LaCrosse, WI: International Community Corrections Association, 1998.

Abstract: Every year, girls account for one out of four arrests of young people in America. Despite this, young women are almost always invisible when the delinquency "problem" is discussed and largely forgotten when programs for "delinquents" are crafted. This paper discusses characteristics of girls at risk, problems with traditional delinquency programs, and programming as if girls mattered.

Available from: ICCA Arlington Conference, P.O. Box 1987, LaCrosse, WI 54602, (608) 785-0200.

Resource #: 015000 (Book: 0 pages)

Citation: Civic Research Institute. **Women and Girls in the Criminal Justice System: Policy Issues and Practice Strategies.** Kingston, NJ: Civic Research Institute, 2006.

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Abstract: For the most part, the American criminal justice and corrections systems have centered their activities on the concerns of men and boys in their care, custody, and control. But women "in the system" have different needs than men. Many women have critical childcare concerns not only while they are incarcerated but also after they have returned to the community. Women who are pregnant and give birth while incarcerated present particularly difficult health, mental health, and social service challenges. Women are more likely than men to be substance abusers or to have a mental illness. A very high percentage of women offenders have been victimized sexually and/or physically. Yet, many common risk assessment instruments, work programs, substance abuse interventions, and alternative-to-incarceration programs have been oriented to the characteristics and needs of male offenders-and simply do not work well for women and girls (authors).

Available from: Civic Research Institutes, 4478 US Route 27, PO Box 585, Kingston, NJ 08528, (609) 683-4450, www.civicrosearchinstitute.com.

Resource #: 010100 (Journal Article: 12 pages)

Citation: Cohen, P., Cohen, J., Kasen, S., Velez, C., Hartmark, C., Johnson, J., Rojas, M., Brook, J., Streuning, E. **An Epidemiological Study of Disorders in Late Childhood and Adolescence - I. Age- and Gender-Specific Prevalence.** *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 34(6): 851-867, 1993.

Abstract: Development aspects of psychiatric disorders may be inferred from patterns of age differences in prevalence. Age-specific prevalences are provided for nine disorders in a general population sample of ages 10-20. Part one in a series.

Resource #: 010380 (Journal Article: 7)

Citation: Cote, S., Zoccolillo, M., Tremblay, R.E., Nagin, D., Vitro, F. **Predicting Girls' Conduct Disorder in Adolescence From Childhood Trajectories of Disruptive Behaviors.** *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 40(6): 678-684, 2001.

Abstract: The objective of this study is to examine girls' developmental trajectories of disruptive behaviors during the elementary school years and to predict conduct disorder symptoms and diagnoses in adolescence with trajectories of these behaviors. The results suggest that there is an early-onset type of conduct disorder in girls.

Resource #: 008541 (Paper: 51 pages)

Citation: Covington, S.S. **Creating Gender-Specific Treatment for Substance-abusing Women and Girls in Community Correctional Settings.** LaCrosse, WI: International Community Corrections Association, 1998.

Abstract: This paper discusses a model for gender-specific treatment program in correctional settings developed by the author and based on this body of knowledge and on clinical experience. The Helping Women Recover program can be used in community correctional settings as well as in jails and prisons. Because many of the issues in the lives of women and girls in the criminal justice system are similar, this model is applicable to both (author).

Available from: ICCA Arlington Conference, P.O. Box 1987, LaCrosse, WI 54602, (608) 785-0200.

Resource #: 013201 (Journal Article: 2 pages)

Citation: Dean, A., Barham, C., Bailey, K., Ballard, J. **Gender Comparisons of Treatment and Programming in an Intensive Supervision Program for Juvenile Offenders.** *Women, Girls and Criminal Justice*: 85-91, October/November 2003.

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to explore whether there is a gender-based difference in the number and nature of offenses (status, misdemeanor and felony) committed by youth prior to their placement in the Intensive Surveillance and Treatment Program (ISTP) as compared to the total number and nature of offenses youth committed while on the ISTP. It is hoped that this research will illuminate programmatic differences between the two genders and what affect these differences could or may have on gender specific programming for juveniles. (authors)`

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Resource #: 011957 (Journal Article: 36 pages)

Citation: Gaarder, E., Belknap, J. **Tenuous Borders: Girls Transferred to Adult Court.** *Criminology* 40(3): 481-517, 2002.

Abstract: This study calls for a more careful and complex look at issues of victimization, agency, and responsibility among female offenders, particularly those proclaimed "adults" by the legal system. There are tremendous gaps in the theories and knowledge about girls who have committed crimes deemed so serious as to justify adult sentencing. This study is guided by a feminist approach to "give voice" to 22 girls incarcerated in a women's prison in the Midwest. Through in-depth interviews, the girls describe their lives before prison and their perceptions of being tried and convicted as adults. Consistent with other research on female offenders, these girls reported lives fraught with violence and victimization, sexism, racism, and economic marginalization.

Resource #: 010994 (Report: 50 pages)

Citation: Girls Incorporated and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. **Prevention and Parity: Girls in Juvenile Justice.** New York, NY: Girls Incorporated, June, 1996.

Abstract: This publication addresses key issues that affect the ways in which the juvenile justice system can meet girls' needs. The issues include the nature and extent of young women's involvement in juvenile delinquency and the juvenile justice system, specific factors that place a young woman at risk for involvement, variables affecting how girls are treated by the juvenile justice system and what is known about effective programs for prevention, intervention and treatment. The analysis and policy recommendations are based upon a synthesis of the available research in this area. The document concludes with ways the system could work effectively, offering both prevention and parity for young women. It provides examples of promising programs specifically addressing the needs of young women in the juvenile justice system and at risk of becoming involved.

Resource #: 013920 (Journal Article: 17 pages)

Citation: Goldstein, N., Arnold, D., Weil, J., Mesiarik, C., Peuschold, D., Grisso, T., Osman, D. **Comorbid Symptom Patterns in Female Juvenile Offenders.** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry* 26(5): 565-582, 2003.

Abstract: The current study examines differences in the mental health symptoms of girls in the juvenile justice system by examining patterns of symptom comorbidity. Specifically, we hypothesized that internalizing problems would be related to higher levels of substance abuse, more reported family discord, and more reports of suicidal thoughts and behaviors. The results of the study indicate that from a simple diagnostic perspective, girls in juvenile justice facilities who experience a great deal of depression and/or anxiety should also be screened for substance use, family discord, and suicidal ideation. In addition, findings from this study revealed that the relationship between internalizing and externalizing symptoms found with other populations extends to girls in the juvenile justice system (authors).

Resource #: 014361 (Journal Article: 28 pages)

Citation: Goodkind, S. **Gender-Specific Services in the Juvenile Justice System: A Critical Examination.** *Affilia* 20(1): 52-70, 2005.

Abstract: This article reviews the literature of gender-specific services for girls in the juvenile justice system. Drawing on feminist theorizing, it offers four critiques: (a) that the increasing involvement of girls in the system is taken as a real indicator of greater crime and delinquency; (b) that an essentialized notion of gender is used; (c) that the problem is located in the individual, to the exclusion of solutions that focus on system/structural changes; and (d) that a focus on girls' victimization obscures girls' agency and perpetuates girls' continued punishment for behaviors that are more acceptable among boys. The article concludes by proposing a framework for rethinking gender in the design and delivery of services within and outside the juvenile justice system (author).

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Resource #: 015056 (Journal Article: 8 pages)

Citation: Green, S., Russo, M., Navratil, J., Loeber, R. **Sexual and Physical Abuse Among Adolescent Girls with Disruptive Behavior Problems.** *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 8(2): 151-168, 1999.

Abstract: The authors examined the prevalence and age of onset of physical and sexual abuse in a clinic-referred sample of adolescent girls, as well as differences in diagnoses and symptoms among abused and non-abused girls. Forty-nine girls (ages 13-17 years) with disruptive behavior were interviewed along with their primary caretaker. Data were gathered through both a structured interview with the girl and her parent, as well as self and parent-report questionnaires. Findings indicated that the prevalence of Conduct Disorder (CD) and Major Depression were higher for abused girls. Somatoform Pain Disorder was significantly less likely for physically abused girls, compared to girls who were both physically and sexually abused. Of CD symptoms, truancy was twice as high for the physically and sexually abused group, compared to the prevalence for non-abused girls. Internalizing symptoms were also highest for the dual abuse group. Onset graphs show that the onset of sexual abuse usually occurred at an earlier age than the onset of physical abuse. Abused girls showed an earlier age of onset of CD symptoms. Results indicated that the experience of combined types of abuse is associated with a poorer psychiatric prognosis (authors).

Resource #: 013541 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Hazler, R., Mellin, E. **The Developmental Origins and Treatment Needs of Female Adolescents with Depression.** *Journal of Counseling and Development* 82(1): 18-24, 2004.

Abstract: This paper states that rates of female to male depression rapidly soar during adolescence to a 2:1 ratio despite fairly equal rates throughout childhood. The literature suggests that changes in social development, social role expectations, and/or biology may play significant roles, but research considering these factors is scarce and inconsistent. This review considers how current information about these factors can help develop more culturally and client-appropriate treatment approaches and recommendations for the next steps in research (authors).

Resource #: 011093 (Journal Article: 11 pages)

Citation: Hegamin, A., Anglin, G., Farabee, D. **Gender Differences in the Perception of Drug User Treatment: Assessing Drug User Treatment for Youthful Offenders.** *Substance Use and Misuse* 36(14):2159-2170, 2001.

Abstract: The present study sought to determine whether gender-specific differences existed in the perception of drug user treatment services delivered at a residential substance misuse treatment program operated by a large youth correctional agency in the western United States. Hypothesized gender differences in perceptions of treatment services and treatment-related needs were confirmed in a number of areas such as treatment engagement, counseling needs, and post-release concerns. Findings of this exploratory study underscore the need to consider gender-specific issues in correctional substance misuse treatment for young offenders.

Resource #: 014224 (Report: 7 Pages)

Citation: Hennessey, M., Ford, J., Mahoney, K., Ko, S., Siegfried, C. **Trauma Among Girls in the Juvenile Justice System.** Los Angeles, CA: National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2004.

Abstract: This report is part of a series of publications on the topic of trauma and youth. Covered in this report are: prevalence rates, potential consequences of trauma, impact of juvenile processing on traumatized girls, and the need for gender-specific programming.

Resource #: 013935 (Journal Article: 15 pages)

Citation: Hoffmann, M., Powlishta, K., White, K. **An Examination of Gender Differences in Adolescent Adjustment: The Effect of Competence on Gender Role Differences in Symptoms of Psychopathology.** *Sex Roles* 50(11/12): 795-810, 2004.

Abstract: This study was designed to investigate how gender roles influence symptoms of

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psychopathology by examining the mediating effects of self- and peer-rated competencies. Using a multiple regression approach to path analysis with a sample of primarily white, middle-class high school students, gender roles significantly predicted symptoms of psychopathology and mediated the gender differences in those symptoms. In addition, the adolescents' self- and peer-rated competence in various domains helped to explain the effect of gender roles on symptoms of psychopathology. Specifically, self-rated social attractiveness and global self-worth fully mediated the relation between instrumentality and internalizing symptoms. Global self-worth and both self- and peer-rated achievement/conduct partially mediated the relation between expressivity and externalizing symptoms. Practical and theoretical implications are discussed (authors).

Resource #: 014477 (Journal Article: 31 pages)

Citation: Holsinger, K., Holsinger, A. **Differential Pathways to Violence and Self-Injurious Behavior: African American and White Girls in the Juvenile Justice System.** *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 42(2): 211-242, 2005.

Abstract: This article explores racial differences between girls and how gender-specific differences may affect the commission of violent behavior and self-injurious behavior. Self-report data were collected from girls incarcerated in Ohio in 1998. Data were collected on a wide range of variables, including potentially criminogenic areas such as abuse, antisocial attitudes, drug use, type of parenting received, self-esteem, family experiences, and mental health. The findings indicate that some of these variables differ significantly by race. Furthermore, these criminogenic areas are investigated in order to test their relationship to self-reports of violence, self-injurious behavior, suicide attempts, and overall delinquency. These models are then examined by race with findings that demonstrate the fallacy of representing girls as a homogeneous group. Of particular interest is how differently girls respond to abuse, based on race (authors).

Resource #: 014355 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: Horowitz, K., Weine, S., Jekel, J. **PTSD Symptoms in Urban Adolescent Girls: Compounded Community Trauma.** *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 34(10): 1353-1361, 1995.

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to describe the assessments for exposure to violent events and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms in a population of urban adolescent girls. Seventy-nine urban adolescent girls attending an adolescent medical clinic were assessed via clinician-assisted self-report measures called the Adolescent Self-Report Trauma Questionnaire. The questionnaire gathered information on demographics, exposure to community and domestic violent events, and PTSD symptoms. These urban adolescent girls have experienced prolonged and repeated exposure to multiple types of community as well as domestic violent events, via multiple modalities of contact, over time. They reported a high percentage of PTSD symptoms across all three symptom clusters. The authors propose the concept of "compounded community trauma" and discuss its marked impact on female adolescent development (authors).

Resource #: 008333 (Journal Article: 27 pages)

Citation: Hoyt, S., Scherer, D.G. **Female Juvenile Delinquency: Misunderstood by the Juvenile Justice System, Neglected by Social Science.** *Law and Human Behavior* 22(1): 81-107, 1998.

Abstract: This article offers a critical review of the existing theories of and research on female delinquency and the juvenile justice system's response to female delinquency. The inadequacies and persistence of historical theories and the conceptual and methodological strengths and weaknesses of contemporary perspectives in female delinquency are reviewed. Understanding and treatment of female and male delinquency could be enhanced through the adoption of a gender-integrated theory of delinquency that is informed by the comprehensive study of developmental, psychological, and social-ecological determinants.

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Resource #: 010192 (Journal Article: 12 pages)

Citation: Kataoka, S.H. **Mental Health Problems and Service Use Among Female Juvenile Offenders: Their Relationship to Criminal History.** *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 40(5): 549-555, 2001.

Abstract: The objective of this study was: to describe (1) the level of mental health problems and lifetime use of specialty mental health services and special education programs among incarcerated female juvenile offenders and (2) how these indices relate to their criminal history. It concluded that a substantial proportion of female juvenile offenders merit a mental health evaluation. Interventions for these high risk youth should include an assessment for substance use disorders because of the association of recidivism and substance use problems in this population.

Resource #: 012410 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Katoaka, S., Zima, B., Dupre, D., Moreno, K., Yang, X., McCracken, J. **Mental Health Problems and Service Use Among Female Juvenile Offenders: Their Relationship to Criminal History.** *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 40(5): 549-555, 2001.

Abstract: The object of this study was to describe the level of mental health problems and lifetime use of specialty mental health services and special education programs among incarcerated female juvenile offenders and how these indices relate to their criminal history. The results showed a substantial proportion of female juvenile offenders merit a mental health evaluation. Interventions for these high-risk youth should include an assessment for substance use disorders because of the association of recidivism and substance use problems in this population.

Resource #: 011140 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Kim, J.Y.S., Fendrich, M. **Gender Differences in Juvenile Arrestees' Drug Use, Self-Reported Dependence, and Perceived Need for Treatment.** *Psychiatric Services* 53(1): 70-75, 2002.

Abstract: The authors examined gender differences in drug use, self-reported dependence, and perceived need for treatment in a national sample of juvenile arrestees and detainees between the ages of nine and 18 years. A sample of 4,644 boys and girls, drawn from the Juvenile Drug Use Forecasting Survey from 1992 to 1995, was matched by sex within each of seven sites by survey year. In anonymous interviews, respondents were asked about their living arrangements, drug use, and need for drug treatment. Questions about drug use covered marijuana, cocaine, crack, heroin, crystal methamphetamine, amphetamines, and phencyclidine (PCP). Logistic regression was used to identify significant predictors of drug dependence and perceived need for treatment. Girls were significantly more likely than boys to report dependence but were no more likely to report a need for treatment. Among those who reported current, frequent drug use, girls were significantly less likely than boys to report a need for treatment. The ways in which juvenile arrestees report drug dependence and need for treatment differ by gender. Clinicians should assess and reduce barriers to treatment perceived by girls in particular to engage them in services before their drug use escalates (authors).

Resource #: 010761 (Journal Article: 16 pages)

Citation: Leschild, A.W., Cummings, A.L., Van Brunschot, M., Cunningham, A., Saunders, A. **Aggression in Adolescent Girls: Implications for Policy, Prevention, and Treatment.** *Canadian Psychology* 42(3): 200-215, 2001.

Abstract: This review of literature focuses on aggression and adolescent girls. Recent official crime statistics from Statistics Canada show an increase in violent offenses by girls. This statistic has created considerable interest in a heretofore largely ignored area of childhood maladjustment. Important differences regarding the development and expression of aggression with girls in contrast to boys is provided. In the context of what is acknowledged to be a limited literature, there are important themes for human service-providers and policy-makers to consider in examining assessment, treatment, and prevention strategies for aggressive adolescent girls. Finally, an orientation towards furthering a research agenda in the area of aggression with adolescent girls is provided.

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Resource #: 014128 (Journal Article: 13 pages)

Citation: Leve, L., Chamberlain, P. **Female Juvenile Offenders: Defining an Early-Onset Pathway for Delinquency.** Journal of Child and Family Studies 13(4): 439-452, 2004.

Abstract: In the study, the authors examined whether childhood factors predict age of first arrest in adolescent girls referred for placement and treatment for serious delinquency problems. Measures included child characteristics, family environmental factors, biological parent criminality, and juvenile court records. Parental transitions and biological parent criminality significantly predicted the age of first arrest and IQ showed a trend to be a significant predictor. Additional findings are discussed (authors).

Resource #: 012659 (Journal Article: 3 pages)

Citation: Lynch, J. **Girls and Their Babies: "Time" Together at Florida's YMCA Character House.** Women, Girls and Criminal Justice 3(30): 33, 46-47, 2002.

Abstract: This article describes a program for young mothers in the juvenile justice system. Instead of doing time, young girls are given the opportunity to change by learning character development, behavior modification, and parenting skills. The program uses a positive behavior management approach with supportive counseling services. It is designed to increase the probability of successful socialization by increasing resiliency to substance abuse, minimizing risk of additional unwanted pregnancies, assisting each youth in making better life choices, and avoiding future delinquent acts.

Resource #: 010924 (Journal Article: 23 pages)

Citation: MacDonald, J.M., Chesney-Lind, M. **Gender Bias and Juvenile Justice Revisited: A Multiyear Analysis.** Crime & Delinquency 47(2): 173-195, 2001.

Abstract: This study presents a multiyear empirical examination of gender bias in the handling of juvenile court cases in Hawaii. Based on prior qualitative and quantitative data, it is hypothesized that once female juvenile offenders are found delinquent, they will be sanctioned more severely than male offenders by the juvenile court, holding other factors constant. Results from a series of analyses indicate significant differences between male and female juvenile justice outcomes, particularly for youth of color. Female offenders are more likely than male offenders to be handled informally at the early stages of the system, but the court's benevolence declines as girls move into the disposition stage. The implications of these findings for resolving inconsistencies in prior research are discussed.

Resource #: 011599 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: McCabe, K., Lansing, A., Garland, A., Hough, R. **Gender Differences in Psychopathology, Functional Impairment, and Familial Risk Factors Among Adjudicated Delinquents.** Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 41(7): 860-867, 2002.

Abstract: The objective of this study was to test the hypothesis that female juvenile delinquents would have higher rates of psychological symptoms, DSM-IV psychiatric and substance use disorders, functional impairment, and familial risk factors than male juvenile delinquents. Findings indicated that female adjudicated delinquents have significantly higher rates of psychopathology, maltreatment history, and familial risk factors than males and suggest that the mental health needs of girls in juvenile justice deserve increased attention.

Resource #: 012408 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Miller, D., Trapani, C. **Adolescent Female Offenders: Unique Considerations.** Adolescence 30: 429-435, 1995.

Abstract: In this study, descriptions of selected characteristics and assessment considerations related to adolescent female offenders were synthesized from relevant research. Recommendations are discussed that propose changing educational programming in order to make curriculum, assessment, methods and service delivery more responsive to the specific needs of these adolescents. A brief review of selected

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characteristics related to adolescent females is followed by a discussion of assessment considerations. Recommendations are then offered that will facilitate more responsive social, correctional, and educational programming.

Resource #: 012463 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: Morgan, M., Patton, P. **Gender-Responsive Programming in the Justice System: Oregon's Guidelines for Effective Programming for Girls.** Federal Probation 66(2): 57-66, 2002.

Abstract: This article reviews issues facing girls today in the juvenile justice system and examines how Oregon's gender-responsive guidelines address the issues of equity for boys and girls in access to social, juvenile justice, and community services. Recent legislation requires Oregon state agencies serving children under 18 years to ensure that girls and boys have equal access to appropriate services, treatment and facilities. These guidelines were funded by the State Commission on Children and Families and the State Criminal Justice Commission in Oregon, and covers topics such as administration and management, staff qualifications, program content and strength-based programming.

Resource #: 013328 (Journal Article: 13 pages)

Citation: Mullis, R., Cornille, T., Mullis, A., Huber, J. **Female Juvenile Offending: A Review of Characteristics and Contexts.** Journal of Child and Family Studies 13(2): 205-218, 2004.

Abstract: In this paper the authors reviewed current literature on female juvenile offending including the scope and nature of offending by female adolescents and the risk and protective factors across ecological contexts. They suggested that female juvenile offending is best viewed within a multidimensional framework in which female adolescent developmental characteristics as well as the ecological contexts must be considered for effective preventions and interventions. An ecological framework may assist professionals to target adolescent female offenders who are most likely to be chronic offenders. The authors offered both an intervention and research frame for addressing the issue of offending among female youth and concluded that, as the incidence of female juvenile offending increases, researchers and practitioners are well advised to consider both the contexts surrounding the potential female adolescent offender as well as the contexts that contribute to her resiliency against offending. (authors)

Resource #: 010168 (Journal Article: 29 pages)

Citation: Mustaine, E. **Victimization Risks and Routine Activities: A Theoretical Examination Using a Gender-Specific and Domain Specific Model.** American Journal of Criminal Justice: 22(1):41-70, 1997.

Abstract: This paper examines female and male victimization risks in general and in three domains: home, work, and leisure/public. In doing so, the analysis is based on a popular victimization model: the routine activities/lifestyle theory of victimization. Analyses using data from the National Crime Survey's Victim Risk Supplement (1983) indicate the importance of analyzing specific populations and domains in any evaluation of routine activities/lifestyle victimization theory, because the determinants of victimization are not identical between men and women or between the domains of home, work, and leisure/public.

Resource #: 010194 (Report: 3 pages)

Citation: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. **A Female-Based Continuum of Care Model.** Washington, DC:Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, October, 1998.

Abstract: This report states the need to develop a complete continuum of care for young women involved in the juvenile justice system in order to meet their individual service delivery needs and eliminate gender bias from within the system. A continuum model, adapted from one developed in 1993 by the Florida Female Initiative, is put forth as an example.

Available from: www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org

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Resource #: 014994 (Report: 11 Pages)

Citation: Office of National Drug Control Policy. **Girls and Drugs: A New Analysis, Recent Trends, Risk Factors and Consequences.** Washington, DC: Office of National Drug Control Policy, 2006.

Abstract: A growing body of evidence documents the motivations and consequences of adolescent girls' drug use. A number of findings have shown that adolescent females display unique vulnerabilities that can lead to substance use. Furthermore, research reveals that drug abuse has a more profound impact on teen girls, both physically and psychologically. These studies can help us better understand the vulnerabilities, consequences, and factors that affect the risks of girls' substance abuse (authors).

Available from: Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, Washington, DC 20503, 800-666-3332, www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov.

Resource #: 012968 (Journal Article: 8 pages)

Citation: Pajer, K. **What Happens to "Bad" Girls? A Review of the Adult Outcomes of Antisocial Adolescent Girls.** *American Journal of Psychiatry* 155: 862-870, 1998.

Abstract: The purpose of this article is to critically review the data on the adult outcomes of adolescent girls with antisocial behavior. Five literature databases were searched for studies on the adult outcomes of girls with either conduct disorder or delinquency. Twenty studies met the inclusion criteria. As adults, antisocial girls manifested increased mortality rates, an increase in the rate of criminality, substantial rates of psychiatric morbidity, dysfunctional and often violent relationships, and high rates of multiple service utilization. Possible explanations for these findings include a pervasive biological or psychological deficit or baseline heterogeneity in the population of antisocial girls. This review establishes that female adolescent antisocial behavior has important long-term individual and societal consequences. (authors)

Resource #: 013017 (Journal Article: 25 pages)

Citation: Poe-Yamagata, E., Butts, J. **Female Offenders in the Juvenile Justice System: Statistics Summary.** Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996.

Abstract: This report analyzes patterns in the arrest, judicial management, and correctional placement of female offenders. Citing data from diverse sources, the study notes that females are entering the juvenile justice system more frequently and at younger ages. The appropriate treatment of female offenders in the juvenile justice system is matter of increasing concern to policymakers, practitioners and the public. This report contains information on arrests, court processing and detention. (authors)

Resource #: 010319 (Bulletin: 40 pages)

Citation: Portland State University Research and Training Center. **Focal Point: A National Bulletin on Family Support and Children's Mental Health.** Minneapolis, MN:Pacer Center 11(1):Spring 1997.

Abstract: The entire issue is dedicated to the topic of families, juvenile justice and children's mental health. Topics covered include: prevalence, mental health services, girls, youth of color, parent support, youth with disabilities, treatment approaches and programs. In addition, one section focuses on the challenges faced by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention as they respond to the mental health needs of juvenile offenders.

Resource #: 007555 (Report: 22 pages)

Citation: Prescott, L. **Adolescent Girls with Co-Occurring Disorders in the Juvenile Justice System.** Delmar, NY: The National GAINS Center for People with Co-Occurring Disorders in the Justice System, 1997.

Abstract: This paper is meant to be an outline of some of the major topics concerning adolescent girls with co-occurring disorders in the juvenile justice system. It is not meant to be a synthesized compendium of answers, but rather a source of generation for questions and dialogue that can facilitate further understanding, program development, collaboration, and policy development. Demographic statistics on this population is provided, along with information regarding policy and service systems.

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The author also discusses future challenges and creative re-direction for dealing with this issue.
Available from: The GAINS Center, 345 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054, (800) 311-GAIN.

Resource #: 007820 (Report: 27 pages)

Citation: Prescott, L. **Improving Policy and Practice for Adolescent Girls with Co-Occurring Disorders in the Juvenile Justice System.** Delmar, NY: The National GAINS Center for People with Co-Occurring Disorders in the Justice System, 1998.

Abstract: While attention has begun to focus on the mental health and substance recovery needs of youth in the juvenile justice system in general, little attention has been given to the gender-specific needs of adolescent girls. This report provides an overview of female adolescents with co-occurring disorders in the justice system, discusses the critical issues in this area, and offers specific recommendations for supporting gender-specific, culturally and developmentally sensitive policy and practice.

Available from: The GAINS Center, 345 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054, (800) 311-GAIN.

Resource #: 012344 (Journal Article: 10 pages)

Citation: Rhodes, J., Fischer, K. **Spanning the Gender Gap: Gender Differences in Delinquency Among Inner-City Adolescents.** *Adolescence* 28(112): 879-889, 1993.

Abstract: The purpose of this investigation was to study the relationship between gender and delinquency among inner-city adolescents participating in a court diversion program. Official and self-report records of 64 adolescents were analyzed to determine the influence of gender on program referrals, arrest rates, drug use, delinquency, and gang involvement. Gender differences emerged in both the referral source and behavioral patterns of the adolescents. Overall, males were more likely to be referred to the program for violations of the law, to have been arrested, and to have engaged in aggressive offenses and selling drugs. Females were more likely to be referred because of status offenses. Gang membership had an intensifying effect on the delinquent behaviors of all youth. Male gang members were far more likely than nonmembers to have been arrested, and female gang members were more likely than nonmembers to carry weapons.

Resource #: 010205 (Report: 37 pages)

Citation: Richie, B.E., Tsenin, K., Spatz-Widom, C. **Research on Women and Girls in the Justice System.** Washington, DC:National Institute of Justice, 1999.

Abstract: These papers were drawn from the 1999 Conference on Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation. They show that studies have uncovered a link between victimization of women and their criminal behavior. They also propose that justice system practice can be enhanced if policy makers and the practitioners who operationalize their decisions redefine justice to take this condition into account. The writers amply demonstrate that women and girls who are caught up in the justice system enter it as a result of circumstances distinctly different from those of men, and so find themselves at a distinct disadvantage.

Available from: www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org

Resource #: 015644 (Report: 114 Pages)

Citation: Roman, C., Naser, R., Rossman, S., Castro, J., Lynn-Whaley, J. **At-Risk and Delinquent Girls Programs in the SafeFutures Demonstration.** Washington DC: The Urban Institute Justice Policy Center, 2006.

Abstract: The SafeFutures Program to Reduce Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Violence was a five-year six-site demonstration supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice. SafeFutures sought to prevent and control juvenile crime and victimization through the creation of a continuum of prevention, intervention, and treatment services designed to meet the needs of at-risk and delinquent youth. The At-Risk and Delinquent Girls component of SafeFutures was intended to provide services to meet the unique emotional and developmental needs of young

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women. This report examines the programs targeted to at-risk girls in each site. The report first sets the context for these programs by reviewing the risk factors for female delinquency, the history of government funding, and the literature evaluating girls programs. The report also includes a brief overview of some promising national programs. The report then specifically focuses on the efforts of the six SafeFutures sites in developing and maintaining programs targeted to at-risk and delinquent girls. The latter half of the report contains profiles of the specific programs targeted to at-risk and delinquent girls that each SafeFutures site operated, as well as a discussion of key cross-site issues, and implications for policy and practice (authors).

Available from: The Urban Institute Justice Policy Center, 2100 M Street, Washington DC 20037, (202) 833-7200, <http://www.urban.org/publications>.

Resource #: 010767 (Journal Article: 15 pages)

Citation: Rounds-Bryant, J., Kristiansen, P., Fairbank, J., Hubbard, R. **Substance Use, Mental Disorders, Abuse, and Crime: Gender Comparisons Among a National Sample of Adolescent Drug Treatment Clients.** *Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse* 7(4):19-34, 1998.

Abstract: This paper describes important gender comparisons in drug and alcohol use, illegal activity, physical and sexual abuse, and mental health problems among a large sample of adolescents who were treated from 1993 to 1995 in adolescent-oriented drug programs that participated in the Drug Abuse Treatment Outcome Study of Adolescents.

Resource #: 013040 (Journal Article: 21 pages)

Citation: Sanger, D., Moore-Brown, B., Montgomery, J., Rezac, C., Keller, H. **Female Incarcerated Adolescents with Language Problems Talk About Their Own Communication Behaviors and Learning.** *Journal of Communication Disorders* 36(6): 465-486, 2003.

Abstract: In this study, qualitative methodology was used to explore communication behaviors of thirteen female adolescents with language problems who resided in a correctional facility. Girls between ages of 13 and 17 were interviewed on four questions about their communication behaviors and school learning experiences. Themes emerging from the interviews were: how teenagers communicate with friends, parents, and authorities; participants' views about themselves; and how they describe their learning in school. Many spoke about their feelings and interactions as well as their struggles with listening, thinking, speaking, and reading. Implications raise concerns of whether the current educational system is adequately considering how language deficits and disorders impact this troubled population. (authors)

Resource #: 011232 (Journal Article: 25 pages)

Citation: Schaffner, L. **Female Juvenile Delinquency: Sexual Solutions, Gender Bias, and Juvenile Justice.** *Hastings Women's Law Journal* 9:1-25, 1998.

Abstract: This exploratory essay suggests that re-examining female delinquency by contextualizing girls' experiences may reveal new ways to understand girls' decision-making processes. This essay builds upon the notion that many of the processes involved in adjudicating female juvenile delinquency are often criminalizations of girls' material, emotional, and psychological survival strategies. Part I introduces the notion of sexualized solutions of female juvenile offenders. Part II presents a brief historical overview of girl-specific delinquency. Part III explores four formations of gendered sexualizations and delinquency: resisting conformity through oppositional behavior; filling an empty family life with an older boyfriend; acting on lesbian desire and its repercussions; and responding to sexual injury. Studying the attitudes, beliefs, and experiences that animate girls' decisions may uncover the moral horizons that form the basis of their hidden "good girl" and "bad girl" decision-making.

Resource #: 012182 (Journal Article: 10 pages)

Citation: Schraidley, P., Gotlib, I., Hayward, C. **Gender Differences in Correlates of Depressive Symptoms in Adolescents.** *Journal of Adolescent Health* 25: 988-108, 1999.

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Abstract: The purpose of this study was to determine what demographic and psychosocial factors are associated with elevated levels of depressive symptoms in adolescence; whether girls and boys show different profiles of correlates and probable risk factors for depressive symptoms; and what the implications are of these results for future research directions and policy decisions. The correlates of depression in the sample closely resemble those seen in adult samples, including demographic and psychosocial variables. Some variables such as stress and social support may have a greater impact on depressive symptoms for girls than for boys. Results of this study also have important implications for the health care system, given that higher levels of depressive symptoms were found to be associated with greater utilization of physical health care resources.

Resource #: 013241 (Monograph: 32 pages)

Citation: Sharp, C., Simon, J. **Girls in the Juvenile Justice System.** Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America, 2003.

Abstract: This monograph seeks to show the complexity of female offenders and demonstrates why a more comprehensive continuum of care is needed to address their needs. All youth-serving systems - juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, education, and so forth - and communities need to collaborate to create gender-competent programs for females involved with or at risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system. This monograph documents the current trends in arrests and detainment, common characteristics of juvenile female offenders, risk factors linked to girls' pathways to delinquency, and examples of promising programs and gender-competent components. (authors)

Available from: Child Welfare League of America, 440 First Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, www.cwla.org

Resource #: 010466 (Journal Article: 14 pages)

Citation: Shelden, R., Horvath, J., Tracy, S. **Do Status Offenders Get Worse? Some Clarifications on the Question of Escalation.** *Crime and Delinquency* 35(2):202-216, 1989.

Abstract: Data from a longitudinal study of juvenile court referrals reveal that whether or not status offenders "escalate" is dependent upon gender and the specific type of status offense committed. Specifically, male status offenders were found to be more likely than females to escalate. Also, runaways and unmanageables were far less likely to escalate than those who were first referred for truancy, curfew, and liquor law violations. Status offenders are also compared with other offenders in terms of the total number of subsequent referrals and whether or not a youth had an arrest record as an adult. Some of the problems associated with the study of status offenders are discussed.

Resource #: 010760 (Journal Article: 18 pages)

Citation: Shelden, R.G., Chesney-Lind, M. **Gender and Race Differences in Delinquent Careers.** *Juvenile & Family Court Journal*: 73-90, 1993.

Abstract: Studies of delinquent careers have often tracked only male offenders, and have almost always failed to explore the interaction of race and gender in delinquency. This study tracks a cohort of youth whose first referral to juvenile court was 1980, and explores the role played both by race and gender in official delinquent careers. This article discusses the implications of these findings, particularly with reference to the "convergence theory" of delinquency, which suggests that race plays a stronger role than gender in female delinquency. Finally, the article considers the policy implications of the current range of definitions of "chronic" delinquency.

Resource #: 015220 (Report: 83 Pages)

Citation: Sherman, F. **Pathways to Juvenile Detention Reform: Detention Reform and Girls Challenges and Solutions.** Baltimore MD: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2005.

Abstract: This responds to needs expressed in many jurisdictions, whether just beginning or well into detention reform, by providing principles and practices for gender-responsive detention reform. It will discuss the complex personal and social backdrop for girls in the delinquency system and look at the ways

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in which girls are tracked into detention at various key points in the juvenile justice process. With a map of how girls end up in detention, the monograph will examine strategies for gender-responsive detention reform focusing on key system sticking points for girls and cross-system approaches to reform. Hopefully, the lessons learned from JDAI experiences and other relevant research on girls in detention will provide jurisdictions with a starting point as they work to reduce the inappropriate detention of girls (authors).

Available from: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 701 St. Paul Street, Baltimore MD 21202, (410)547-6600, www.aecf.org

Resource #: 012216 (Journal Article: 11 pages)

Citation: Sparks, J. **Taking a Stand: An Adolescent Girl's Resistance to Medication.** *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy* 28(1): 27-38, 2002.

Abstract: In this article Amy, a 16-year-old girl, and her therapist describe strategies for managing depression without medication. Therapists and clients encounter pressure to seek medication for adolescent depression and dangerous behaviors. A review of current research indicates that medical practitioners prescribe antidepressants for adolescents despite questionable efficacy, side effects and frequent refusal. Adolescent girls' expression of distress expose them to system that promote medication prescription. A critical look at medical, gender, and adolescent discourses sheds light on drug prescription as standard practice and highlights its impact on adolescent girls' agency, voice, and community connection. Resistance to medication is reconsidered as an act of personal and political choice.

Resource #: 015503 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: Springer, C., Padgett, D.K. **Gender Differences in Young Adolescents' Exposure to Violence and Rates of PTSD Symptomatology.** *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 70(3): 370-379, 2000.

Abstract: Gender differences in exposure to violence and levels of PTSD symptomatology were examined in a school-based sample of 621 young adolescents. Also investigated as predictors of PTSD symptoms were cognitive coping strategies, perceived social support, and the affective experience of fear. Results support the importance of evaluating gender differences, differentiating between violence by type and location, and considering both cognitive and affective factors as predictors of PTSD symptomatology (authors).

Resource #: 013577 (Journal Article: 12 pages)

Citation: Stevens, S., Estrada, B., Murphy, B., McKnight, K., Tims, F. **Gender Differences in Substance Use, Mental Health, and Criminal Justice Involvement of Adolescents at Treatment Entry and at Three, Six, Twelve and Thirty Month Follow-Up.** *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* 36(1): 13-25, 2004.

Abstract: This paper states that many adolescents entering substance abuse treatment have coexisting mental health problems and are criminally involved. Examination of the complexities of substance use, mental health, and criminal justice involvement along with changes in these issues following treatment is needed. This study includes males and females enrolled in seven drug treatment programs located in geographically diverse areas of the United States. Comparisons between males and females at treatment entry and three, six twelve and thirty months later were examined with regard to substance use, mental health, and criminal justice involvement. Results indicate that females showed significantly greater severity in substance use, problems associated with use, and mental health related variables at intake while males had significantly more days on probation/parole. With respect to change over time, the rate of change in mental health and days on probation/parole differed between the sexes. Results indicate that while rate of change is different for males and females on most variables, there was positive change following treatment for both groups with regard to substance use, mental health, and probation/parole status. The high severity levels of females at intake calls for gender-specific outreach and identification along with gender-specific treatments (authors).

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Resource #: 015591 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: Tille, J., Rose, J. **Emotional and Behavioral Problems of 13-to-18-Year-Old Incarcerated Female First-Time Offenders and Recidivists.** *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* 5(4): 426-435, 2007.

Abstract: This exploratory study in Pierce County, Washington, compared emotional and behavioral problems of 13- to 18-year-old incarcerated female first-time offenders (n = 38) and recidivists (n = 78) using the Massachusetts Youth Screening Inventory, Version Two (MAYSI-2) and demographic data. The study found that adolescent female recidivists had more emotional and behavioral problems, more unstable lifestyles, and less stable family situations (authors).

Resource #: 012810 (Brief: 6 pages)

Citation: Veysey, B. **Adolescent Girls with Mental Health Disorders Involved with the Juvenile Justice System.** Delmar, NY: National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice, 2003.

Abstract: Available research suggests that large numbers of girls involved with the juvenile justice system have serious mental health problems often associated with histories of sexual and/or physical abuse or neglect. Without appropriate gender- and trauma-specific treatment, these girls are likely to experience high rates of criminality, substance abuse, early pregnancy, and continued interpersonal violence. Assertive interventions are necessary to break the intergenerational cycles of violence, crime, trauma, and addiction. This brief outlines the issues facing this population, and makes recommendations regarding research, training and services.

Resource #: 015808 (Journal Article: 12 Pages)

Citation: Vincent, G., Grisso, T., Terry, A., Banks, S. **Sex and Race Differences in Mental Health Symptoms in Juvenile Justice: The MAYSI-2 National Meta-Analysis** *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 47(3): 282-290, 2008.

Abstract: Studies have suggested a high prevalence of mental health symptoms among youths in the juvenile justice system, with the highest prevalence among girls and whites compared to boys and other races. This multisite, archival study examined whether sex and race differences, when they exist, were consistent across U.S. juvenile justice programs. Data included scores on the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument-Version 2 (MAYSI-2) for 70,423 youths from 283 juvenile justice probation, detention, or corrections programs. A meta-analytic technique investigated the consistency of effect sizes for sex and race/ethnic differences across sites in self-reported mental health problems. Across sites, girls on average were 1.8 (95% confidence interval 0.98-1.10) to 2.4 (95% confidence interval 2.38-2.48) times as likely as boys to have clinical elevations on all applicable MAYSI-2 scales except the Alcohol/Drug Use scale. On the Alcohol/Drug Use scale, a sex effect existed but only among younger youths. Whites were more likely to have clinical elevations than blacks or Hispanics; but surprisingly disparities varied across mental health categories and varied considerably across sites. At the aggregate level, 72% of girls and 63% of boys had a clinical elevation on at least one MAYSI-2 scale. Our meta-analytic technique indicated that the sex differences across sites were even larger than these numbers imply. Conversely and counter to existing evidence, race-related differences were generally small or nonexistent. Whites were more likely to have alcohol and drug problems and suicide ideation, but not more likely to have symptoms of depression, anxiety, or thought disturbance than blacks or Hispanics (authors).

Resource #: 012293 (Journal Article: 16 pages)

Citation: Walrath, C., Ybarra, M., Holden, E., Manteuffel, B., Santiago, R., Leaf, P. **Female Offenders Referred for Community-Based Mental Health Service as Compared to Other Service-Referred Youth: Correlates of Conviction.** *Journal of Adolescence* 26:45-61, 2003.

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Abstract: In this study, data from a large federally supported national evaluation of system-of-care community mental health services were analyzed to identify correlates of conviction. Female adolescents with a reported history of criminal conviction were compared to three other service-referred youth groups (females without conviction histories, males with conviction histories, and males without conviction histories) for possible differences in number and type of family, individual, and school-related life challenges.

Resource #: 015502 (Journal Article: 14 pages)

Citation: Wang, J. **Female Gang Affiliation: Knowledge and Perceptions of At-Risk Girls.**

International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology 44(5): 618-632, 2000.

Abstract: This study attempts to inquire into at-risk female teenagers with regard to their knowledge and perceptions of gang involvement by their peers. Seven youth service-providing organizations in a major southern city participated in a youth survey project. The data collected from the project on at-risk middle school girls (n=216) are analyzed here. Preliminary findings indicate that sexual or physical abuse are not important factors for a female to join a gang. Sex partners and auxiliary members are still the major roles for female gang members to play in a gang. Remedial strategies, including parental education, extracurricular activities (after-school programs), quality of schooling, and job opportunities are the policy implications identified by this study (authors).

Resource #: 013056 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Williams, A., Hollis, H., Benoit, K. **Attitudes Toward Psychiatric Medications Among**

Incarcerated Female Adolescents. Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent

Psychiatry 37: 1301-1307, 1998.

Abstract: This study attempted to increase understanding of attitudes, beliefs, and expectancies regarding treatment with psychoactive medicines among a group of incarcerated adolescent girls. It was anticipated that demographic and life history variables might influence perceptions of pharmacology. Such findings may be used to anticipate treatment resistance, improve informational/educational aspects of the prescription process, and evaluate the nonspecific factors influencing clinical response to medicines. (authors)

Resource #: 012339 (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Citation: Williams, R. Hollis, H. **Health Beliefs and Reported Symptoms Among a Sample of**

Incarcerated Adolescent Females. Journal of Adolescent Health 24: 21-27, 1999.

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to understand the health care needs (or perceived needs) of incarcerated female adolescents by comparing their rates of physical complaints, health attitudes, and treatment seeking to a normative sample. A sample of incarcerated girls was administered the Somatic Symptom checklist, the Illness Attitudes Scales, and the Reynolds Adolescent Depression Scale to assess lifetime prevalence of physical symptoms, attitudes toward health, treatment-seeking experience, and emotional distress, and allow for comparison with a normative sample. Information regarding length of incarceration, race, and school achievement was obtained from institutional records. Based on the results, the study concluded that the frequency and variety of somatic complaints, as well as their relationship to emotional distress, among these incarcerated girls highlight the need for integration of physical and mental health services within juvenile facilities.

Resource #: 010195 (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Citation: Williams, R.A. **Attitudes Toward Psychiatric Medications Among Incarcerated Female**

Adolescents. Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, December 1998.

Abstract: this article describes a study that is an attempt to increase understanding of attitudes, beliefs, and expectancies regarding treatment with psychoactive medicines among a group of incarcerated adolescent girls. This study reinforces the assumption that demographic and life history variables might influence perceptions of pharmacotherapy. Such findings are thought to be potentially helpful in

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anticipating treatment resistance, improving informational/educational aspects of the prescription process, and evaluate the nonspecific factors influencing clinical responses to medicine.