

Notes

**21**



331en21

## **SOCIAL DEVIANCE**

**We** all live in society. Without society we can not live because we are dependent on it from our birth to death. Every society has its norms and values. For living in a society, we obey certain norms and values. You have read in Module II about norms and values. Norms and values are expectations of society from us. They have social sanctions and every member of society is expected to obey them. But the behaviour of some members of the society does not conform to social expectations. As a result, social deviance takes place. Crime, truancy, vagrancy, delinquency, alcoholism and drug addiction are examples of social deviance.

In this lesson, we are going to study about such kinds of social deviance.



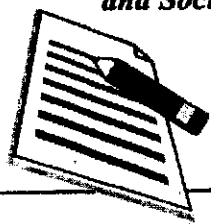
### **OBJECTIVES**

After reading this lesson, you will be able to:

- explain what is crime;
- explain truancy and vagrancy describe its types and causes;
- describe what is delinquency; and
- explain alcoholism and drug addiction.

### **21.1 CRIME**

Social deviance is such behaviour which is not in conformity with norms, values and expectations of the society. These behaviours do not have social sanction. They are labelled as anti-social. You might have heard about crime and criminals.



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You might have also seen crime and criminals in T.V. serials and cinema etc. But do you know what crime is? Crime is an anti-social behaviour. There are certain types of behaviour in society which do not have social sanction. Society does not expect such behaviour from its members. Such behaviour comprise suicide, murder, theft, dacoity, rape and arson etc. They are known as anti-social behaviour. They lead to social disorganisation. So, crime is a social disease. It takes place due to conflict between what society expects and what some members want. In other words, when some members are not conducive to norms and values of society, it leads to crime. They do not care for norms and values of the society. They start behaving in anti-social manner. Crime fulfils the suppressed desires. Crime is an instrument through which an individual takes revenge, snatches wealth and property, oppresses and even murders his enemies and fulfils his unsatisfied desires. There is provision for the punishment of criminals.

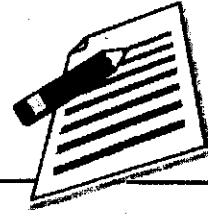
Criminals are not born. They are made. It is society which makes an individual criminal. When society fails to protect individuals and satisfy their needs, individuals take help of crime. Now-a-days, criminals are trained to commit crime using new technology. Developed weapons are used mostly in organised crime like dacoity and terrorists' attacks, etc. There are also professional criminals in our society. White collar crime is also prevalent in our society.

Crime has social, economic, political, religious, natural, and psychological causes. It is also related to population explosion, industrialisation and modernisation. In our society, all castes do not enjoy equal status. At the time of division of property between brothers, conflict develops between them. This may lead to crime. Unequal distribution of resources is also related to criminal behaviour in society. There is criminalisation of politics and politicalisation of criminals and crimes. Communal riot is directly related to different types of crime, like loot, dacoity, arson, murder and rape etc. Persons with perverted personality fulfill their desire through crime. Abnormal individuals commit crime. Urbanisation, industrialisation and modernisation have given birth to loot, dacoity, murder and sex crime. Study of pornographic books also prompts criminal behaviour. Corruption in judicial and punishing agencies has increased the incidence of crime.

### INTEXT QUESTIONS 21.1

Tick True and False for the following:

- (i) Crime has social sanction (True/False)
- (ii) Crime is anti-social behaviour (True/False)



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- (iii) Crime is a means for the fulfillment of suppressed desire (True/False)
- (iv) Crime results due to conflict between what society expects and what individuals want (True/False)
- (v) Criminals are not born, they are made (True/False)

## 21.2 TRUANCY

You might have heard about truants and truancy. The term truant is used for those children who leave the school without any information. This is such a behaviour of a child which keeps him absent from school without any permission of school authorities and parents. Some truant children engage themselves in anti-social activities like vagrancy, delinquency and gambling etc.

Truants neither attend school nor return home during school hours. They play cards, visit cinema halls, go to hotels, bus stand, railway station, market complexes and crowded places. They behave like vagrants. They are punished by people and police. They also come in contact with criminals and become juvenile delinquents. So, truancy prepares ground for vagrancy and juvenile delinquency.

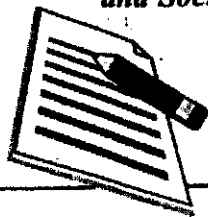
Truants are of different types. Some truants never go to school. Some truants go to school occasionally. Some go to school but do not attend classes. Some go only for attendance and some leave the school in midday break.

Truancy leads to personality disorganisation, social disorganisation, bad company, evil habits, idleness, immorality and characterlessness. Some major causes of truancy are poverty, low position in society, poor family condition, unattractive looks, inferiority complex, quarrel with classmates, bad association, improper behaviour of parents and teachers, inability to understand and fear of examination etc. Children of poor families think that they will not adjust with the children of rich families. Such thinking develops inferiority complex and they start missing the school. Some children fall in bad company. They leave school to see pictures, visit markets, and behave like vagrants.

## INTENT QUESTIONS 21.2

Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the brackets :

- (i) Truancy is such a behaviour which ..... social sanction. (has/  
has not)



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- (ii) Truants are involved in ..... activities. (social/anti-social)
- (iii) Truancy is ..... for educational development. (harmless/harmful)
- (iv) Truancy ..... the ground for vagrancy and delinquency. (builds up/destroys)
- (v) Truants ..... school regularly. (attend/not attend)

### 21.3 VAGRANCY

Vagrancy is a social pathological behaviour found in some children who wander here and there without any reason. They create problems for other members of society by their anti-social behaviour.

You might have heard the term vagrancy. In this behaviour, children wander here and there without any aim. They walk aimlessly on roads. They pass vulgar remarks on passers-by, especially girls. They may abuse any person without any reason. They can also come in conflict with any persons. They do not have relations with their families. They do not have fear of being beaten, put in jail and even death. Their parents break relation with them. They do not try to get them released when they are in jail. They do not pay attention to the complaints of neighbours and community members.

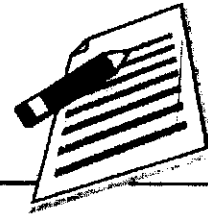
Vagrants do not share any responsibility for family, community and society. Rather they create problems in the society by their abnormal behaviour. They are a burden on society. Vagrants are found in cinema hall, railway station, bus stand, park, slum areas, market centres, school and college gates, vegetable markets, crowded places, puja pandals, religious processions and political processions etc. Vagrants do not have any direct source of income. They survive on theft, dacoits, beggary, gambling, and prostitution, pick pocketing, and extortion. It is not that vagrants do not change their behaviour. Many vagrants change their behaviour when they face resistance from family, community, society and police etc.

Vagrancy is attributed to family background, behavior of parents, bad company, caste system, low place in society and rude behaviour of kin. etc.

### INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.3

Choose correct one from the following:

- I. Vagrancy is related to
  - (a) earning money
  - (b) attaining education



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- (c) enhancing position
- (d) social disease
- II. Vagrancy has
  - (a) positive sanction
  - (b) support of administration
  - (c) favour of people
  - (d) negative sanction of society
- III Vagrants are involved in
  - (a) upliftment of society
  - (b) development of education
  - (c) social reconstruction
  - (d) anti-social behaviour
- III. Vagrants share
  - (a) familial responsibility
  - (b) social duties
  - (c) religions duties
  - (d) no responsibility in society
- IV. Vagrants survive on
  - (a) child labour
  - (b) small work
  - (c) rag picking
  - (d) beggary and illegal tax collection

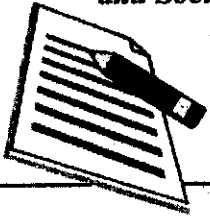
## 21.4 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

You might have heard about a crime committed by a child. You would have also seen a child committing crime in a T.V. serial or film. The crime committed by children is called juvenile delinquency. Juvenile delinquency can be seen from social and legal view points. From the social viewpoints, disrespect shown by a child towards norms, values, customs and traditions of the society can be called juvenile delinquency. But from the legal view-point, breaking of laws established by state by a child is called juvenile delinquency. Children involved in juvenile delinquency are called juvenile delinquents.

Juvenile delinquency is a social pathological behaviour in which a child commits crime. It is a social disease which creates social disorganisation in the society.

Both crime and juvenile delinquency are anti-social behaviour. Both lead to social and individual disturbance. There is a difference between the two concepts. Crime is committed by adults whereas juvenile delinquency is committed by children. In our country crime done by children in the age 7-17 years is called juvenile delinquency. Juvenile delinquents are reformed and rehabilitated, whereas adult criminals are punished.

Juvenile delinquents are involved in crime like loot, theft, dacoity, prostitution,



rape, fights, manhandling, killing, attempt to murder and revenge etc. They take liquor and smoke. They get money from loot, theft, dacoity, and murder and spend it on several vices for acquiring modern weapons for committing crimes.

Juvenile delinquents do not care for norms and values of the society. They do not have fear from death. They do not have relation with parents. It is not that behaviour of juvenile delinquent which does not change. When treated properly, a number of delinquents change their behaviour and start leading a normal life. But some juvenile delinquents come in contact with big criminals. They join the group. They become veteran criminals in their later life.

No child is delinquent by birth. But the behaviour of society makes him delinquent. Ill-treatment by parents, step-parents, kin, neighbours and community members makes a child delinquent. Poverty and lack of basic amenities also lead to juvenile delinquency. Denial of share in paternal property also makes a child delinquent. Misbehaviour of class mates and teachers also cause juvenile delinquency. Physical deformity is also responsible for the occurrence of juvenile delinquency. Industrialisation, urbanisation and modernisation have enhanced the incidence of juvenile delinquency in our country.

### INTENT QUESTIONS

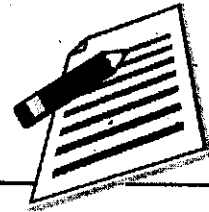
Tick Yes or No for the following:

- (i) Juvenile delinquency is anti-social behaviour committed by children (Yes/No)
- (ii) From social view point juvenile delinquency is disobedience of norms and values by children (Yes/No)
- (iii) From legal view point, juvenile delinquency is crime committed by children in the eyes of law (Yes/No)
- (iv) Juvenile delinquents are rehabilitated and reformed (Yes/No)
- (v) No child is delinquent by birth (Yes/No)

### 21.5 ALCOHOLISM

You might have heard about alcoholism. You would have also seen some people lying on road after drinking liquor. Simple meaning of alcoholism is taking liquor as an addict. Drinking is as old as civilization. There is hardly any country, community, or age in which drinking does not prevail.

There are societies in which taking local beer is allowed, e.g., tribal societies. Tribals prepare Haria (rice beer). Men, women and children share 'haria' on



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festive and ceremonial occasions. They also prepare Mahua liquor. In Hindu culture, men are allowed to drink Bhang and Mahua liquor. Now-a-days, taking liquor on the occasion of marriage ceremonies, parties gathering etc has become a modern fashion. The poor drink toddy and low quality liquor where as the rich drink foreign made good quality of wine like whisky, rum and scotch. Drinking may be necessary for the people in cold regions. They take liquor before dinner regularly. In army, foreign diplomacy, doctors, top lawyers, industrialists and bureaucracy, taking liquor is accepted behavior. Consumption of liquor on festive ceremonies, festivals, marriage and party etc. is taken as symbol of status and wealth. Drinkers hold view that drinking provides individual pleasure and heightens emotions. So taking liquor has social acceptance on some occasions. But alcoholism as social deviance does not have social sanction. It has negative sanctions of society. It is taken as a bad habit which leads to personality disorganisation, family disorganisation and social disorganisation.

When an individual becomes habituated to drinking liquor, he is called a drunkard. He loses respect not only in his family but in the whole society. He does not take care of his children. He beats his wife to get her ornaments. He sells ornaments for drinking. They meet premature death. They sell their land and property for it. They leave their children, wives and other family members to their fate. Rather, they create problems of different kinds. Drunkards are also involved in theft, dacoity, loot, sex crime, manhandling, murder and suicide.

People take liquor to enjoy ceremonies, festivals, parties and gathering. They also consume it to remove frustrations and tensions. Some drink to remove tiredness. Some drink to show their status and wealth. Some take liquor as a matter of fashion. But when they become addicted and do not share any kind of responsibility and obligations, they deviate from the norms and values of society. They indulge in anti-social behaviour.

The Excise Department controls the production and sale of liquor. But policies of the Government and pressure from the industrialists cum-traders come in the way of prohibition. Industrialisation and modernisation have increased the consumption of liquor. It is also a good source of income for the government.

### INTENT QUESTIONS 21.5

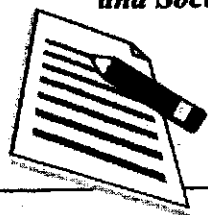
Match the following:

A

- (a) Alcoholism is
- (b) Taking local beer is allowed

B

- (a) personality, family and social disorganisation.
- (b) but the rich drink foreign made good quality of liquor



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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (c) Persons habituated of drinking liquor | (c) prevalent in almost every society.                |
| (d) The poor drink low quality liquor     | (d) on social gathering, ceremonies and of festivals. |
| (e) Alcoholism leads to                   | (e) drunkenness                                       |

## 21.6 DRUG ADDICTION

Do you know what drug addiction is? Taking intoxicating materials other than wine as part of habit is called Drug Addiction. Drug addiction is prevalent in all parts of our country in one form or other. In our country, 70 lacs of people are addicted to drug. In Delhi alone, 25% students are addicted to it. Here people are addicted to tobacco, Ganja, Bhang, Charas and opium. The plants of tobacco, Ganja, Bhang and charas are found since time immemorial in our country. These intoxicating materials were culturally prescribed for enjoyment on ceremonies and festivals. They were also used as medicine. But now a good number of people have become addicted to them. They can not live without taking them. Besides, the traditional intoxicating materials, youth of our country are also addicted to modern drug such as heroine, morphemes, smack, mandrax, and L.S.D.

Habitual taking of drug is called drug addiction. There are two types of drugs to which people of our country are addicted. These are – traditional drug and modern drug. Tobacco, Ganja, Bhang, Charas and opium are traditional drugs. Heroine, morphemes, Hashish, Smack, mandrax and L.S.D. are modern drugs.

Drug addiction is harmful in many ways. It makes a person mentally weak. It also leads to premature death. It is responsible for personality, family and social disorganisation. It also creates problems related to administration. There has also been a close relation between drug addiction and crime. Drug addicted people commit crimes like suicide, quarrel, sex crime and murder etc.

Drug addiction is prevalent in rural as well as in urban areas. In rural areas, a number of youth are addicted to tobacco, Ganja, Bhang, cigarettes and toddy etc. In urban areas, youth are addicted to charas, opium, Heroine, morphemes, Hashish, Smax, Mandrax and L.S.D. besides cigarettes, tobacco, Ganja and Bhang. Rural people do not know about modern drugs. But gradually the addiction of modern drug is spreading in rural areas too.

The youth of our country start taking drug for fashion, in bad company, to remove despair and to feel pleasure. They also start drug addiction to face poverty and unemployment. They are also attracted towards drug addiction to see modern drug addiction in T.V. and cinema.

Youth of poor as well as rich family background are involved in it. Illiterate as well as literate youth are addicted to it. Now-a-days, young girls have also come under its addiction.



But it is a source of income for the government. Pressure of politicians and industrialists also comes in the way of control of drug addiction. Such intoxicating drugs and materials are smuggled in large scale in our country. Veteran criminals of underworld are earning crores and crores of rupees from the smuggling of such drugs. They also pay huge bribe to officials of Excise Department. They also give fund to political parties and extend help during election. Politicians and bureaucrats provide them shelter.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 21.6**

Match the following :

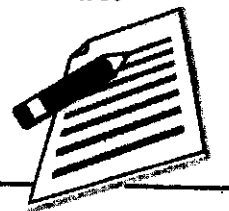
A

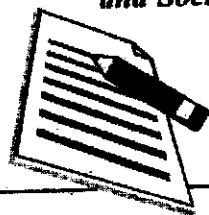
B

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (a) Drug application is                        | (a) takes place on large scale in our country. |
| (b) Tobacco, Ganja, Bhang,<br>Charas and opium | (b) are modern drugs                           |
| (c) Heroine, Smack, Mendrex<br>and L.S.D.      | (c) mental retard-ness.                        |
| (d) Smuggling of drugs                         | (d) are traditional drugs.                     |
| (e) Drug addiction causes                      | (e) habitual taking of drug.                   |

**WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT**

- The term social deviance includes those behaviours which do not show conformity with norms and values of a society. These behaviours are levelled as anti-social and do not have social sanction.
- The behaviours which are not in accordance with norms and values of society as well as law established by state are called crimes. Criminals are offenders of crime. So, they are punished.
- The behaviour which forces a child to leave school without information to school and parents is called truancy. Truancy ultimately provides ground for delinquency, gambling, alcoholism and drug addiction.
- The behaviour which compels a child to wander here and there on road without any aim is called vagrancy. Vagrancy leads to quarrel, crime, and alcoholism and drug addiction. The crime committed by a child is called juvenile delinquency. It leads to social disorganisation. Juvenile delinquents are not punished. Rather they are rehabilitated.
- Habitual taking of liquor of different types is called alcoholism. It leads to personality, family and social disorganisation.
- Habitual taking of drugs is called drug addiction. It is responsible for personality, family and social disorganisation.

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- There are agencies to control crime, truancy, vagrancy, delinquency, and alcoholism and drug addiction.

## GLOSSARY

- Alcoholism** - Habitual taking of liquor.
- Crime** - Anti-social behaviour in the eyes of society and law of the state
- Criminals** - Persons involved in crimes.
- Delinquency** - Crime committed by children.
- Delinquents** - Child criminals.
- Truancy** - Child's habit of absconding from school
- Truants** - Those children who leave school without information parents and teachers.
- Social deviance** - Deviation from norms and values of the society.
- Vagrancy** - Wandering on roads without any work or aim.



## TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. What is social deviance ?
2. What do you mean by crime? Name five causes of crime.
3. What do you mean by truancy ? Name five causes of truancy.
4. What is vagrancy? Name five causes of vagrancy.
5. What is delinquency? Name five causes of delinquency.
6. What is alcoholism? Name four evil effects of it.
7. What is drug addiction? Name four evil effect of it.



## ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

- |      |                         |                  |               |           |          |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 21.1 | (i) False               | (ii) True        | (iii) True    | (iv) True | (v) True |
| 21.2 | (i) has not             | (ii) anti social | (iii) harmful |           |          |
|      | (iv) builds up          | (v) not attended |               |           |          |
| 21.3 | (i) d                   | (ii) d           | (iii) d       | (iv) d    | (v) d    |
| 21.4 | (i) Yes                 | (ii) Yes         | (iii) Yes     | (iv) Yes  | (v) Yes  |
| 21.5 | a-c, b-d, c-e, d-b, e-a |                  |               |           |          |
| 21.6 | (i) a-e                 | (ii) b-d         | (iii) c-b     | (iv) d-a  | (v) e-c  |