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Recently, various media outlets have broadcast numerous criminal cases involving young adolescents and young adults. In such instances, adolescents have perpetrated abhorrent illegal acts against blameless individuals, the majority of whom are their contemporaries. Nevertheless, adults, including parents and teachers, have also fallen prey to these young offenders, leading to tragic incidents and grave injuries (Sorrells, 1977). In addition, a multitude of factors have incited numerous young individuals to engage in criminal behavior. Several factors contributing to this issue include parental neglect, peer influence, and illicit drug use. In addition, the media have played a leading role in combating crimes involving juveniles. Various forms of media, such as televisions, radios, and newspapers, have played a crucial role in the efforts to combat juvenile delinquency. However, the media have a significant impact on increasing juvenile criminal activities in society (Yanich, 2005). This document seeks to critically assess the impact of different types of media in increasing juvenile delinquency, and propose strategies to mitigate this issue.

Violence has consistently been a component of entertainment. However, there is an increasing agreement that there has been a shift in media violence in recent years. Research suggests that media violence has not only escalated in terms of quantity, but has also become significantly more explicit, sexually explicit, and sadistic. Graphic images depicting bullets in slow motion penetrating human chests and deceased individuals surrounded by pools of blood have become increasingly prevalent. Millions of viewers, particularly children worldwide, watch female World Wrestling Entertainment, where wrestlers engage in hair-pulling and attempts to forcefully remove each other's clothing. Grand Theft Auto, one of the best-selling video games globally, allows players to use baseball bats to fatally assault prostitutes after engaging in sexual activities with them. The mass media encompass various forms of communication and entertainment, including television, movies, music, video games, print media, sports, and the Internet. These factors exert significant influence on attitudes and behavior, particularly among individuals below the age of 18. Mass media has become increasingly influential in shaping our lives. Everyday, technology continually presents us with new advancements and solutions to meet the changing demands of the times. Therefore, it is crucial to examine the influence of mass media on shaping the minds of individuals, particularly young individuals.

Throughout the years, the media has played a leading role in providing information, education, and entertainment to people from all walks of life around the world. In addition, media can take on various formats, such as newspapers, televisions, the Internet, and informative journals (Yanich, 2005). Nevertheless, certain information disseminated by the media has been shown to have a significantly negative impact on the mental well-being of young individuals, thus motivating them to engage in criminal behavior. Furthermore, a recent survey revealed that 90% of the interviewed young individuals concurred with the notion that the media has a detrimental impact on their behavior. In addition, a cohort of adolescents apprehended for numerous instances of theft asserted that they were influenced by the rap music they observed on television. They confessed to being engaged in these activities, as it was trendy, thereby exacerbating what researchers perceive as imitative offenses (Surette, 2002). This is logical because young individuals possess exceptional skills in imitating what they observe in the media. Furthermore, the media accurately depict the actual state of affairs in society.

In the age of modernity and technological progress, numerous adolescents have unrestricted and unsupervised internet access. Nevertheless, while the Internet is indeed a valuable tool for education





and entertainment, it also brings along a range of other disturbing characteristics. A significant number of individuals have managed to gain access to pornographic websites, thus corrupting their pure minds. In addition, it exposes young people to computer games that depict violence, which can incite them to imitate what they see. Furthermore, the majority of films incorporate violence and vulgar language, thereby mirroring a society characterized by cruelty and a lack of compassion, while also normalizing the concept of revenge. Furthermore, when reporting on criminal incidents, the media often amplifies facts, leading to the dissemination of misleading information to society. The media also portray crime as a commonplace phenomenon in society. Consequently, the media inaccurately portray crime statistics, thereby compelling young individuals to participate in acts of violence. According to a study conducted on a cohort of young offenders, a significant number acknowledged acquiring knowledge about criminal activities from a variety of television programs (Surette, 2002). There is a widespread gender imbalance in the way criminal incidents are reported in the media. The media portray young males as exhibiting machismo and being inclined towards criminal behavior. This leads to a higher prevalence of criminal behavior in various social contexts, as many adolescent males are more likely to think and behave in this way compared to their female peers.

Children in the present era are immersed in a media-centric society, wherein they are consistently subjected to depictions of violence through films, television shows, video games, and music. Violence has historically been present in entertainment, but significant transformations have occurred in recent years. Studies indicate a significant rise in media violence exposure among children. Children, particularly those between the ages of seven and eight, are in a developmental stage where they lack the ability to differentiate between what is real and what is imaginary. Furthermore, due to the emergence of 24-hour satellite channels, there is a continuous flow of violent or sexually explicit images that may have an adverse effect on young children. In addition, Mass Media also influences the process of socialization among children and young adults. The cause of juvenile delinquency is the socialization through mass media. Children are highly susceptible to the influence of their observations and comprehension. In addition, they have not reached the level of maturity necessary to comprehend the gravity of the offense. Since 2008, there has been an approximately 25% increase in the proportion of juvenile offenders, with the media playing a significant role in this trend. However, what is the reason for involving the media in this particular situation? The collective presence of mass media technologies, institutions, professionals, norms, and practices is undeniably a significant force that currently influences the lives of individuals and the destiny of societies and nations. Undoubtedly, the impact of media is not uniformly spread across different locations or periods and fluctuates depending on the situation. However, it is important to acknowledge that the influence of mass media is substantial and growing. Consequently, the media represent a significant human asset that has the potential to contribute to the prevention and mitigation of social violence. This potential should be thoroughly discussed, assessed, and utilized when appropriate.

News coverage across various media outlets, albeit in varying manners, does indeed contribute to the societal fear of crime and the perception that stringent measures are necessary. While it is recognized that news coverage contributes to this fear of crime, both journalists and politicians lack the ability or willingness to alter this situation. Unsurprisingly, the mass media is a contentious force in socialization due to its significant impact on attitudes and behavior. Given our society's apparent appetite for violence, it is unsurprising that various forms of mass media cater to public demand by creating violent television shows, movies, music, video games, and excessively covering violent incidents. In addition to





this, the growing prevalence of social networking sites, internet applications, and risky games has resulted in an escalation of criminal inclinations among children. Exposure to media violence also enhances a child's inclination to seek out more violence in real life and in entertainment, thereby shaping their perception of violence as a socially acceptable means of resolving conflicts.

Regarding media violence, it is uncertain whether it directly causes violence in children. However, there is a correlation between media violence and violent behavior. Children are highly impressionable and can be easily influenced by their surroundings. When referring to violent content, we are specifically discussing the portrayal of violent material in newspapers, television, the internet, and other similar mediums. Children who come from broken homes, suffer from depression, and have attention-seeking issues are particularly drawn to violence. These children are prone to being drawn to criminal activities and may become delinquents. The overexposure to violence not only numbs us as a society, but for individuals under the age of 18, these influences appear to have several significant consequences. Several of the consequences include: Media violence has been found to contribute to aggressive behavior in children, making them less sensitive to pain and suffering. Additionally, exposure to media violence can lead to increased fearfulness in children towards their surroundings. Media violence has a desensitizing effect on children, causing them to become less sensitive to both real-life and fictional violence, and perceiving it as a normal aspect of their daily lives. Exposure to media violence also enhances a child's inclination to seek out more violence in real life and in entertainment, thereby influencing them to perceive violence as a socially acceptable means of resolving conflicts.

The problem of juvenile delinquency has been worsened by technological expertise. Teenagers can engage in global communication with a wide range of individuals through various social networks. Furthermore, they utilize these platforms to disseminate information, a significant portion of which may pose a threat to their well-being. In addition, certain terrorist organizations have exploited these platforms to enlist unsuspecting young individuals, unbeknownst to their parents or guardians. This has been feasible due to the surprisingly low number of parents who supervise their children's media consumption. Conversely, society bears responsibility for the rising crime rates committed by juvenile delinquents. A significant number of parents and caregivers have disregarded their adolescent children due to their constant engagement in their professions, resulting in a lack of time to impart the longstanding societal norms and cultural values. Moreover, the occurrence of family conflicts and the dissolution of marriages have significantly contributed to the increased involvement of young people in criminal activities. Consequently, families raise unruly children who depend on the media and peers for solace and knowledge. In addition, young individuals who lack accurate information are susceptible to engaging in criminal activities. In addition, certain members of the community act as flawed role models for the teenagers (Patchin, Huebner, McCluskey, & Varano, et al., 2006).

In order to triumph over the issue of juvenile delinquency, it is imperative for the relevant stakeholders to concentrate on eradicating the elements that intensify criminal behavior among adolescents. Firstly, the media possesses the liberty to disseminate information. Nevertheless, it is imperative for the government to enact legislation that regulates the dissemination of information via the media. Furthermore, it is imperative for the authorities to establish stringent punitive measures in order to discourage media companies from broadcasting content that has a detrimental impact on the mental well-being of young individuals in society. In addition, the media should play an active role in combating juvenile delinquency by utilizing advertising and informative programming. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that teenagers have regulated access to diverse forms of media that





could potentially have a detrimental impact on their behavior. It is important to motivate young individuals to actively participate in academic pursuits and refrain from excessive media consumption, which can lead to unproductive idleness. The media have played an active role in informing and entertaining people worldwide. However, it has a significant influence that drives young people to participate in criminal behavior (Sorrells, 1977). The broadcast of violent film series by various media outlets has exerted a significant influence on numerous adolescent individuals, prompting them to partake in criminal activities. In addition, the family is also responsible for the increase in crime rates in societies. A significant number of contemporary parents have failed to provide adequate attention and care to their adolescent offspring, leading them to seek acceptance and solace from their peers.

In conclusion,

Undoubtedly, Mass Media plays a role in facilitating various delinquent acts among children. The number and variety of forms and facets are increasing on a daily basis. Juvenile delinquency is a significant societal problem. The conventional methods of engaging in criminal activities have been surpassed, and the Internet has instigated a significant transformation, causing a revolution. The socialization of mass media has emerged as a problematic issue that requires attention. Education alone can be sufficient in certain instances, as most young individuals lack knowledge of the complexities of the legal system and fail to comprehend the gravity of potential repercussions. Some less serious juvenile offenders may exhibit changes in behavior as they mature. Providing children with instruction in ethics and morality will significantly contribute to the reduction of issues like cyber bullying and cyber vandalism. It is crucial for them to develop empathy and the ability to understand the perspective of the victims. Additionally, moral science education, parental discussions, counseling, and child lock safety are some effective measures to address the issue. The phenomenon of juvenile cyber delinquency can only be comprehensively understood through the application of an integrated criminological theory. Adolescents who have strong social connections and are involved in traditional peer groups are less likely to engage in cyber-related offenses. Conversely, juveniles who lack strong social connections are more likely to engage in cyber delinquency due to their social isolation and association with delinquent peers. It is inappropriate to label children as criminals for their relatively minor deviant behavior. By taking such action, we will foster a generation in which criminal behavior becomes the prevailing standard. There is a pressing need for comprehensive educational initiatives aimed at significantly reducing the alarming rise in juvenile crimes. Developing resilient children is a less challenging task than restoring individuals who have experienced significant damage. Therefore, through extensive research and findings, a clear and significant correlation and influence between mass media and juvenile delinquency has been established.

