**Justice, Power, and Parenting: How Wealth, Power and Upbringing Shape Legal Accountability**

**Humanities for Engineers**

**(UHU005)**

**Submitted by:**

Arryuann Khanna (102103062)

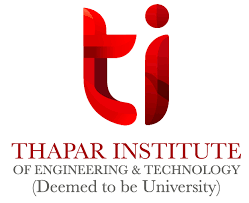
Vansh Batra (102103072)

Anubhav Sood (102103075)

Lakshay Bansal (102103090)

**Under the guidance of:**

Mr. Kanish Jain



**School of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology**

**Patiala-147004**

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**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

Date:

Respected Sir,

We are pleased to submit our Technical Report titled **“Justice, Power and Parenting: How Wealth, Power and Upbringing Shape Legal Accountability”**, prepared as a part of the Humanities for Engineers coursework. This report focuses on how societal structures, particularly wealth and authority, influence the upbringing of individuals and their perception and treatment within the justice system.

Through this report, we have aimed to explore how upbringing and socio-economic status affect individuals' interactions with the legal system, their habits in responding to accountability, and their perspectives on justice and fairness. The interplay between privilege and parenting styles is also examined to understand its role in shaping moral and legal responsibilities. We believe the findings offer a nuanced understanding of the topic, particularly relevant in today’s context.

We express our gratitude to all survey participants for their invaluable contributions and to the faculty for their guidance throughout the project. We have made every effort to ensure the report is comprehensive and precise. We sincerely hope this report meets your expectations and serves its intended purpose effectively.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to work on this insightful report.

Yours Sincerely,

Arryuann Khanna (102103062)

Vansh Batra (102103072)

Anubhav Sood (102103075)

Lakshay Bansal (102103090)

**CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the Report titled **“Justice, Power and Parenting: How Wealth, Power and Upbringing Shape Legal Accountability”** embodies the original work done by the group of the following students submitted to the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala in the partial fulfilment of the objectives of Humanities for Engineers (UHU005) course.

Arryuann Khanna (102103062)

Vansh Batra (102103072)

Anubhav Sood (102103075)

Lakshay Bansal (102103090)

Under the supervision of Mr. Kanish

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The successful completion of this project was possible due to the valuable guidance and unwavering support of several individuals and institutions, for which we are profoundly grateful.

First and foremost, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Kanish for their invaluable mentorship, insightful suggestions, and constant encouragement, which guided us throughout the course of this project and the preparation of this report.

We would also like to thank our classmates for their constructive feedback and suggestions, which inspired us to enhance the quality of our project.

Lastly, we are grateful to all those who, directly or indirectly, contributed to the successful completion of this assignment. Your assistance, no matter how small, was immensely valuable to us.

**ABSTRACT**

This report investigates the complex interplay between justice, power, and parenting, focusing on how wealth, authority, and upbringing influence legal accountability. It examines how socio-economic status and power dynamics shape individuals' perceptions of justice and their interactions with the legal system. Through a multidisciplinary approach, the report explores the role of parenting styles in instilling moral responsibility and how privilege impacts an individual’s legal outcomes.

Key findings highlight the disparities in accountability, where wealth and power often shield individuals from consequences, while those from disadvantaged backgrounds face disproportionate investigation. The report also underscores the importance of equitable legal systems that recognize the profound influence of upbringing and socio-economic factors on ethical behavior and accountability.

By addressing these critical issues, the study aims to contribute to the broader discourse on creating a more just and inclusive society, emphasizing the need for reforms that balance privilege and fairness within the framework of legal systems.

**INTRODUCTION**

Justice, power, and parenting are closely connected concepts that influence not only individual behavior but also how society operates as a whole. Ideally, justice should treat all individuals equally, regardless of their socio-economic background, wealth, or power. This principle of equality before the law is a cornerstone of any legal system. However, in reality, the legal system often seems to favor those who are wealthy or well-connected. People with financial resources and political ties may avoid severe consequences for their actions, while those from disadvantaged backgrounds face stricter scrutiny and disproportionately harsh penalties. This creates a perception that justice is not truly fair, leading to widespread distrust in legal institutions.

Parenting plays a major role in shaping how individuals view accountability and interact with the world. Parents are often the first source of ethical and moral guidance for children, teaching them right from wrong and instilling a sense of responsibility. In wealthy families, however, a sense of entitlement can sometimes develop when children are given unlimited access to luxury and resources without boundaries or accountability. This entitlement can lead to reckless or unethical behavior, with some individuals feeling they are above the rules. In contrast, children from less privileged backgrounds may face a lack of guidance, making it harder for them to navigate societal norms and expectations. Both situations highlight the importance of parenting in building a strong moral foundation for the next generation.

Society adds another layer to this issue by glorifying wealth and status. Media and cultural narratives often equate success with material possessions, promoting lifestyles that prioritize luxury over values like honesty, responsibility, and fairness. Teenagers and young adults are especially vulnerable to peer pressure and societal expectations, which can lead them to take risks or engage in behaviors that challenge ethical boundaries. This creates an environment where privilege not only provides advantages but also encourages behaviors that may go unchecked.

This report explores how these factors—wealth, power, and upbringing—affect justice and accountability. Using real-world examples, such as the Pune Porsche incident, it examines how privilege can shape legal outcomes, often allowing the wealthy to evade consequences while the less fortunate face harsher penalties. The report also looks at the role of parents in guiding behavior and decision-making, focusing on how different parenting styles can either promote accountability or contribute to a lack of respect for rules. Additionally, it analyzes how societal norms influence youth behavior, particularly among those from affluent families.

The objective of this study is to shed light on the disparities in justice caused by socio-economic privilege and to emphasize the importance of reforms. It advocates for changes in the legal system to ensure that wealth and power do not distort justice. Moreover, the report highlights the need for responsible parenting that prioritizes ethical values over material success and calls for a cultural shift to challenge societal norms that glorify privilege.

By addressing these issues, the report aims to contribute to creating a more balanced and fair justice system. It invites parents, policymakers, educators, and society at large to reflect on their roles in fostering ethical responsibility and ensuring that justice is accessible and impartial. This exploration is not just about identifying problems but also about finding solutions that promote equality and fairness for all.

**Problem Statement**

The interplay of wealth, power, and upbringing profoundly influences how individuals interact with the legal system and are held accountable for their actions. Despite the foundational principle of equality before the law, glaring disparities exist in how justice is administered. Those with wealth and social influence often navigate the legal system with relative ease, avoiding or mitigating consequences for their actions. Conversely, individuals from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds frequently experience harsher treatment, facing intensified investigation and disproportionately severe penalties.

A notable example that underscores this issue is the **Pune Porsche crash**, where a young individual from an affluent background allegedly caused a high-speed accident resulting in property damage and potential endangerment of lives. Despite the severity of the incident, the ensuing legal process was criticized for apparent leniency, highlighting the protective shield that wealth and influence can provide. Media reports and public opinion raised concerns about how the socio-economic status of the accused potentially influenced the investigation, legal proceedings, and eventual accountability. This case exemplifies a broader pattern in which financial privilege and family power create an uneven playing field in legal systems designed to deliver impartial justice.

At the root of this problem is the lack of a robust and equitable framework to ensure that legal accountability is applied uniformly across all socio-economic classes. Upbringing also plays a crucial role, as parenting styles in privileged households may foster a sense of entitlement, potentially leading to disregard for rules and ethical responsibilities. Meanwhile, individuals from marginalized communities often face systemic biases, sustaining cycles of inequality and distrust in the justice system.

This imbalance undermines the credibility of legal institutions and deepens societal inequities, resulting in a justice system that privileges a select few while unfairly penalizing others. To restore faith in legal frameworks and promote a more inclusive society, it is essential to address these disparities. Achieving genuine impartiality and fairness in the justice system requires systemic reforms that ensure accountability which is not influenced by wealth, power, or social status.

**METHODOLOGY**

To understand how wealth, power, and upbringing shape legal accountability, this report adopted a mixed-methods approach that combines quantitative and qualitative data collection. The methodology focuses on gathering insights through a structured questionnaire, literature review, and case study analysis to examine the intricate dynamics between privilege, parenting, and justice.

**Data Collection**

1. **Questionnaire Survey**:
   * A detailed questionnaire was distributed to a diverse group of respondents, including students, professionals, academics, and individuals from various socio-economic backgrounds.
   * The survey captured opinions on key themes such as the influence of wealth and power in legal outcomes, the role of parenting in shaping ethical behavior, and societal perceptions of fairness in the justice system.
   * Respondents answered a mix of Likert-scale, multiple-choice, and open-ended questions to provide both measurable data and personal insights.
2. **Literature Review**:
   * An extensive review of existing studies, journal articles, and reports was conducted to contextualize the findings.
   * The literature provided a theoretical foundation, highlighting gaps in previous research and establishing connections between socio-economic privilege, upbringing, and accountability.
3. **Case Study Analysis**:
   * The Pune Porsche case was selected as a focal example to illustrate the broader implications of privilege in the justice system.
   * This real-world incident was analyzed using media reports, public reactions, and legal outcomes to identify patterns that align with the report’s themes.

**Data Analysis**

The analysis for this report combines insights from survey data and the Pune Porsche case:

1. **Survey Trends**: Responses from the structured questionnaire were analyzed to identify patterns regarding public perceptions of wealth, power, and parenting in influencing justice. Graphs and statistics were used to highlight key findings, such as the significance of parental accountability and the perceived influence of socio-economic privilege on legal outcomes.
2. **Case Study Insights**: The Pune Porsche case was examined to illustrate how privilege can shape legal proceedings. The case analysis focused on legal outcomes, media coverage, and public reaction, providing real-world context to the survey results.

This dual approach allowed for a comprehensive understanding of the issue, blending public opinion with practical examples to support the report’s conclusions.

**Scope and Limitations**

* **Scope**: The study aims to provide a balanced perspective by combining public opinion with academic research and practical examples. While the Pune Porsche case serves as a core example, the report addresses broader patterns applicable to other incidents involving privilege and justice.
* **Limitations**: The findings rely on self-reported data, which may include biases or incomplete perspectives. Additionally, the focus on the Pune Porsche case may not fully encompass the diversity of legal challenges across different contexts.

**Objective of the Methodology**

The methodology is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing legal accountability. By blending empirical data, theoretical research, and real-life case studies, the report seeks to offer actionable insights and contribute to the ongoing discourse on justice, privilege, and social equity.

