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ESL 118 – T. Nuckolls

GRP Outline

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GRP Outline: Analytical Paper

RQ: What measures society can utilize to effectively reduce rate of teenager behavior?

I. Introduction

A. Background information: The rate of delinquency is increasing in recent year which can cause many severe problems to the society and hinder the development of society. Jang S. (2006) claims that the three most important social environments for teenagers are family, school and peer. Adolescents spend most of their time in these environments, so their development is mainly achieved by developing relationships with relevant people in these environments (youniss and smallar, 1985) (p.2). The main theory of crime focuses on how the relationship between a teenager and his or her immediate environment affects his or her behavior (Agnew,1992; Akers, 1985; Hirschi, 1969; Matsueda, 1992; Sutherland and Cressey, 1970) (Jang, p.2).

B. Thesis: Society is able to reduce the rate of teenager’s criminal behaviors by ensuring all teenagers to attend to school, improving family condition, and staying away bad peers.

II. Counterargument and Evidence:

1. Counterargument: It is argued by some that if all teenagers are able to attend school, school can be the place to gather many teenagers who have tendency to crime, which can cause negative impacts to their peers in school.
2. Evidence for the CA: Indeed, McCord et al. (2020) claims that schools can become places where high-risk youths-youths who are likely to have criminal behaviors are gathered, and school control may not work on them, which will have a negative impact on other young people and even lead to criminal tendencies (p.17). The National Education Statistics Center reports that 65% of public schools in the United States have recorded personal attacks and public schools have recorded personal assaults, while other studies have shown that 90% of high schools have recorded Physical violence, which causes severe psychological and physical problems to teenager (Khanhkham et al, 2020, p2).

III. Body

1. Concession to the Counterargument and First supporting point: McCord et al. seemingly have valid points; nonetheless, Wilkinson et al. (2019) states that children spend a large part of their lives in school, and the connection with school may have a special protective effect on criminal behavior, because this connection is reliable and continuous: for most teenagers, school It is a fixed part of their lives. The connection with the school may also mean that teenagers are more likely to participate in supervised activities at school to keep them out of trouble (p.9).

Subpoint 1: The school's living arrangements are reasonable and healthy, and students are given information about the disadvantages of bad habits.

1. Cassel(2001) states that the school system will ensure that students have good eating and sleeping habits, and that every student is aware of the disadvantages of using alcohol and tobacco (p.7).

Subpoint 2: Schools can provide many extra-curricular activities to help young people develop a better personality and will.

1. Cassel et al. (2001) points out that in school, if teens cannot keep up they will not be able to keep up behind them either, so they will become negative or even have deviant behavior (p.3).
2. Cassel et al. explain that participating in extracurricular activities gives them a chance to express themselves and release their emotions (p.3).
3. In a group, a teenager's victories won by inferior means are not favored, so students are conditioned to play fair (Cassel et al, p.3).

Subpoint 3: School gives students an opportunity to spend time with successful people, which is beneficial for them.

1. Wilkinson(2019) observes that teachers and administrators can be good role models for students, so spending time with them can reinforce their pro-social behavior (p. 9).
2. Second supporting point: In addition to having more teenagers attend school, by improving the condition of family environment and the education level and parents’ moral quality, the possibility for teenager to conduct criminal behaviors can be decreased effectively, because the environment and people that teenagers grow up with are critical to their personal development.
3. Subpoint 1: Intact families lead to better development for teens
4. Petts (2009) claims that two-parent families can give teenagers better social support and control (p. 17).
5. single-parent families do not provide children with a suitable environment to learn social behavior, resulting in harm to their social and psychological development (Isir, 2007, p.2).
6. Hoeve(2012) also states that the parent-child relationship is created through very complex interactions, and a meta-analysis shows that the higher the child's attachment to the parent, the lower the probability that they will commit a crime (p. 11).
7. Teenager who lives with two parents reduces the probability of a family member smoking marijuana by 70%, thus providing a better home environment for them (Kuhl et al, 2016, p.16).
8. Subpoint 2: Parents educate teenagers from childhood, so the inappropriate knowledge imparted and negative model built in teenager’s mind can have a deep impact on them.
9. Fagan(2013) points out that parents who engage in illegal activities set an example for their children to follow, and favoring children and not correcting their misbehavior can also lead them to engage in criminal activities, especially when this can be of great benefit (p.4).
10. Isir observes that the low level of parental literacy can lead to a certain degree of non-compliance with the legal rules of society in the family and a key finding of the study in Turkey was that 63 per cent of the mothers and 24 per cent of the fathers of convicted adolescents were illiterate (p.2).
11. Third supporting point: Besides the supervision of parents and schools, social media can spread information to keep young people away from peers who have bad or tend to have illegal behaviors, which avoid teenagers to have similar behaviors.
12. Subpoint Point 1: Peers’ behaviors are influential to teenagers.
13. People spend the most time with peers during adolescence, so peers have a salient effect on adolescents (Keijsers, 2012, p.13).
14. Liu (2000) states that when peers are supportive and predisposed to delinquent behavior or are already delinquent, young people are more likely to have criminal behaviors by themselves (p.14).
15. according to social learning theory, adolescents will adapt to the behavior of their peers or adhere to the beliefs of their peer group, even if it is wrong. In addition, adolescents will try to gain status in the group by engaging in behaviors that they believe will be valued by their peers and by abandoning behaviors that will be ridiculed and rejected by their peers. In this way the adolescent's community and ideas are assimilated by peers, leading them to engage in delinquent behavior when their peers do as well (Young & Meerman, 2013, p.6).

IV. Conclusion

A. Final analysis or interpretation of main point: Although the rate of delinquency is increasing, society can effectively slower or reduce its rate by ensuring teenager with better family condition, school life, and peers of good character, because they are keys to teenager’s healthy and positive development which makes them less likely to crime.

B. Ending comment: Since the teenager delinquency can result in many severe problems to the society, like hindering social development and construction, the society should take the effective measures referred to above as early and as quickly as possible.

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