Investigating Programs Designed to Reduce Juvenile Recidivism:

A Meta-Analysis Study

Data used for this study will consist of articles on research studies which have been conducted over the last ten years. This study will use published articles that have focused on various types of prevention and intervention programs and their rates of success. The research being reviewed for this study will include programs using cognitive behavioral therapy, drug and alcohol therapy, and counseling and psychotherapy programs designed to rehabilitate juveniles and reduce recidivism rates. This study will review juvenile programs which treat male and female for a variety of criminal offenses.

Written consent will not be necessary as there will be no direct contact or involvement with and subjects.

The methodology of this study will consist of choosing 25 published research studies involving five different types of intervention approaches. Each of the intervention approaches will be broken down and examined to determine which approaches are most successful, and whether or not specific variables influence the outcome of the intervention. The measurement will be the overall rate of success as determined by the published articles in review. The purpose of our research is to find what programs or interventions are more successful than others in reducing the rates of recidivism in our Juvenile System. We will classify the interventions based on their success rates and the different offenses associated with this population.

There are no risks involved in this study, and because this is a meta-analysis study, there is no other method for conducting this research.

With the conclusion of our research we will be able to categorize the studies by type of intervention, offense category, and success rate. Agencies and organizations responsible for administering juvenile intervention programs will develop a better understanding of the most effective treatment approaches and improve their success rates, juvenile offenders will be less likely to re-offend and more likely to lead productive lives, and society will suffer less as victims of crime and spend less on incarceration.

The potential risks to society related to this type of study could be that some of the research used for the meta-analysis was incorrect, thus, skewing the rating of a specific type of intervention approach.

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