

The reason a juvenile came before the court—be it for committing an offense or because of abuse or neglect by his or her parents or for being uncontrollable—was less important than understanding the child's life situation and finding appropriate, individualized rehabilitative services

Ch.1 Historical Perspective

Due to legal requirements such as IDEA and a growing recognition of the importance of education in preventing recidivism, juvenile justice administrators have made educational programming a top priority in their reform efforts. When inmates break rules or misbehave, the punishments are, in alignment with theories of deterrence, swift and certain, and most often physical in nature.

Ch.1 Historical Perspective

The percentage of public schools experiencing one or more violent incidents increased between the 1999—2000 and 2003—2004 school years from 71% to 81%. The author highlights the results of studies finding that transferred youth offenders exhibit greater recidivism rates than those retained in juvenile courts might be viewed as limited in that it may be the highest-risk youth; that is, those who are already most likely to recidivate, who are most likely to be selected for transfer into the adult criminal justice system.

Juvenile Justice System

Department of Education, the John D.

Juvenile Justice

Regarding offence profiles, the authors note that over 66 per cent of the youth were either currently serving a sentence for a violent offence or had previously been convicted for one. On both counts, the Committee has identified institutionalized obstructions to the implementation of the UNCRC in general and, more specifically, serious breaches and violations of the human rights of children within particular juvenile justice systems.

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