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KEY WORD : JUVENILE DELINQUENCY / CAUSE OF OFFENSE

EKARIN ITTHIWATANA: CAUSE OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN EASTERN PROVINCES: CHOLBURI, RAYONG AND CHANTABURI. THESIS ADVISORS: SOMBAT SUPPATCHAI, M.A., ASAWIN WATANA VIBOOL, M.A., PORNCHAI KHANTEE, Ph.D. 87 p. ISBN 974-664-844-6

The objectives of this study are to examine the causes of the delinquency and the personal factors affecting juvenile crime against property in the Eastern Sea Board area. The factors under study are personal, family, educational, peer, rearing and environmental. The subjects chosen were 195 juveniles who have been sentenced and are undergoing professional training and rehabilitation in the Rayong Province Training School catering for Cholburi, Rayong and Chantaburi. The data obtained were collected through questionnaires. The findings of the study were summarized as follows:

1. Most of the subjects do not live with their parents, parents are separated, divorced or deceased. Most of them commit crime against property at the age of over 14. The major motive for committing against property is to obtain money for purchasing drugs.
2. The education level related to the personal factor in property offense.
3. The age at the time of offense and income of the family were related to the family factors in property offense.
4. The education level, and status of the parents and emotional characteristics of the subjects were related to the educational factors in property offense.
5. The education level and residential standard were related to peer factors in property offense.
6. Gender, income of the family, family status of the parents and rearing were related to the rearing factors in property offense.
7. The rearing was related to the environmental factors in property offense.

**Recommendations:**

The author recommends that both parents and various governmental enterprises should create more opportunities for the juveniles in the area of education and vocational training. It was found that juveniles with secure jobs and good peers had a better chance of keeping away from property crimes. It is further recommended that there should be a more decisive and sustaining suppression of drug abuse, for it is clear that drug addiction and its subsequent means to obtain drugs lies in the root of the majority of property crimes.