

Current Situation and Prevention of Crime among Youth Aged 18-25 in China

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Abstract. As a part of adolescents, youth groups play a decisive role in the total number and tendency of young offenders. At the same time, in recent years, youth crime incidents have been emerging in the upper class one after another, causing widespread concern and discussion in the society. Youth criminal groups with the main form of collectivism have certain commonalities in psychology, living conditions, living environment, family education and other aspects. Therefore, the prevention of youth crime is a key work that can be followed by a certain pattern, and we can focus on "symptomatic medicine". In general, young offenders should rebuild their positive character and cultivate their own value. Families should strengthen the responsibility of guardianship and create a favorable environment for their children to grow up. The society should supervise and resist the factors of potential temptation crime. The state should perfect relevant legislation and strengthen the supervision and responsibility of parents' guardianship.

Keywords: youth crime, current situations, reasons, preventive measures.

1. Introduction

In recent years, "teenagers imitate online games to kill people", "juvenile theft and robbery cases", "juvenile campus violence crimes" and other such incidents occur frequently, so that juvenile delinquency has not only become a hot topic of China's criminal law and criminology research, but also the focus of social attention, which has caused people from all walks of life to think. Up to now, juvenile delinquency is still an urgent social problem to be solved.

According to the juridical statistics of the China law yearbook, the number of juvenile delinquents in China has been increased first before the decrease in China from 2007 to 2016. Among them, young criminals aged 18-25 are the main components of juvenile delinquents. Juvenile delinquency between the ages of 18 and 25 means that young people aged between 18 and 25 commit crimes that endanger society and should be punished by criminal law. According to the number of juvenile delinquents and their proportion in criminal offenses, the general trend of juvenile delinquency in China is basically the same as that of juvenile delinquency. In other words, juvenile delinquency has a significant positive correlation with the overall trend of juvenile delinquency. Therefore, this paper takes the crime of young people aged 18-25 as the research object.

2. Present Situations of Crime

2.1 Number of Criminals

According to the China law yearbook, the number of criminals aged 18-25 showed a downward trend from 2007 to 2016. That is, from the initial 228,792 to 199,161, which is a large drop compared with the number of juvenile delinquents, which also plays a crucial role in the decline of the total number of juvenile delinquents.

However, from another perspective, the proportion of criminals aged between 18 and 25 is still high, which has reached 79.8% in 2016. Therefore, education has a long way to go in preventing youth crimes. Refer to Table 1.



Table 1. Statistics of juvenile delinquency in criminal cases of the National People's Court from 2007
to 2016

Particular years	Juvenile offenders (persons)	Criminals aged 18-25 (persons)	Total number of juvenile offenders (persons)	Total number of criminal offenders (persons)	The proportion of juvenile delinquent-s in juvenile delinquent-s (%)	Criminals aged 18-25 accounted for the proportion of criminal offenders (%)	The proportion of juvenile delinquents in criminal offenders (%)	
2007	87506	228792	316298	931745	27.7	72.3	33.9	
2008	88891	233170	322061	1007304	27.6	72.4	32.0	
2009	77604	224419	302023	996666	25.7	74.3	30.3	
2010	68193	219785	287978	1006420	23.7	76.3	28.6	
2011	67280	215149	282429	1050747	23.8	76.2	26.9	
2012	63782	219208	282990	1173406	22.5	77.5	24.1	
2013	55817	209622	265439	1158609	21.0	79.0	22.9	
2014	50415	199161	249576	1184562	20.2	79.8	21.1	
2015	43839	192502	236341	1232695	18.6	81.4	19.2	
2016	50415	199161	249576	1184562	20.2	79.8	21.1	
Note: The figures in this table are from the Chinese Legal Yearbook.								

2.2 Forms of Crime

Firstly, the form of youth crime mainly changes from cluster to serious violent crime. From the perspective of youth crime cases in general, the initial age of crime has decreased and the types of crime have diversified (mainly violence and property infringement cases, as well as murder, rape, kidnapping and other malignant cases). Secondly, the mode of crime changes from single crime to collective crime. For example, the case of "Fraud in telecommunications suffered by Xu Yuyu, a freshman admitted to the college entrance examination" is a typical youth gang crime, which has a very negative impact on society.

2.3 The Commonness of the Subject of Crime is Universal, and the Crime of Rural Youth and College Students is Concerned

The investigation shows that this criminal group usually has certain common characteristics, such as low education level (70% of middle school students and below), unsatisfactory family economic conditions (27.9% of them are poor families), dissociated living conditions, no clear goals and ideals in life, and more obvious anti-norms and bad behavior tendency. This is mostly the internal cause of the youth crime in rural areas.

After entering the new century, the crime of college students has become increasingly prominent. The age of full-time college students is generally between 18 and 25 years of age. According to statistics, during the five years from 2000 to 2004, the number of college students detained by the public security bureau in Haidian district, a high diocese, increased year by year. Crime is mainly theft and fraud, and most criminals are involved in pornography. For example, the use of QQ, WeChat and other chat tools, through the search for "nearby people" to deceive others good will and trust, theft and fraud and other ACTS. In addition, violent crimes such as intentional murder, intentional injury and picking quarrels are on the rise.



3. Discussions on the Prevention

3.1 Reasons for Present Situations

(1) The causes of crime in the society are increasing.

According to the actual situation of China, the middle and late 20th century was a period of great changes in China's social structure. With the rise of the Internet and the influx of foreign cultures, young people are also faced with various temptations. In real life, the gray areas of information freedom and supervision are, to some extent, ineffective in supervising the existence of bad information. As far as movies are concerned, teenagers are easily exposed to blood, violence, pornography and other images, which are often the underlying causes of bad behaviors.

(2) Young people are impulsive and blind when they first enter the society.

As a result of the initial entry into the society, has not established their own cognition, legal consciousness is relatively weak, so in the process of illegal crime, often lies in a moment of impulse or unconscious, before going astray. In 2002, a youth organization in Fujian extorted 200,000 yuan from the classmate's family after four peers killed him. In 2012, an unemployed man in Beijing injured an unemployed man after he failed to rob others due to his addiction to e-sports. In 2015, a young man in Jiangxi province went online at an Internet cafe in Houpu, Huli district. He was kicked out of the Internet cafe after being discovered by the network administrator for stealing other people's accounts. Then, he gathered two unidentified young people into the Internet cafe, causing slight harm to the network administrator. Therefore, it is not difficult to find that the subjective aspect of the constitution of crime is almost all passion, and this impulse must be caused by repentance.

(3) In some families, parents' divorce undermines the stability of the family to some extent.

Divorce brings about family disintegration and the impact on young people, we need to be vigilant. The high crime rate of children in divorced families means that there is a direct and far-reaching impact between juvenile delinquency and the psychological loss caused by parents' divorce. Modern society often emphasizes putting people first and respecting the right of parties to independently choose their own way of life. In this social context, divorce has a relatively relaxed atmosphere, but as scholars have found, "There is a strong correlation between social divorce rate and crime rate. One possible approach is for divorce to reduce the opportunity cost of crime and encourage people to commit crimes by undermining family stability and reducing the benefits of marriage."

3.2 The Solutions to the Problems

(1) Parents continuously strengthen the responsibility of guardianship and promote parent-child interaction.

Childhood and adolescence are the most critical time for personal mental development. As a general form of human society that brings up children and performs the duty of guardianship, family guardianship requires parents to perform their duties of supervision and education on children from an early age, accompany children more, ensure their basic life security and growth conditions, so as to achieve the purpose of preventing juvenile delinquency. China's law on the prevention of juvenile delinquency has clear and specific provisions on the prevention of juvenile delinquency by parents or other guardians. It involves taking care of the physical, psychological, behavioral habits and ideologies of minor children, preventing and stopping them from smoking, drinking, wandering and indulging in the Internet, and helping minors to avoid adverse environmental and personnel damage. However, due to the weak operability of the principle of comparison, the expected effect of legislation has not been achieved after implementation.

(2) The state has strengthened its supervision of family rearing education.

In accordance with the provisions of the United Nations convention on the rights of the child, the state should provide necessary support and assistance through legislative and administrative measures. In particular, for guardians who have domestic violence or neglect of management, after the legal recognition of the relevant institutions or relevant parties, the court announced the termination of their custody and the establishment of a new appropriate guardian. Under the principle



of maximization of children's rights, the state participates in family affairs moderately, manages guardianship, and establishes the state guardianship as one of the highlights of the convention.

(3) Society provides young people with ample opportunities and resources for their own developments.

For some of the young people who have dropped out of school and have done nothing in the early years, society can give a certain level of encouragement and relief, help them adapt to the social environment, give them the opportunity to provide equal access to their resources, developing the technical training or for the recruitment of the public, and to do as much as possible to build the platform, to exploit the potential. So that they can find the basic source of life and achieve self-worth.

(4) Schools should strengthen education and take preventive measures.

18 to 25 years of age should be spent in the university campus. In addition to strengthening the social guidance, the university campus should also prevent the education of the students in school to avoid the increase of "crimes committed by highly educated talents". In real life, many universities may consider that students have grown up, so for students at least to the class attendance lack of attention. Coupled with part of the teaching method is too rigid, the phenomenon of student's truancy classes on campus is very serious, letting the social adverse factors. In this regard, from the school aspect, teaching methods can be appropriately updated to make students fall in love with school and stay in school. For example, in class, give play to students' autonomy and combine group cooperation with representative explanation. Outside the classroom, teachers regularly organize students to go outside for social practice, study summer camp, etc., so as to mobilize students' interest in learning, make them yearn for and rely on campus life, have reverence for accepting education, and reduce their chances of contact with social adverse factors.

4. Conclusion

The youth group is a special group in the society and is the main force to deepen the reform and development. At the 19th Communist Party of China National Congress, General Secretary Xi Jinping also placed great hopes on the youth groups. At present, China is establishing and improving a more systematic education mechanism and control strategy for the prevention and control of youth crime, and improving the legal control. The society, schools and families are combining and forming synergy. As for the crimes committed by college students, China often treats them with leniency in criminal punishment, which not only effectively enhances the concept of law-abiding, but also leaves enough opportunities for the future development of college student criminals and achieves the goal of harmonious social development.

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