

Demographic Distribution of Children In Conflict With the Law in Tabuk City, Kalinga

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ABSTRACT

The research focuses on the distribution of Children in Conflict with the Law in Tabuk City, Kalinga according to age, sex, crime, and place of origin. The factors that made children violate the law and the rehabilitation services provided to Children in Conflict with the Law as intervention are also considered in this study with the use of a qualitative research approach. The data were gathered through direct inquiry and record review. It was found that from 2015 to 2018, 159 CICLs have been registered in Tabuk City and most of them are males between 13 and 17 years of age. Most Children in Conflict with the Law are residents of Bulanog Centro and areas outside of Tabuk City. The analysis also reveals that family status, poverty, and peer pressure are factors in the commission of crime among the Children in Conflict with the Law. The City Social Welfare and Development of Tabuk City provides diversion services, and the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office offers rehabilitation programs for these children offenders.

Keywords

demographic distribution, CICL, Kalinga, Tabuk City, youths

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Introduction

Governments around the world are not giving up in their quest to make children good citizens. Despite the many programs on youth welfare, there are still children who commit major and minor offences. 'Children in conflict with the law' applies to someone under 18 who, as a result of being suspected or charged of committing an offence, comes into contact with the justice system (Children in Conflict with the Law, 2006). Minor offences such as vagrancy, truancy, stealing, and alcohol abuse have been committed by most children in conflict with the law. Both of these are known as 'status offenses' and while committed by adults, are not considered criminals. In addition, adults have used or exploited some children to engage in criminal behaviour. Even when no crime has been committed, discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity or social and economic status can too frequently lead a child to conflict with the law or result in harsh treatment by law enforcement officers (Children in Conflict with the Law, 2006).

While it is true that juvenile delinquency is a serious problem in our society, it still needs to receive serious attention. Even those who are not directly affected end up being touched by this issue through governmental allocation of tax and the general safety of our communities (Saminsky, 2015). This is because every child has the inherent

potential to grow up and reach its full potential and to make a positive contribution to the growth of the nation and society.

In India, its constitution gives children the highest priority for their protection and well-being. The Government of India's Juvenile Justice Act 2015 takes a holistic approach to protecting children's rights by providing children with proper treatment, protection, growth, rehabilitation and social reintegration in challenging circumstances through the adoption of a child-friendly approach. Children are born innocent; nevertheless, most children develop behaviors that are described as delinquent and sometimes in conflict with the law due to several variables. Such behaviors range from emotional outbursts, petty theft and substance abuse, abusive or offensive activity to more serious crimes. Studies show that children internalize social norms that protect them against delinquent impulses by strong relations with parents and others (Children in Conflict, 2019).

Research by Parackal and Panicker (2016) indicates that much of the illegal behavior in adolescents is peculiar to the age of adolescence and will not continue into adulthood. Much as a toddler outgrows temper tantrums, deviant behavior will outgrow most adolescents. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is the only national resource available to recognize the severity of juvenile crime in India (Children in Conflict, 2019).

Reynolds & Crea (2015) suggests that "peer groups as a factor motivating children to be delinquent," the primary reason why a pupil joins a peer group is to be accepted and to obtain new friends. They want to share their interest and speak about it and each student wants to be part of a community that includes peers. This is consistent with the position of Pachadkar (2020) that poverty, substance abuse; anti-social peer groups; easy access to firearms; violent parents; single-parent children; nuclear families; family violence and media roles are the most common variables associated with juvenile crimes.

In other countries, they consider a criminal behavior alleged by a person under 18 years of age as juvenile delinquency. In recent times, due to a variety of reasons and circumstances, these illegal activities are rising more and more. In most countries, juveniles are accused of serious offenses, such as robbery or murder, and are brought before criminal courts and prosecuted as adults. The prosecutors sometimes make this decision, or often authorize transfers, requiring a hearing to determine the age and history of the offender, the essence of the crime and the likelihood that the juvenile court may help the youth. As a result of a tough approach to juvenile crime, some jurisdictions have changed their juvenile codes to make it easier for underage juveniles to be referred to adult courts (Phogat, 2017).

In the Philippines, many places are breeding grounds for young offenders where the plight of the majority of the poor remains relatively untouched. While several of these children have been able to escape from the rut—proving poverty, it is not a justifiable excuse for crime. Thousands of other youths have failed to get out of the pit and are primarily forced to live in violation of the law. These violations involve burglary, robbery, malicious mischief and fraud, as seen in the PNP statistics from 2012 to 2015. Philippine National Police (PNP) reveals that the prevalence of juvenile delinquency is primarily due to poverty, considering that stealing is a prevalent crime committed by children (San Juan & Mayuga, 2016).

Approximately 5,000 street children in Cebu City are roaming through the streets and urban barangays. As a result of widespread poverty in rural areas, these children are proliferating, converging and families finding survival in the

region. Many of these children come from street families, protected from the weather with boxes and tattered scraps of cloth for walls and roofs, where any sidewalk or empty lot becomes their home (Cebu City Task, n.d.).

Most of the 74 male children aged 15 and over, who are charged with crimes at the Center for Restorative Activities Growth and Learning Experiences (CRADLE) in Camp Bagong Diwa, Bicutan, Taguig District, come from poor families, mostly from depressed areas in Paranaque, Pasig, Muntinlupa, Valenzuela, San Juan and Malabon. The center is managed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Jail Management and Penology Bureau (Sabangan, 2011).

However, a number of cities and local government units (LGUs) are not aware of these provisions of the law and are much more aware of the availability of CICL services. However, despite the provision of facilities and services, the act also has weaknesses. Even though the facility and services have been given, there are still gaps in the legislation. For example, a child is taken into custody for status offenses a number of times when he or she commits a status offense, when he or she knows that he or she cannot be sent to prison for protection from criminal responsibility, he or she appears to be licensed to commit any other possible offenses or crimes (Pagunuran, 2008).

The PNP recorded more CICLs belonging to 12 to 15 and 16 to 17 age groups, reaching thousands compared to hundreds of previous age groups. Even though the trend has been the same for the last three years. Out of just 12 cases in the previous year and five in 2016, 1,035 cases were registered in 2018. Children in the 16-to 17-year age group accounted for 53% of the majority of CICL cases reported. This is followed by the 12-15 age group, at 32% (Macaraeg, 2019).

Consistently, the study of the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), entitled "Situationer on Filipino Children," included the profiles of young offenders as "typically male between 14 and 17 years of age; has low educational achievement; belongs to six members' big low-learning families; is charged with property-related crimes; uses drugs; alcohol; and has stopped schooling" (Salud J., 2016).

Erecta (2008), the Philippine National Police (PNP) review, on the other hand, reports that

crimes committed by CICL are often property-related and thus connected to deprivation and poverty faced by children. More than 70.0 per cent of crimes committed by children are non-serious crimes that could better be dealt with by non-judicial interventions (Baguio, & et al, 2018). Further, in her article *Children in Conflict with the Law: Cracks in the Juvenile Justice Act*, Camille Elemia (2016) said that the majority of CICLs come from poor and dysfunctional homes and an unhealthy environment, according to local social workers and the DSWD.

In Tabuk City, all children in conflict with the law currently being apprehended are going through a counselling session initiated by the City Social Welfare and Development Office. According to MarinelDorgay, Social Welfare Officer 2, the aim of therapy is to provide an individual with an opportunity to explain their feelings and concerns for themselves and to make decisions and behavior that are based on informed choices. She also stated that counselling services are part of a diversion or alternative, child-friendly process of assessing the obligation and care of CICL on the basis of its social cultural, psychological or educational context, without resorting to formal court proceedings.

Judith Sangdaan, Social Welfare Officer II of the Bahay Pag-asa recorded that from January 2016 to the December 2020, a total of 11 CICLs had been sent to their office for counselling and individual recovery plans, which varies depending on the offense committed. She said that six of them were charged with property-related crimes, while the others were seized with personal and drug-related crimes aimed at a holistic reformation of CICL.

The research was delimited to the occurrence of CICL in Tabuk City Kalinga for calendar year 2015 to 2018. It is restricted only to the demographic distribution of CICL by age, sex, crime and place of origin, the factors that have made children in trouble with the law and the rehabilitation services provided to CICL. As to the place of origin, it was delimited to calendar year 2017 and calendar year 2018 only.

Conceptual Framework

The study is linked to the concept that child protection relies on people and organizations properly equipped to carry out the work. Lafadchan (2017) posited that how children, families, communities, states, and formal and

informal organizations are assembled around a common purpose is fundamentally a question about the past, the future, and whether the system in place today meets the goals set forth.

Further, the analysis is based on the concept of RA No 10630, strengthened the juvenile justice system and amended the 2006 Youth Justice and Welfare Act, set up a regional interagency committee to oversee cases involving CICLs. The Youth Justice Welfare Council also noted that there is a need to focus on numerous factors such as the lack of room for young people, the lack of staff, the limited services offered, and the assumption that there are centers like detention centers based on their study findings at the Bahay Pag-Asa centers. Participants from different sectors agreed that more government support and prioritization are required at national and local level for the production and operationalization of Bahay Pag-Asa.

The Republic Act No.9344 or the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, which describes the juvenile justice and welfare system as a system for dealing with children at risk and children in conflict with the law, provides appropriate procedures for children, including prevention, diversion, recovery, reintegration and aftercare programs and services to ensure their safety. Instead of using the word "juvenile," the Philippine law used the word "child" as defined in RA 9344, "child" refers to a person under the age of eighteen (18), "while child at risk" refers to a child who, due to personal, family and social circumstances, is vulnerable to and at risk of committing criminal offences. CICL, on the other hand, applies to a child suspected of having committed a crime under Philippine law, convicted of or accused of having committed an offense.

Hence, the study is also tied to the concept of Article 194 of PD 603 which specifies the Care and Maintenance for Youthful Offenders. It provides that the costs for the care and maintenance of the youthful offender whose punishment have been suspended shall be paid by his or her parents or those responsible for supporting him: provided that, in the case that his or her parents or those responsible for supporting him are unable to pay all or part of those costs, the municipality in which the crime was committed shall be the municipality in which the crime was committed. The province to which the town belongs shall pay a third of the total amount to be

paid by the national government. Two thirds of the tax allocations attributable to the unpaid part shall be withheld and extended to the settlement of the indebtedness by the Chartered Cities.

It is conceived in this research that the results of this study will open the horizons of the DWSD and give focus and meaning to their positions and efforts to address the challenges found in rehabilitation programs for children in conflict with the law; and to encourage the community members to give importance to children in our society, particularly to children in conflict with the law.

Objectives of the study

This research aimed to determine the demographic distribution of children in conflict with the law in Tabuk City Kalinga. Specifically, it sought to:

1. To look into the demographic distribution of children in conflict with the law in Tabuk City Kalinga according to age, sex, crime committed and place of origin.
2. To determine the factors that made children to be in conflict with the law.
3. To identify the rehabilitation programs provided to CICL.

Methodology

Research Design

The study used the qualitative research approach. The data are gathered through direct inquiry and recorded review.

Participants of the study

The participants of the study are the personnel of the Provincial Social Welfare Office and the City Social Welfare Office of Tabuk City, Kalinga who were interviewed to determine the factors that made children to be in conflict with the law and the rehabilitation programs they provided to CICL.

Instrumentation

The primary data collection tool used in this study was the recorded review and the informal open-ended interview. Recorded review was carried out to collect data on the CICL profile of age, sex, offense and place of origin. Informal interviews were conducted to gather information on the factors that lead children to conflict with the law and the rehabilitation services of CICL.

Data gathering procedure

The researcher requested permission to conduct the study by writing a letter requesting permission from the Bahay Pag-asa Social Welfare Officer and the City Social Welfare Officer to conduct a recorded review and an informal interview to collect the data needed for the study.

After approval of the request letter to Bahay Pag-asa and CSWDO, the researcher requested permission from the social workers to interview them, the researcher explained the purpose of the interview and its goal of preserving confidentiality of the data and the confidentiality of the participants was strictly guaranteed.

Frequency counting was done to determine the demographic distribution of the CICL. After the interviews, the transcription was coded and recoded before themes were derived for analysis and discussion.

Treatment of data

In order to better interpret and analyze data in the sense of qualitative analysis, the first thing to do is to quickly process the information and document the comprehensive notes as soon as the data are obtained. When the first piece of data was obtained, the researcher checked and processed the data presented. It is necessary to do this early so that the researcher is based on the information as it appears in the subsequent data collected by the researcher.

Frequency counting was done to determine the demographic distribution of children in conflict with the law in Tabuk City Kalinga according to age, sex, crime committed and place of origin. The highest group or profile with the greatest number of occurrences were analyzed.

Thematic analysis was used to treat the raw data gathered through interviews to group common answers. This method is at the core of the qualitative interpretation of the data.

Results

From the recorded review and results of the interview, this section presents the findings of the study.

The demographic distribution of children in conflict with the law in Tabuk City Kalinga according to age, sex, crime committed and place of origin.

Figure 1. Profile of CICL as to age

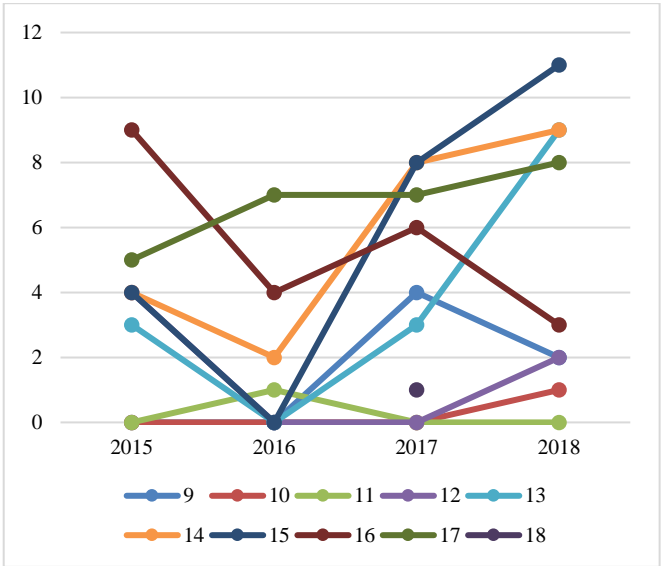
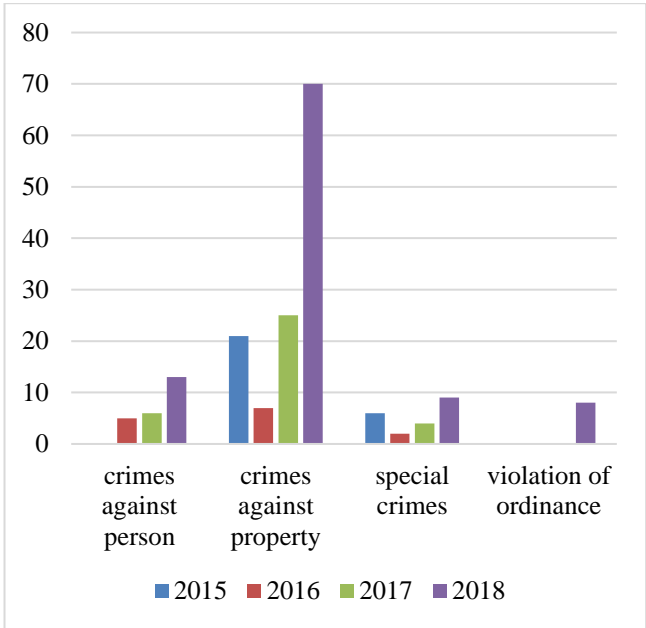
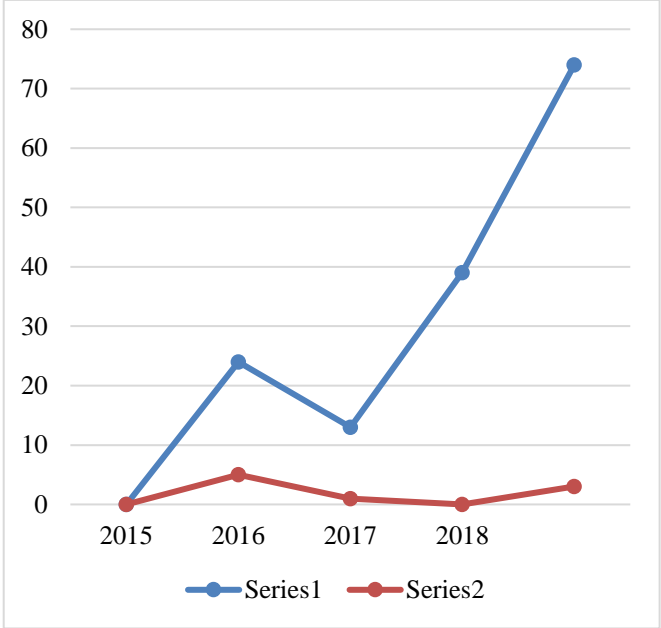


Figure 1 presents the data gathered on the profile of CICL in relation to age as per records provided by the CSWD and PSWD of Tabuk City Kalinga. It can be gleaned that most of the CICL have an age bracket between 13 and 17 years of age.



Crimes against property is the frequently committed offense by the CICL reported to the CSWD and the PSWD in Tabuk City. It is consistently prevalent from 2015 to 2018.

Figure 2. Profile of CICL as to sex



It is presented in figure 2 that CSWD and PSWD of Tabuk City Kalinga recorded that most of the CICL are males.

Table 1 Profile of CICL as to place of origin

Place of Origin	Year		
	2017	2018	
1. Appas	3	3	6
2. Agbannawag	1	0	1
3. BadoDangwa	1	5	6
4. Bulanao Centro	4	12	16
5. Bulanao Norte	1	7	8
6. Calanan	1	1	2
7. Casigayan	1	3	4
8. Dagupan Centro	1	5	6
9. Dagupan West	4	7	11
10. Dilag	2	4	6
11. Gobgob	1	0	1
12. Guilayon	0	1	1
13. Ipil	1	0	1
14. Laya West	4	5	9
15. Magsaysay	3	3	6
16. Naneng	0	1	1
17. Nambucayan	0	1	1
18. Pinagan	0	1	1
18. San Julian	1	3	4
19. Tuga	1	1	2
20. Outside Tabuk City	8	19	27
Total	40	82	122

In general, most of the children in conflict with the law are not from Tabuk City. They come from

the nearby barangays and municipalities of Tabuk City but have visited or resided in Tabuk for a period of time to find work and employment.

Discussion

Based on the findings, the majority age of the children in conflict with the law is between 13 and 17 years of age which is consistent with the report of Macaraeg's (2019) in her article that PNP data indicates that since 2016, PNP has registered more CICLs belonging to 12 to 15 and 16 to 17 age groups. The statistics is reaching thousands compared to hundreds of previous age groups. The age trend has been the same for the last three years. Children in the 16to 17-year age group accounted for 53% of the majority of CICL cases reported. This is accompanied by the age group of 12-15, at 32%.

Figure 2 shows the CICL sex profile for the 2015-2018 calendar year in Tabuk City as shown in the CSWD and PSWD records. 150 of the total number of CICLs are male, while 9 of the total number of CICLs is female. It can therefore be inferred that the majority of CICLs in Tabuk City are males. Males are usually the dominant component of CICL.

It can also be seen in figure 3 that property crimes are common crimes committed for four consecutive years. The most common property crime is theft, followed by robbery. The third most serious crime is drug-related offenses or violations of R. A. # 9165. This may be due to the desperate financial deprivation of juvenile delinquents, as explained by CICL and CAR Tabuk City focal person Marinel L Dorgay in an informal interview.

The year 2018 has the highest CICL record with a total of 77, followed by the year 2017 with 39 CICL numbers. The third highest in record is the year 2015, with a total of 29 CICLs and 14 CICLs recorded in 2016. The finding is corroborated by the finding (San Juan &Mayuga, 2016) that nearly 60 per cent of juvenile crimes are property crimes. These include stealing, robbery, mischief and scam, statistics reported by the PNP from 2012 to 2015.

As gleaned from table 1, for two years, majority of CICLs came from other locations outside Tabuk City. Focal Person for CICL and CAR Marinel L. Dorgay, in an informal interview said, "There are CICLs who are not from Tabuk City but due to area of jurisdiction they are accounted

in Tabuk City." Bulanao Norte also has the highest number of CICLs, followed by Dagupan West in Tabuk City. Focal Person for CICL and CAR Marinel L. Dorgay further stated that, "Bulanao Centro is occupied by residents of different ethnicity." It also has the highest population in the City of Tabuk and at the same time it has more commercial buildings, bars and beer houses. It is then implied that youths from the nearby places come to urban area. With the presence of opportunity and factors such as intoxication of liquor, crime is likely to occur.

The factors that made children be in conflict with the law

The occurrence of delinquent activitiesamong young people is correlated with a consistent pattern of family risk factors. These family risk factors include insufficient parental guidance, poverty, peer pressure. Parents don't have time to oversee the activities of their child because they are occupied in their work to provide for the family. Poverty makes children resort to crime commission to survive. For example, they would commit theft and do drug related activities to pass on hunger. Another is the ongoing parental dispute(broken home). This becomes a factor since children are affected with the constant misunderstanding of parents that lead them to seek attention from friends, thereby they can encounter bad peers. Parentalneglect and violence affect the emotional, psychological or physical condition of the children that tends to be one of the reasons why children commit crime. This is supported by Camille Elemia (2016), who reported that most CICLs, according to local social workers and the DSWD, come from impoverished and unstable homes and an unhealthful environment.

In an interview, Social Welfare Officer 3 Bella Margarita R. Manuel said that the family is a factor that causes children to be in conflict with the law. She explained that children commit crimes on the grounds of different dysfunctional family status and abusive parents.

Social Welfare Officer 2 Marinel L. Dorgay also said in an interview that the family is a significant contributor to why children are in conflict with the law. Family poverty and broken family leads children to commit crimes. She reiterated that a family is unstable whether a couple is divorced, a parent is remarried, or even if both parents live together, but there is no attention to their children

and no tender loving care at home. Parents who cannot address the needs of their children, and even if material things are given, but time, guidance and love are lacking. These are some of the reasons why children commit delinquency and engage in the undesirable activities of their peers. She also said that social media is another aspect that leads to why children commit crimes. Nowadays, young people as nine years of age will browse the web on pornographic videos and disturbing shows.

Social welfare officer 3 Gretchen Curameng also discussed the role of children in illegal activity in the interview. She said that some of the CICLs are victims of circumstances. They are victims because of the conditions of their families. Some parents are separated or have gone abroad for children to stay with their relatives, usually their grandparents. This confirms the statement of San Juan & Mayuga (2016) that poverty as a person could be forever languished in prison: many social ills have been blamed. One such disorder is the reason why many children commit crimes.

Hence, Haveripeth PD, cited by Ronad SV, Kori AS, Kosagi S, et al (2017) describes the causes of juvenile delinquency as broken families, lack of love, lack of parental affection, gang subculture, and poverty, negative impact of entertainment and television, urbanization, adolescent dysfunction, lack of leisure, low socio-economic, poor parental violence, and association with deviant.

These results corroborate the study of Coleman and Kerbo, as cited by Ronad SV, Kori AS, Kosagi S, et al (2017), that children who are single-parent families are around 10 to 15 per cent more likely to become delinquent than children with similar social characteristics from two parent families. As a result, the influence of social work, such as family therapy, counselling, may alter the pattern of family interaction in a child-friendly way.

The rehabilitation programs provided to CICL.

The rehabilitation programs that are provided by the CSWD to CICL are diversion programs provided by R. A. # 9344. Diversion programs are the restitution of property, in which the CICL returns the property to the rightful owner. Repair of the damage caused is another diversion program where the CICL itself would repair the damaged property.

Indemnification for consequential damage.

This requires the reimbursement of the costs incurred by the owner in the repair or reconstruction of the damaged property or in the repair of the damaged property; the payment of the total cost of repairing the damaged property; and the replacement of the lost/sold/broken property. Add

Written or oral apology. Oral and written apology shall include the commitment by the CICL not to commit the same crime again and the acknowledgement of a potential penalty for re-offending, to be agreed upon by the child, his/her parents/guardian and the authority concerned to administer the diversion proceedings.

The confiscation and forfeiture of profits or tools of crime is another diversion programme.

The proceeds of the crime shall be made available to the offended party as part of the CICL's settlement. This is the initiative of the CSWD.

Other forms of diversion services include instructions for care, instruction and supervision. This includes offering guidance to the CICL and its parents/guardians (when necessary) by the diversion authority; home/school visit by the LCPC/LSWDO representative; and reporting to the LCPC representative/LSWDO on the basis of the agreed schedule/duration.

Counseling for a child in dispute with the law. This is done with the presence of the family of the child. It allows the child and his/her family to become aware of themselves and how they respond to the behavioral effects of their environment. Thus to find better and more accurate answers to the different situations in the world. Individual and Family Group Therapy (FGC) Approach in can be an appropriate method to be used.

CICL also engages in instruction, workshops and lectures (led by LSWDO or other local agencies/organizations) on anger management techniques, problem-solving and/or conflict-resolution skills; value training; and other life skills that will assist CICL in coping with circumstances that can contribute to the recurrence of an offense.

Participation of CICL in the available community-based programs/services, including community service in collaboration with the school, the Local Council for the Protection of Children, Sangguniang Kabataan and the Pag-asa Youth Association of the Philippines. The Bahay Pag-asa

under the PSWD houses CICL who are charged with crimes punishable by more than six years and one day. The rehabilitation programs with the acronym of SHEPHERDis strongly being implemented in Tabuk City.

S stands for spiritual improvement. Bahay Pag-asa invites and encourages the various religious sectors to provide spiritual services that recognize the youth's own religion and religious history. Spiritual upliftment is an area of interest in the rehabilitation of CICL since the techniques promote their self-restore in order to change negative behaviors, beliefs, ways, personalities and vicious habits. One CICL said they were sharing in rotation every night.

H stands for home life services. Social worker officer Gretchen Curameng stated that CICL, which is housed in Bahay Pag-asa, is provided with basic needs such as food, clothing and housing, with well-balanced organized activities that are similar to a healthy family experience. Each CICL will carry out center tasks under the supervision of the house parent on duty. Every day in rotation, they will be assigned to perform a particular task. Behavior and conduct of residents shall be regulated by a set of rules with corresponding disciplinary action, formatted in consultation with them for acceptability and understandability.

In an interview with one of the CICL, he expressed that they were bound to follow house rules. With resident shall be allocated a task in accordance with age, fitness, interest and capability based on a treatment plan. Any breach of house rules would include giving additional tasks to perform, such as cleaning in the vicinity. Isolation in the reflecting room for 2-3 hours.

E stands for educational services. Social worker JeraDiwayan said that they are delivering educational assistance to children to continue their schooling at the center and through tutorials and an alternative learning system.

P also stands for psychological services. Social worker officer Gretchen Curameng said that CICL is being referred to the Cagayan Valley Medical Center for those CICLs with psychological problems. Social workers perform counseling and improvement of their personal skills, such as inviting TESDA and CHERWAY to include a variety of training courses to be used as they return to society.

H stands for health, medical and dental services. Social worker RhealynAlos stated that to ensure the health and well-being of CICL people, CICL residents are referred to their partner organizations, such as the RHU and the Kalinga Provincial Hospital.

E also refers to economic or productivity services. Social worker Gretchen Curameng cited an example of CICL economic or productivity programs. The residents have been able to produce Pastillas. Other examples include auto repair electronics, carpentry, welding and several more in collaboration with TESDA, LGUs and non-governmental organizations offering technical training services to CICL to provide opportunities to find jobs once they return to their communities and to promote a more optimistic outlook for the future.

R refers to recreational and socio-cultural services. This core program is important to help young people resolve their aggression, anxieties and frustrations. It contains both outdoor and indoor games for teams and individuals. Birthday celebrations and special / legal / church holidays are observed.

D for the acronym **SHEPHERD** stands for dietetics. According to the Social Worker Officer Gretchen Curameng, the CICL has a schedule for preparing meals that is done in rotation. In an interview with one of the CICL, he said that they cook their meals with the supervision of the house parent which is done in rotation.

Rehabilitation homes also function as a place to offer leadership and life skills training programs to improve their sense of responsibility for themselves and others. Group therapy is milieu therapy, where a multidisciplinary team provides an atmosphere that promotes positive improvement, improved development and successful adaptation of the client. This method of therapy is intended to make all facets of the human world part of the healing process. It stressed the effect of peers on the development of constructive values. Both environmental factors were part of the treatment process.

Conclusion

The CICL in Tabuk City in 2015-2018 is male dominated with a percentage of 94.3 who are between 13 and 17 years of age. Most of them are also outside Tabuk Area and that Barangay Bulanao Centro has the highest number of CICLs

in Tabuk City. Crimes against property have the largest incidence of crimes committed by CICL. Theft is the most common crime committed, followed by theft, drug-related offenses prohibited by R.A. No. 9165.

The social workers confirm that family status, poverty and peer pressure or influence are the common factors that lead children to violate laws. It is also noted that the CSWD offers rehabilitation services for CICL who has committed crimes punishable by no more than six years and one day. Hence, Bahay Pag-asa offers rehabilitation programs to CICL for crimes punishable by more than six years and one day. Among the programs implemented in the Bahay Pag-asa are moral change, home life services, educational services, therapeutic services, wellness, medical and dental services, economic or productivity services, leisure and socio-cultural services and dietary services.

Recommendation

Based on the result of the study, the following are recommended:

1. Strengthening the role of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) to fulfil their mandates faithfully to address the root cause of juvenile delinquency.
2. The barangay may increase the awareness of parents on their role and responsibilities towards their children as part of their crime prevention program.
3. Strengthen the PNP "Police sa Barangay Program".
4. Research topics not considered in this study may also be ventured by other researchers to have a deeper understanding on the nature and status of the CICL in Tabuk City, Kalinga.

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