

Assessing the role of Parental Behavior and Peer Pressure in the Development of Juveniles Delinquent Behavior among Higher Secondary School Children's: In Punjab, Pakistan (An Empirical Framework)

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Abstract:

This article presents empirical and theoretical underpinning between parental behavior, peer pressure and juvenile delinquent behavior among higher secondary school children in Punjab, Pakistan. A total of 815 male and females' students were involved in this study with a response rate of 770. The data collection was conducted from six districts of Punjab (Lahore, Kasur, Okara, Sahiwal, Khanewal and Lodhran) by using a multistage sampling technique. However, the validation of adapted scales has been examined by second-order confirmatory factor analysis, and hypotheses were tested by using the structural equation modelling technique (SEM). The findings of this study revealed that parental behavior has significant negative association with juvenile delinquent behavior ($\beta = -0.447$; $t = 14.602$, $P < 0.000$), while peer pressure has significant positive association with juvenile delinquent behavior ($\beta = 0.413$, $t = 16.043$, $P < 0.000$). This study concluded that peer pressure is the highest influential factor increasing juvenile delinquent behavior, whereas parental behavior negatively influencing juvenile delinquent behavior. Moreover, findings are discussed in relation to refining present taxonomic arguments about delinquency and practical implications for the prevention of juvenile delinquent behavior.

Keywords: Delinquent Behavior, Parental Behavior, Peer Pressure, School Environment, Socialization

I. Introduction

Juvenile delinquent behavior is an emerging social problem all over the world. It is not only developed countries that are facing this pathetic situation; in developing countries as well, but circumstances and causes behind are different in the context of culture, society and class. However, it is built new pressure on teenager undergoing the

shift from adulthood to independence. The word juvenile used for those children whose ages are 10 to 17, they have deviated from normal to abnormal social behavior. Whenever a child has committed status and the criminal offence, we call him juvenile delinquent because of his or her age factor (Zafar, 2012). Children's are a precious gift by God; if they are indulged in antisocial behavior, then it will become a huge risk for social institutions and prosperous society today. Furthermore, the emergence of delinquent behavior among youth is a great challenge for criminologists, sociologists, psychologists, community workers, social planners and policymakers to overcome this issue (Sanches et al., 2016). Sociologist Emile Durkheim argues that antisocial behavior established in society and linked with folkways and mores (Jibat & Nigussie, 2015). Besides, Socrates offered a critic who is appropriate for the current contemporary era, he posited that teenagers like to spend luxurious lifestyle, they disremember the social norms and values of family and society, they disobey and misbehave with parent, elders and teacher (Burfeind & Bartusch, 2015). Although, modernization and social change melt the social fabric of life, consequently, youth prone toward etiology of antisocial behavior (Burfeind & Bartusch, 2015).

According to the theoretical standpoint of different criminologists, peer pressure, weaker family ties, lesser interaction between parents and children and lower level of self-esteem are viable reasons behind the minor or major kind of deviance (Hirschi, 1969; Cohen, 1955). Similarly, family become main dynamic factor which has enormous influence on juvenile delinquent behavior (Shoemaker, 2017), whereas, plenty of studies pointed out that familial disorganization, peer pressure, lack of parental supervision, monitoring and economic hardships are the basic triggers behind the juvenile delinquency (Nisar, Ullah, Ali, & Alam, 2015). In addition, Conklin (1992) posits that juvenile delinquent behavior also applied to those children who commit status offences, such as running away from home, driving without a license, smoking, vandalism, underage drinking, truant from school, ganging and running away from home. However, a study conducted by Ojo (2015) stated that secondary school children most often associated with antisocial behavior, because of immature age factor, they involved in risky behavior like lateness, rudeness, early age sexual activities, truancy, steaking, lying and vandalism. While, another study claimed that in the United States around 78% cases reported regarding adolescents who were succumbing by parental negligence, 10% sexual abuse, 8% and 18% were involved in emotional and physical abuse (Ryan, Williams & Courtney, 2013). Similarly, a study conducted by (Chong, Lee, Roslan & Baba, 2015) in Selangor (Malaysia) revealed that from the total 111,484 school children, 19545 involved in truancy, 5212 vandalism, 3031 in pornography and other 8563 were found in other delinquent behaviors, whereas, these children belong from varied socio-economic status and culture.

Moving towards the context of present research delinquent behavior among teenagers become the challenging problem of Pakistani society, this condition becomes worse with the passage of time (Ahmed & Murtaza, 2016). While, the numerous triggers behind juvenile delinquent behavior, for instance; negative parenting, lack of socialization, parental imprisonment and peer pressure (Abdullah & Rahman, 2016). Accordingly, the present condition of juvenile delinquents is very poor, and they go through the same process even they commit a minor or major kind of offence (Nisar et al., 2015). In order to address gaps in the empirical literature, the core objective of this study, to assess the parental behavior and peer pressure and its effect on juvenile's

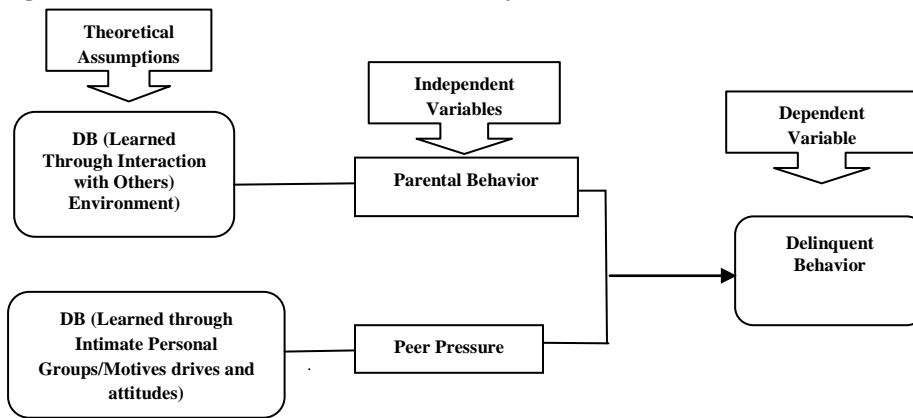
delinquent behavior among higher secondary school children’s in Punjab, Pakistan. As well as, prior to recent researches have been conducted on juvenile criminals(Nisar et al., 2015),on the other hand, Shagufta, Boduszek, Dhingra and Kola-Palmer (2015) pointed out that layman has little knowledge about status offence, and it has become neglected section of Pakistani society. Though, the present research focuses on minor deviance which is treated as ignored segment in the context of the present research. Also, previous studies examine the juvenile delinquent behavior in western cultural context (Shagufta et al., 2015). Correspondingly, Ashraf, Asif, Iqbal & Warraich (2019) recommended that to understand the delinquent behavior of teenager’s minor offences are needed to study from college and school students in the context of the present research. A very few studies applied Differential Association Theory (DAT) as underpinning in Pakistani cultural context before.

II. Theoretical framework

This study was conducted to test the propositions of Differential Association Theory (DAT) by Sutherland (1939) in the context of Punjab, Pakistan. This Theoretical underpinning is consisting of nine Proposition, but the theoretical framework of this study was to test following two propositions of this theory; (a) Criminal behavior is learned through interaction with others, (b) learning process of criminal’s behavior establishes between the intimate personal Groups.

- H¹:** There is a relationship between the significant negative relationship between parental behavior and juvenile delinquent behavior.
- H²:** There is a significant positive relationship between Peer pressure and Juvenile Delinquent behavior.

Figure 1: Theoretical framework of the Study



III. Methodology

This study adopted a quantitative research design. The study was conducted in Punjab Pakistan. The unit of analysis of this study was all the children who were enrolled in higher Secondary schools with particular grades such as 9th to 12th in Punjab, Pakistan. Punjab has consisted of 9 divisions and 36 administrative districts having 680 higher secondary schools where 818023 male and female students were enrolled (School Education Department Government of Punjab Pakistan, 2019). The list of schools and

students was taken from the website of the school education department government of Punjab Pakistan (2019). To get the fruitful results, data was collected from 815 respondents by using the multistage sampling technique. At the first stage, Punjab was divided into three clusters, such as upper (Lahore) lower (Multan) and middle (Sahiwal). At the second stage, six districts, two from each cluster were randomly selected. The selected districts were, Lahore and Kasur from upper Punjab, Sahiwal and Okara from middle Punjab whereas Lodhran and Khanewal from lower Punjab. These selected districts had 127 secondary schools. At the third stage, 24 schools were randomly selected, four schools from each district.

At the fourth stage, it is important to note that at the time of the survey, a total number of 18523 students were enrolled in selected schools and the sample size was drawn by using Krejcie and Morgan (1970) table. However, the actual sample size was 377 against the sample frame, as recommended by Hair et al. (2008) the data was collected from doubled sample size to guard against the avoidance of error, weak and better response rate. While, 815 male and females' students were approached, and 770 usable data was collected from the selected schools by using the systematic random sampling technique. The sample size was sufficient to generalize its findings and accuracy (Comrey & Lee (2013).

A. Measurement

Independent Variables

The parental behavior instrument, which is originally developed by Lempers et al. (1989), was adapted in this study. This scale comprised 17 items to measure the dimension of parental behavior like parental nurturance (5-items), parental monitoring (5-items) and parental rejection (7-items). The scale with a five-point Likert scale, ranging from (never=1 to always=5) was used to collect the data for parental behavior. While the second part of the measurement of peer pressure (PP), the researcher was adapted 11 items scale developed by (Santor, Messervey, & Kusumakar, 2000). The five-point Likert scale was employed to measure the peer pressure, which is rated from (strongly disagree=1 to strongly agree =5).

Dependent Variable

The delinquent behavior (DB) scale developed by Sanches et al. (2016) was adapted to measure the deviant behavior of the children, this scale was consisting of 19 items rated on a five-point Likert scale (never =1 to always=5).

Demographic Profile

Additionally, the demographic profile of the respondents was designed to measure the socio-economic status of the participants; these questions were including variables such as age, gender, Education level, current residence, parental education, parental occupation, family size, family structure, family type, religion and birth order; retrieved from *Pakistan Social and Living Standard Measurement (2013-14)* (PSLSM).

IV. Data Analysis

In this study, the total questionnaire distributed was 815, and 770 were valid to be used, which is a 96.7% response rate. The data was analyzed into two parts, and the descriptive statistics were analysed by SPSS version 23.0. The table 1 shows that the majority 50.6% of the respondents were females, 70.6% of the respondents belonged to

the age group 16-18, while, 97.5% of the respondents belonged to religion Islam, whereas, 26.9% respondents were studying in 12th grade, fathers of the 21.3% respondents had matriculation education, fathers of the 33.0% respondents were doing job in other sectors. On the contrary, mothers of the 29.9% respondents were Illiterate, and mothers of 69.4% respondents were associated with other occupation. However, 60.0% of the respondents have resided in urban areas, 64.4% respondents were living in a joint family system, while, majority 87.4% of the respondents living in two parent's family, and about 59.1% respondents had 5-8 family members. However, 47.3% of respondents claimed that their birth order was between 1-2, respectively.

In this study, hypotheses were tested by using the structural equation modelling technique (SEM). There are various methods to ensure the common method bias issues in the questionnaire, but in this study, we performed Harman's single factor test to detect the issue of common method bias. This test is done by entering the main constructs into a principal component factor analysis (Podsakoff et al., 1986). The results revealed eight-factor solution, with cumulative variance, explained 67.045% and the first factor contained 18.041% which is less than the threshold level of 50% of total variance explained (Podsakoff et al. 2003). Also, there is no issue regarding common method bias in this research.

A. Measurement Model Analysis

To evaluate the measurement model as suggested by Hair et al. (2013), we used the factor loadings, average variance extracted (AVE) and composite reliability (CR) to assess convergent validity. The recommended value for AVE and factor loading should be 0.5 and for CR value should be 0.7. The figure 2 shows that PB conceptualized as a second-order construct. Therefore, as suggested in literature in PLS, the repeated indicator approach was used to model the second-order factor in PLS analysis. Table 2 and figure 3 shows the findings of the measurement model, which are exceeded the threshold values and indicating that the convergent validity of all constructs has been established.

In further, table 3 shows the result of discriminant validity by using (HTMT). As recommended Henseler et al. (2015), the HTMT values should be less than 0.9 to assess the discriminant validity, and the findings revealed that all the values of HTMT ratio are less than 0.9, that shown discriminant validity is established.

B. Structure Equation Modeling (SEM)

To assess the structural model predicted power, we calculate the R-square, the R² basically indicate the values of variance explained by the exogenous latent construct (Hair et al., 2013), all variables together explained (54.7%) of the variance. In this study, performing the standard bootstrapping procedure with 5,000 bootstrap samples and 770 cases applied for path coefficients estimates and *t*-values were calculated for the hypothesized relationships (Hair et al., 2017). In addition, the effect size of all variables is mentioned in table 4, and this study also applied a test to examine the predictive relevance for this research by using the blindfolding technique (Stone, 1974). As suggested by Henseler et al. (2009), table 4 shows that the Q² value of this research model is greater than zero. The findings also revealed that there is no multicollinearity issue regarding data as VIF value is less than five as recommended by (Hair et al., 2011).

Table 1: Description of Sample Characteristics

Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	380	49.4
	Female	390	50.6
Age	Between 13 -15	226	29.4
	Between 16- 18	544	70.6
Religion	Islam	751	97.5
	Christian	10	1.3
	Hindu	5	0.6
	Other's	4	0.5
Level of Education	9 th Grade	206	26.8
	10 th Grade	177	23.0
	11 th Grade	180	23.3
	12 th Grade	207	26.9
Respondents father's qualification	Illiterate	90	11.7
	Primary	104	13.5
	Middle	116	15.1
	Matriculation	164	21.3
	Intermediate	142	18.4
	Graduation	57	7.4
	Master's and above	97	12.6
Father's sector of work	Governmental	160	20.8
	Semi-Governmental	65	8.4
	Private	242	31.4
	Unemployed	49	6.4
	Other's	254	33.0
Respondents Mother's qualification	Illiterate	230	29.9
	Primary	127	16.5
	Middle	128	16.6
	Matriculation	127	16.5
	Intermediate	68	8.8
	Graduation	41	5.3
	Master's and above	49	6.4
Mother's sector of work	Governmental	49	6.4
	Semi-Governmental	20	2.6
	Private	66	8.6
	Unemployed	101	13.1
Place of Residence	Other's	534	69.4
	Rural	308	40.0
	Urban	462	60.0
Family Type	Extended	195	25.3
	Joint	496	64.4
	Nuclear	79	10.3
Family structure	Single Parents	77	10.0
	Two Parents	673	87.4
	Divorced	20	2.6
Family size	Between 1-4	80	10.4
	Between 5-8	455	59.1
	Between 9-12	156	20.3
	Between 13-16	49	6.4
	17 and above	30	3.9
Birth Order	Between 1-2	364	47.3
	Between 3-4	242	31.4
	Between 5-6	134	17.4
	Between 7-8	22	2.9
	More than 8	8	1.0

Note: N=770

Table 2: Loadings, Reliability and Convergent Validity Values

First-Order Constructs	Second-order constructs	Items	Loadings	CA	CR	AVE
Delinquent Behavior		DB_10	0.863	0.966	0.969	0.638
		DB_11	0.803			
		DB_12	0.862			
		DB_13	0.832			
		DB_14	0.630			
		DB_15	0.792			
		DB_16	0.815			
		DB_17	0.863			
		DB_18	0.821			
		DB_19	0.860			
		DB_2	0.521			
		DB_3	0.710			
		DB_4	0.781			
		DB_5	0.816			
Parental Nurturance		PN_1	0.785	0.861	0.900	0.642
		PN_2	0.814			
		PN_3	0.767			
		PN_4	0.842			
		PN_5	0.796			
Parental Rejection		PR_10	0.782	0.874	0.905	0.614
		PR_11	0.800			
		PR_6	0.719			
		PR_7	0.802			
		PR_8	0.725			
Parental Monitoring	Parental Behavior	PM_13	0.759	0.768	0.843	0.518
		PM_14	0.704			
		PM_15	0.702			
		PM_16	0.746			
		PM_17	0.684			
		Parental Nurturance	0.785			
		Parental Monitoring	0.855			
Parental Rejection	0.800					
Peer Pressure		PP_1	0.734	0.908	0.924	0.547
		PP_10	0.756			
		PP_11	0.738			
		PP_2	0.735			
		PP_3	0.753			
		PP_4	0.699			
		PP_5	0.779			
		PP_7	0.719			
		PP_8	0.762			
PP_9	0.720					

Note: DB=" Delinquent Behavior, PM=" Parental Monitoring, PN=" Parental Nurturance, PR="Parental Rejection, PP="Peer Pressure, CA=" Cronbach's Alpha, CR=" Composite Reliability, AVE="Average Variance Extracted.

Table 3: Heterotrait-Monotrait (HTMT)

Constructs	DB	PB	PP
DB			
PB	0.681		
PP	0.662	0.526	---

Note: PB="Parental Behavior, PP="Peer Pressure, DB="Delinquent Behavior.

Figure 2: The Research Model

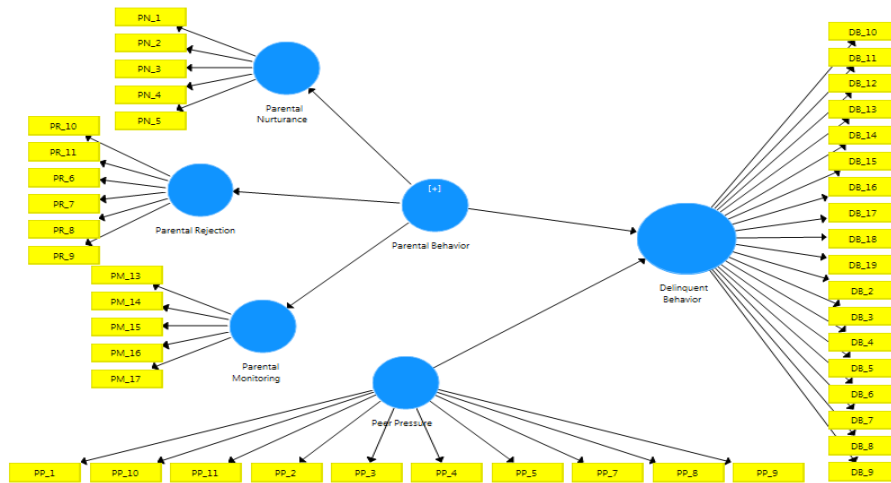


Figure 3: The PLS Algorithm Results

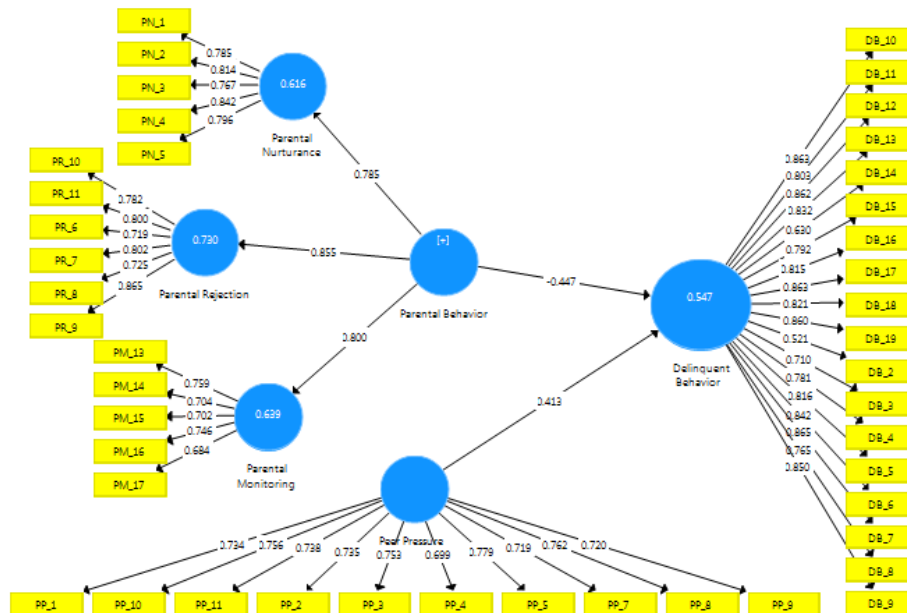


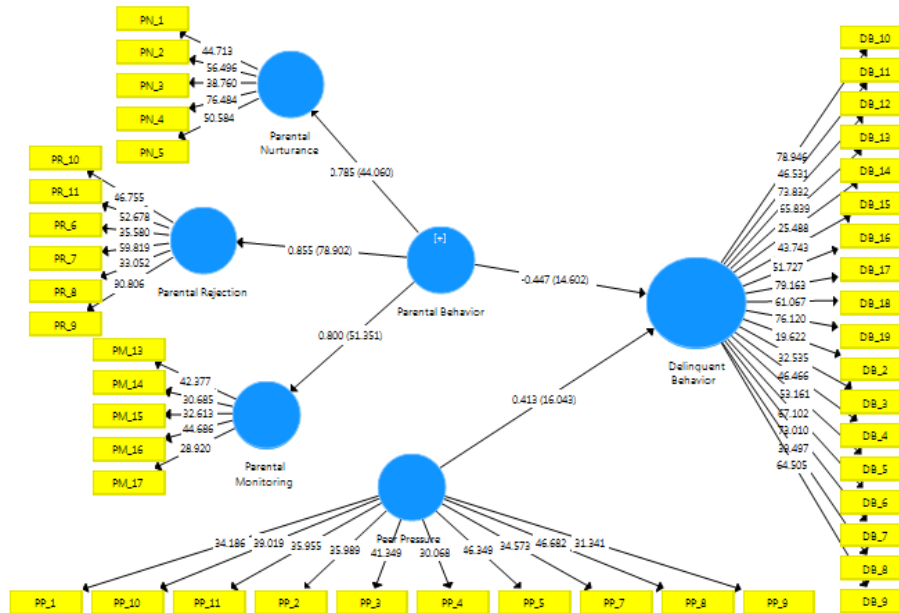
Table 4: Hypothesis Testing

Hypotheses	Relationship	Beta value	Std. Error	T-value	p value	Decision	R ²	f ²	Q ²	VIF
H1	PB -> DB	-0.447	0.031	14.602	0.000***	Supported	0.547	0.338	0.332	1.103
H2	PP -> DB	0.413	0.026	16.043	0.000***	Supported		0.289		1.103

Note: PB="Parental Behavior, PP="Peer Pressure, DB="Delinquent Behavior

The table 4 and figure 4 shows result of structural model, it was found that PB has significant negative relationship with DB (PB -> D B: $\beta = -0.447$; $t = 14.602$, $P < 0.000$) and supported to H1. Contrary, peer pressure has significant positive relationship with juvenile delinquent behavior (PP-> DB: $\beta = 0.413$, $t = 16.043$, $P < 0.000$) and supported to H2.

Figure: 4 Structural Equation Modeling (SEM)



V. Discussion and Conclusion

The purpose of this study was to identify the role of parenting and peer pressure in the development of juvenile delinquent behavior among higher secondary school children in Punjab, Pakistan. Previously, the scarcity of studies examined the minor deviance in the context of this study. Also, this issue becomes a neglected section of Pakistani society (Shagufta et al., 2015). The prior studies were focused on criminal juveniles, to address this issue Ashraf et al., (2019) suggested that minor deviance needed to be studied in the context of present research, especially on secondary school children with combined effect of parental behavior (nurture, monitoring and rejection) and peer pressure and juvenile delinquent behavior. The findings of this study shows that parental behavior had significant negative effect on juvenile delinquent behavior with ($\beta = -0.447$; $t = 14.602$, $P < 0.000$) and supported H1, the finding of hypothesis 1 (H1) aligned with prior to recent studies of (Brauer & Coster, 2015; Ingram et al., 2007). The

results of these studies revealed that positive parental behavior plays a protective role and decreasing the chances of delinquency.

On the other hand, peer pressure positively associated with juvenile delinquent behavior with ($\beta = 0.413$, $t = 16.043$, $P < 0.000$) and supported to hypothesis 2 (H2). The findings of hypotheses 2(H2) aligned with previous studies of (Isaac & Tanga, 2015; O'Donnell, 2003). These studies stated adolescents realized that extra concerning parental behavior, home stressor, parental conflict, normative boundaries, lack of parental support are more discouraging than helpful, they feel that their peer association is the only source to get rid from parental ties, consequently, their friend's behavior influence on their decision making as compare to parents. The differential association theory (DAT) states that deviant behavior is learned through significant interaction with others (Sutherland, 1939). As hypothesized H1 and H2 have strengthened the differential social learning point of view in the context of this study. The concluding remarks about the finding of the present study revealed that peer pressure is found the highest influential factor increasing juvenile delinquent behavior, whereas, parental behavior negatively influencing on juvenile delinquent behavior. The implications of this study important for parents, policymakers and teachers about coping the deviant behavior of juveniles. Based on findings, it is suggested that future studies should focus on the moderating effect of religious commitment and cultural values between parental behavior, peer pressure and juvenile's delinquent behavior.

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