

CHAPTER 11

11.1 Self Check page 385

Explain the different ways a juvenile can be sent to an out-of-home placement.

There are several ways, including:

- Detention prior to **adjudication**
- **Commitment** by a juvenile court to a secure placement
- Placement in a secure facility by a **juvenile justice administrative body** or other social service agency

Secure placements can include short-term facilities such as detention centers or boot camps, and long-term facilities such as youth ranches or state institutions.

11.2 Self Check page 389

1. Describe the types of juveniles that are sent to secure correctional facilities.

Recent trends have revealed that the number of cases that resulted in out-of-home placement rose from 104,800 to 163,200, an increase of 56 percent, in the period between 1988 and 1997. During the same period, the number of violent offenses resulting in placement grew 103 percent, placements for drug offense cases and public order offense cases each grew 77 percent, and placement for property offense cases grew 27 percent. However, the overall proportion of cases that were placed out-of-home declined from 31 percent to 28 percent.

2. Explain the nature of the differences between public and private juvenile correctional facilities.

Most juveniles in public facilities (96 percent) are held there by court order under a delinquency adjudication. They are much more likely to have committed violent offenses, property offenses, and technical violations of probation agreements.

Most juveniles in **private facilities**, which are facilities that are run by private corporations or private individuals, are either status offenders (14 percent) or nonoffenders (41 percent). In addition, many more status offenders are housed in private facilities as opposed to public ones (5,094 versus 1,782, respectively).

3. Which organization oversees the placement of juvenile delinquents?

In most states, the placement of juvenile delinquents is handled by a central juvenile correctional authority which also governs the administration and operation of juvenile correctional facilities in the state.

11.3 Self Check page 402

1. Describe the various types of secure correctional facilities to which a juvenile can be sent?

Juvenile detention facilities are short-term secure units that house juveniles awaiting court hearings or adjudications.

There are other types of short-term secure facilities: the **assessment facility** is responsible for orienting the juvenile to the correctional system, and **transfer or transitional facilities** are for juveniles who are being transferred from a community placement to a secure unit or vice versa.

A **juvenile boot camp** is a secure correctional facility that emphasizes military-style discipline, physical training, and an extremely regimented schedule.

Youth ranches and camps are similar to the wilderness and adventure programs discussed in Chapter 10; the differences are that they are secure, and the youths remain there until paroled.

State institutions and schools are typically large, very self-contained facilities that up to 300 youths.

2. Explain the differing nature of each type of correctional facility?

- **Juvenile detention facilities** are most similar to adult jails in operation, but unlike adult jails, juvenile detention centers rarely also house delinquents under sentence.
- **Assessment facilities** are responsible for orienting the juvenile to the correctional system in that particular state and what the expectations are, and for conducting a multitude of testing and diagnosis.
- **Transfer or transitional facilities** are used when bed space is limited in other facilities to which juveniles await placement or transfer. Juveniles in these facilities will find very little programs, education, or other training.
- The guiding principles of **juvenile boot camps**, which are modeled after military boot camps, are strict discipline and structure combined with tough love.
- **Youth ranches and camps** operate similarly to state institutions, except that the atmosphere is more like a year-round summer camp than it is a maximum-security facility.
- **State institutions and schools** provide a variety of services for juveniles including rehabilitation, health, education, counseling, recreation, and employment and training.

11.4 Self Check page 411

Describe the various types of correctional programming available in juvenile facilities?

These types are:

- **Correctional education:** Educational programs in juvenile facilities often serve as the core program consuming the largest portion of time.

- **Correctional industry and vocational training:** Many facilities develop internships, apprenticeships, and mentorships with these business partners.
- **Specialized treatment and programs:** Specialized treatment includes programs designed specifically for the treatment of capital offenders, sex offenders, chemically dependent youth, youth with emotional disturbances, and mentally retarded youth.
- **Programs for serious and repeat juvenile offenders:** These small, intensive programs are well-defined, with a strong intuitive appeal; have demonstrated positive effects on the youth; and have a strong following among judges and correctional administrators that work with the programs.

11.5 Self Check page 414

1. What problems do juveniles experience in adapting to institutional life?

Most prominent among juveniles' difficulties in adjusting are:

- The structured life and programs in the facilities that dictate how juveniles will spend their time, since most juveniles who are committed are used to having more free time than structured programming.
- The emotional, social, and psychological problems that juveniles bring with them into the facility. All youths in secure placement have these problems, and few, if any, have ever examined themselves.
- Educational, recreational, and vocational treatment. Juveniles in secure placement typically have learning dysfunctions, have never held a serious job of any kind, and do not know or understand how to participate appropriately in group recreational activity.

Although some juveniles conform rapidly and remain in full compliance with the program throughout their stay, the vast majority will experience successes and failures before they become in full compliance with the program.

2. What problems do juveniles experience when they are released from an institution?

Often, the juvenile shows "institutionalized" behavior upon release: They are so used to strict structure and programming that the transition to the community is difficult. Also, juveniles are typically returned to the environment that contributed to their problems in the first place. In short, the freedom that juveniles long for is often their worst enemy upon release.

11.6 Self Check Page 415

1. Do you understand the difference between task specialization and task generalization in juvenile correctional facilities?

Larger facilities tend to have role specialists, who focus on one or two specialized roles. Smaller facilities tend to have role generalists, who perform a variety of tasks.

2. Can you explain the differences between adult prison wardens and juvenile correctional facility directors?

Juvenile facility directors placed a greater emphasis on rehabilitation counseling and programs. Both placed an equal degree of emphasis placed on maintaining institutional order and on inmate behavior. Prison wardens reported a higher emphasis on punishment, preventing escapes, and preventing the flow of contraband into and within the facility.