

CHAPTER 14

14.1 Self Check page 509

1. Describe the youths who are members of Generation X.

Generation X youths were born in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and have been loosely described by the popular media as a generation of egotistic, apathetic adolescents who care more about materialistic things than issues of moral and social value.

2. What are the differences between rampage killings and typical murders? Give some examples of rampage killings involving juveniles.

Rampage killings, although they make up less than one percent of all homicides, still have certain characteristics that separate them from typical murders. Rampage killings are rarely impulsive, as typical murders can be, and are usually meticulously planned. Many of the suspects openly expressed violent viewpoints before the killings, and in most cases had threatened violence previously. In addition, there is often a precipitating event that sets off the rampage killing, and the killers usually commit suicide afterwards. More than half of rampage killers had a history or showed signs of mental health problems.

- Common examples of rampage killings are:
- Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado (1999)
- Santana High School in Santee, California (2001)
- Jonesboro Middle School in Jonesboro, Arkansas (1998)

14.2 Self Check page 511

What types of family events may lead to emotional and behavioral problems among juveniles?

Witnessing domestic violence, being abused, being victimized through incest, and experiencing the death of a parent can lead to these problems. There are also the effects of the biochemical factors discussed in Chapter 4, including dietary influences, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and prenatal drug use.

14.3 Self Check page 513

1. What are paraphilia?

Paraphilia are erotic compulsions involving obsessive deviant images or activities to achieve or maintain sexual arousal. They can involve objects, people who do not consent, and the suffering or humiliation of the offender, the offender's partner, animals, or children.

2. What factors may contribute to youthful sexual offending?

Perhaps the most obvious factor is being sexually victimized as children. Other factors include prenatal drug and alcohol abuse, family dysfunction, and physical and emotional abuse.

14.4 Self Check page 515

1. Define the concept of “chronic juvenile offenders.”

Chronic juvenile offenders are a small minority among juvenile offenders. They are responsible for a large proportion of juvenile crimes, including serious ones like robbery and burglary. They are labeled chronic juvenile offenders because of their persistent and habitual involvement in delinquency.

2. What is a hacker or cracker? Describe their subculture.

Hackers and crackers are a subculture of juvenile delinquents that engage in attacking secure computer systems or various Internet sites.

Their subculture values new ways of invading computer systems, developing a new virus, or “one-upping” the latest vandalism on the Internet with more elaborate examples of vandalism. One of the reasons that they are rarely caught is that they appear to be model teenagers (although they do tend to be underachievers in school). As one investigator pointed out, “They don’t race cars, chase girls, drink beer, take drugs, or get into trouble.”

14.5 Self Check page 520

1. What are the characteristics of violent juvenile offenders?

They are an even smaller minority of the total juvenile offender population than chronic juvenile offenders are. Their characteristics are as follows:

- Most are male, but the number of girls is on the rise: In 1995, girls were arrested for 15 percent of all juvenile violent crime.
- Most are from a racial minority; 61 percent of all juveniles arrested for murder in 1994 were African Americans.
- Violent juvenile offenders tend to have histories of substance abuse and mental health problems.
- School-related difficulties may include truancy and dropping out.
- They tend to start offending at young ages and many continue through adolescence.
- They appear to be getting younger: The arrest rate for youth under 15 years of age was 60 percent higher than it was in 1980. However, violence still remains highest between the ages of 17 and 19.

2. Define hate crime. What are the three distinct categories of extremist groups in America?

Hate crime is a crime committed against an individual victim because of his or her race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

Right wing hate groups can be separated into three distinct categories:

- *Traditional hate groups* that have historical linkages with hatemongering and white supremacy. They include various Neo-Nazi groups and the Ku Klux Klan.
- *Christian identity groups* that follow a racist North American theological movement based on distorted interpretations of the

- Bible and the U.S. Constitution. These groups include the Aryan Nations and the Posse Comitatus.
- A variety of *survivalist and militia groups* operating throughout the United States, which believe that a conspiracy exists within the government to take over the United States and take away the rights of Americans. These groups have colorful and patriotic names such as the Michigan Militia, the Arizona Patriot, the Texas Brigade, and the Militiamen of Montana.

14.6 Self Check page 529

1. What is the most common type of child abuse?

Sadly, sexual abuse is the most common. There are approximately 100,000 cases of child abuse that are reported each year. Actual statistics on total cases are hotly debated, but it is clear that the vast majority of juvenile sexual abuse cases go unreported.

2. How has the Internet affected child pornography and child exploitation?

Prior to the Internet, child pornography distribution was an underground system using the mail and personal contacts, and involvement in this network was high-risk. In contrast, the Internet has created a universal method for distributing child pornography. It has now become the preferred pathway for trading and exchanging child pornography because it provides an anonymous and much less risky environment in which to exchange this type of media.

3. What are the common linkages found in child prostitution?

Most child prostitutes are runaways with drug and alcohol problems; their ages generally vary between 13 and 17, although many are much younger; and they tend to conduct their business in central business districts of cities, arcades, and bus/train stations.