EFFECTS OF BEHAVIOURAL FAMILY THERAPY INTERVENTION ON JUVENILE DELINQUENTS AT AHVAZ CORRECTION CENTRE IN IRAN

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EFFECTS OF BEHAVIOURAL FAMILY THERAPY INTERVENTION ON JUVENILE DELINQUENTS AT AHVAZ CORRECTION CENTRE IN IRAN

BY

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Delinquency as a social dilemma exists in all societies. The phenomenon imposes costs on all levels of society, especially the family institution. This problem is being experienced acutely in the city of Ahvaz in Iran. Behavioural family therapy has been successfully used to solve the problem. A mixed method of sampling, proportional allocation and matched pairs, was applied. Accordingly, initially, the sample with respect to the population of each criminal subgroup was determined. Subsequently the subjects were matched with respect to the variables of age, socio-economic status and type of crime. These matched subjects, were then assigned to the experimental and control groups randomly. The sample consisted of 124
adolescents between ages 13-17 who were sentenced to stay at Ahvaz Correction Centre by the court. There were two main groups, the treatment and the comparison group with three subgroups of thieving (24), physical aggression (20) and sexual crimes (18) in each of the subgroups. The \( n = 124 \) meets the requirements of reducing Type II error determined by \( \alpha = 0.05, u = 1, \) power at 0.80 and medium effect size \( f = 0.26. \) The treatment was conducted in 7 sessions of group-based behavioural family therapy, lasting 90 minutes each session and administered during the 3 months for the duration of the research. The intervention, Behavioural Family Therapy, was based on social learning and reinforcement theories. The instruments consisted of the questionnaires of delinquent’s assessment by parents (Q-DAP-2009), the Socio-Economic Status Questionnaire of Monitoring after Release (SES-Q-MAR-2000), and also extracted data obtained from the judiciary system. The data were analysed using repeated measures ANOVA and matched pairs \( t \)-test. The findings indicated that there were differences between the experimental and control groups on all the hypotheses with regard to the studied variables in this study, including behaviour correction, relationship with siblings, peers and parents, social and school adaptation, academic behaviour, drug abuse tendency, sexual behaviour and recidivism rate. However, no significant change was observed between the criminal subgroups of the experimental group except in the case of recidivism. The sub group on physical aggression did not show significant difference in the recidivism rate during three months after releasing compared to the control group. Thus, it can be concluded that all subjects in the experimental group benefitted from the treatment regardless of the crimes which they committed. These results provided some
evidences which supported the premise that by applying behavioural family therapy for delinquent behaviours, may lead to a decrease in delinquent behaviours of the group. This study, however, had limitations because gender and ethnicity were not investigated. Nevertheless, the findings suggested that involving families in the process of rehabilitation may provide an encouraging result in moderating the behaviours of delinquents.
Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi sebahagian syarat-syarat bagi mendapatkan Ijazah Doktor Falsafah.

KESAN- KESAN INTERVENSI TERAPI TINGKAH LAKU KELUARGA TERHADAP PESALAH-PESALAH JUVANA DI PUSAT PEMULIHAN AHVAZ DI IRAN

Oleh

MAHMOOD BARATVAND

Mei 2011

Pengerusi: Profesor Othman bin Hj. Dato’ Mohamed, PhD

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Delinkuensi merupakan satu dilema sosial yang wujud dalam semua masyarakat. Fenomena tersebut memberikan kesan kepada seluruh lapisan masyarakat terutamanya institusi kekeluargaan. Masalah yang sama dihadapi secara akut di bandar Ahvaz, di Iran. Terapi tingkah laku keluarga didapati telah berjaya menyelesaikan masalah ini. Satu kaedah persampelan campuran melibatkan peruntukan berkadar dan pasangan berpadanan telah digunakan. Berpandukan kaedah tersebut, pertamanya, sampel yang mewakili populasi bagi setiap
subkumpulan jenayah ditentukan dan seterusnya subjek dipadankan kepada pembolehubah umur, status sosioekonomi dan jenis jenayah. Akhirnya, subjek-subjek yang telah dipadankan ini dibahagikan secara rawak kepada kumpulan eksperimen dan kumpulan kawalan. Sampel kajian terdiri daripada 124 orang remaja yang berumur di antara 13 hingga 17 tahun yang telah diarahkan oleh mahkamah untuk ditempatkan di Pusat Pemulihan Ahvaz. Dengan demikian, terdapat dua kumpulan utama iaitu kumpulan rawatan dan perbandingan, dengan tiga subkumpulan yang masing-masing terdiri daripada mencuri (24), keganasan fizikal (20) dan jenayah seksual (18). Sampel, n = 124 memenuhi keperluan untuk mengurangkan ralat Jenis II yang ditentukan oleh α =.05 , u = 1, kuasa pada .80 dan saiz kesan yang sederhana, f = .26. Rawatan dijalankan dalam tujuh sesi terapi tingkah laku keluarga secara kelompok, yang mengambil masa 90 minit untuk setiap sesi dan ditadbirkannya selama tiga bulan selama tempoh kajian. Intervensi ini berdasarkan pada teori pembelajaran sosial dan teori peneguhan. Instrumen yang digunakan terdiri daripada Questionnaire of Delinquent’s Assessment by Parents (Q-DAP-2009), Socio-Economic Status Questionnaire of Monitoring after Release (SES-Q-MAR-2000), dan juga menggunakan data yang diambil daripada pusat data di sistem badan kehakiman. Data kemudiannya dianalisis dengan menggunakan ANOVA dan ujian-t berpasangan sepadan. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa pada semua hipotesis, terdapat perbezaan yang signifikan di antara kumpulan eksperimen dan kumpulan kawalan pada pembolehubah yang dikaji dalam kajian ini iaitu pemulihan tingkah laku (jumlah skor), perhubungan antara adik-beradik, rakan-rakan dan ibu bapa, penyesuaian sosial dan sekolah, tingkah laku akademik,
kecenderungan penyalahgunaan dadah, tingkah laku seksual dan kadar residivisme. Walau bagaimanapun, tiada perubahan signifikan dapat diperhatikan di antara subkumpulan jenayah dalam kumpulan eksperimen kecuali pada kes residivisme. Malah, subkumpulan serangan fizikal tidak menunjukkan perbezaan yang signifikan dalam kadar residivisme sepanjang tiga bulan selepas dibebaskan berbanding dengan kumpulan kawalan. Dengan demikian dapat dikatakan bahawa semua subjek dalam kumpulan eksperimen telah mendapat manfaat daripada rawatan tanpa mengambil kira jenis jenayah yang telah dilakukan. Keputusan ini memberikan beberapa bukti yang menyokong pernyataan yang mendakwa dengan penerapan terapi tingkah laku keluarga kepada tingkah laku delinkuen, akan dapat membantu mengurangkan tingkah laku delinkuen dalam kumpulan. Walau bagaimanapun, kajian ini mempunyai limitasi kerana gender dan etnik tidak dikaji. Namun demikian, dapatan kajian mencadangkan bahawa penglibatan keluarga dalam proses rehabilitasi mampu memberikan keputusan yang menggalakkan dalam mengubah tingkah laku delinkuen.
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I certify that an Examination Committee has met on date of viva voce to conduct the final examination of Mahmood Baratvand on her doctor of philosophy thesis entitled “Effect of Behavioural Family Therapy Intervention on Juvenile Delinquents at Ahvaz Correction Centre in Iran” in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the doctor of philosophy. Member of the Examination Committee were as follows:

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DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotation and citation which have been dully acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.

MAHMOOD BARATVAND
Date: 16 May 2011
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