HOW A WORKING MOTHER'S ABSENCE
FROM THE HOME AFFECTS
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

BY

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Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Master of Education degree
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Problem</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedure</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditions Giving Rise to Juvenile Courts</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Focal Points of Increased Delinquency</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Eras as Focal Points</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. CONDITIONS GIVING RISE TO DELINQUENCY</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. CASE STUDIES</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIBLIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# LIST OF TABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Number of Offenses of 20 Youths of Working Mothers</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Number of Offenses of 20 Youths of Non-Working Mothers</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

In historical perspective, and in the strictest sense, the youth problem of today is new only in degree. The younger generation has been a trial to its elders since the beginning of time.\textsuperscript{1} To each older generation, it sometimes seems that youth is bob-sledding downhill, bent on destruction, but it is all too easy for these adults to lose the proper sense of proportion regarding youth's activities. Youth are now, and have always been, our banner bearers. They challenge the sentry at the gate of time, enter and progress, often treading their tedious way with faltering steps, and often departing from the well-marked route. Yet, the task is evident -- adults must lend a guiding hand.

Statement of Problem

Having viewed the reported spread of delinquency among America's youth, and having considered the fact that delinquency knows no geographical boundaries, class distinction, or limitations, this writer has not been interested in treating the magnitudal aspects of delinquency, but only in reporting the findings concerning the working mother who supplements the family income, and the consequential effects on the unattended child. The belief has been held that the absence of the mother from the home for work would result in youthful misbehavior. This belief has led to the selection of the problem of this investigation as given in the title, "How a Working Mother's Absence from the Home Affects Juvenile Delinquency."

The solution of the problem seemed to resolve itself into two questions of primary importance, those being:

1. What is the status of the Juvenile Delinquent?

2. If mother works, is her absence from home a contributing factor?

Procedure

The writer, in order to understand and appreciate the delinquency problem reviewed literature in the field of Juvenile Delinquency from the beginning of the Juvenile Courts in the year of 1899 to the present date. Local authorities were contacted by the writer. They, in turn, gave freely of their time and advice concerning the problem. The writer attended several Juvenile Court proceedings to witness the adjudication of the same. This was a privilege extended by the Honorable W. W. Lessley, Judge, Eighteenth Judicial District; Mr. Fred Wilkinson, Probation Officer, Gallatin County, and Mr. A. N. Haas, Chief of Police, City of Bozeman.

A case study was made of adjudicated delinquents to determine the effect that the working mother's absence had on the unattended child. These cases have been lettered alphabetically to protect the juvenile's identity.

Limitations

It was not the intention of the investigation to solve, but only to set forth findings for the reader's consideration. Because this investigation is restricted to the immediate vicinity of Bozeman, Montana, it was felt that the investigations of case studies be limited to those that came
under the jurisdiction of the local court. Further limitations to the problem will include the enactment of the first Juvenile Court, in the year of 1899 as a point of historical departure, and World War I, the Depression, World War II, and the post war decade, to include the years of 1947-1957.

These times and events have been arbitrarily selected as focal points wherein, it seems that the incidence of delinquency is more pronounced. To gain an understanding and an appreciation of the problem, a review of literature in the field of Juvenile Delinquency is presented in Chapter II.
CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This report is based upon the review of literature in the field of Juvenile Delinquency, and the associated periodicals, pamphlets, and articles of the National Parole and Probation Association.¹

Conditions Giving Rise to Juvenile Courts

Nature of Juvenile Courts. The only thing new about youthful offenders of the law, is the name, "Juvenile Delinquency." Preceding generations combatted "smart alecky kids and street urchins" whose punishment was metered according to adult standards. This situation afforded no corrective or remedial help, and the fallacies of youthful offenders were subjected to the severe penalties designed for adults.

The early prisons were filthy and vermin-laden hovels, having no degree of sanitation or age classifications. Youthful offenders of the law, regardless of the scope or magnitude of their actions, were pitted against hardened criminals.

These deplorable conditions prevailed until 1897, when the Illinois Legislature passed a law providing for the enactment of courts designed for youth; wherein, the cause and effects were to be the guiding light, and remedial help the solution.²

Inception of the Juvenile Courts. In 1899, the first Juvenile Court was established, in the city of Chicago, Cook County, State of

¹A trade journal of the National Association of Probation Officers and Juvenile Authorities.

Illinois. The epochal establishment, thereof, has been hailed by many jurists, social workers, and others, as a dictum surpassed only by the Magna Carta.

The courts were inaugurated to aid those youthful offenders, who by ignorance, accident, or choice, violated the existing codes. It then became the duty of the courts to afford remedies to young offenders in light of their tender years and the brevity of their cultural associations.

**Purpose of the Juvenile Courts.** The purpose of the act was to secure for each child coming under the jurisdiction of the court, such care and guidance, as would be conducive to the child's welfare and best interests, and when the child is removed from his own family, to secure for him custody, care, and discipline as nearly possible equivalent to that which should have been given by his parents.

**Function of the Juvenile Courts.** The principle was recognized early that children under jurisdiction of the courts were wards of the state, subject to the discipline and entitled to the protection of the state, which may intervene to safeguard them from neglect or injury and to enforce the legal obligations due them and from them.

**Four Focal Points of Increased Delinquency**

The enlistment and conscription of our young men in World War I created a void in industry, and because the American Federation of Labor was directly lobbying for legislation concerning industry's exploitation of child labor, women were called upon to bridge the gap. Industry found that the utilization of women was ideally situated to many specific labors especially in the hand work of intricate assembly and the minute inspection
of products. This problem is concerned with four focal points, from the advent of World War I to present date.

Time Eras as Focal Points

World War I. World War I saw many women leave the home to work. Some left for economic reasons, others for patriotism, and still others found their needs to be twofold. While mother worked, the child in most cases was left unattended. . . . to shift for himself.

The cessation of hostilities and the return of the soldiers resulted in a form of normalcy. It was discovered that the geographical climb of delinquency was receding with the return of the mothers to the home, hence, an indicator that mother's presence in the home is conducive to proper discipline. 3

The Depression. The period of 1929 ended a boom reflective of post-World War I conditions. The ensuing panic caused considerable upset in the labor market. Jobs were at a premium and management was reluctant to hire women in place of men. This turn of events found the ex-working mother at home, in attendance of her family's wants and needs, and as a result, there was an appreciable drop in delinquency. 4

The enactment of child labor laws, and the increased age limits for compulsory school attendance, kept more children out of industry's grasp.

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World War II. Once again the call to colors depleted the male population to a bare minimum, and once more women were called upon to furnish the labor necessary to maintaining and supplying our troops.

On returning home from the wars, the soldiers found their jobs waiting for them. This was because of legislative action which stipulated the rehiring of veterans to their former positions. Also, a new administrative branch of the government was set apart to insure the rights of the returning soldier. Known as the "Veterans Administration," this branch dealt with the rights and benefits of the veteran as his reward for meritorious service.

The returning soldier could elect to return to his former job, vocation, or trade, or elect the advantages of the so-called "G. I. Bill." It has been evidenced by increased college and school enrollments, that many veterans chose to further their academic careers. This left their former jobs open, and the women who had been filling their jobs stayed on, acquiring status and tenure in industry.

Post-World War II. Now that women's status as a bonafide worker had been ascertained, they, as a whole continued working because of the building boom, good wages, and the inflationary trend. Their children were again, generally speaking, left unattended. . . to shift for themselves.

The exodus of women from the home has affected children in countless ways. The child, whose mother worked, has been more frequently prone to delinquency, as contrasted to the child whose mother remains at home. The masculine role played by the working mother as a dual bread-winner has created considerable confusion with the growing boy's
identification of the father figure and his subsequent heterosexual development, but the more obvious import of the working mother has been visible in the loss of mother supervision, constant love, and affection.\(^5\)

The United States Department of Labor has reported these statistics to reveal the great impact of women on the labor market:

That from 1914-1956, married women in the labor force increased by more than 100%. Today, 30% of all workers in the United States are women; there are 19 million women in the labor force -- a third of all the women of working age. More than half of all women workers, 10.8 million are married, 2 million had children under 6 years of age, and 5.3 million had children under 18 years of age.\(^6\)

Many case histories of delinquent children have pointed to the difficulty of the mother holding a job, and at the same time, maintaining a home and caring for her children.

With the emancipation of women from the home and their many household tasks, through labor-saving devices, the advent of frozen and prepared foods, and ready-made clothing, mothers have turned to many outside activities to fill their free and empty hours. This has frequently meant leaving to older children, to maids or to baby sitters the responsibility of child care and supervision.

There is little doubt that the frequent absences from home, on the part of mother, as she attends her weekly bridge meeting, women's club, church social, and other activities has tended to weaken the fundamental relationship with her growing children.

\(^5\)Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 154, March 1957, p. 7.

\(^6\)Waytinsky and Associates, op. cit., p. 281.
Growing children need constant supervision and attention and if these are lacking, they seem to be the seeds of maladjustment. Chapter III outlines the conditions giving rise to delinquency.
CHAPTER III
CONDITIONS GIVING RISE TO DELINQUENCY

Most families are confronted with the two overshadowing problems of earning a living and rearing their children. These two problems are interrelated in many ways, so that from time to time each interferes with the other. This investigation is concerned with the stress of work-day requirements of the working mother, whose absence from the home tends to interfere seriously with the child-rearing process.

Working Mother. Certain factors in the cost to children of their mother's employment seem obvious and will be identified briefly.

1. The combined strains of being wife, mother, and outside employee tends to make mothers unduly tired, with the consequent feelings of impatience and irritability.

2. There is the loneliness, emotional and otherwise, of the child whose mother is always away from home.

3. There is the child who feels neglected, who is neglected, and who rationalizes that neglect to justify the inevitable consequences of neglect.

4. Many children seize upon their parents' absence to run riot and to secure greater license than they otherwise could.

5. The working mother is less able to share with the child the impact of his daily adventures. Beyond the mere comfort of her presence, there is need to tell of the day's experiences. This has a therapeutic and an educational value, and permits the mother to measure the day's activities in the light of propriety.

Lack of Supervision. There are the whole series of supervisory and training services which children must obtain in their own homes. These have to do with such things as dietary habits, outlets for child energy,

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the vetoing of selected experiments with objects and persons, and the acquisition of the niceties of social behavior. Just as Sutherland concludes that crime is learned behavior growing out of differential association,² so also are courtesy, etiquette, and manners. Socially approved behavior, too, is learned behavior, and its teaching is a parental task that no absent or overworked mother can discharge with adequacy.

The problem creating aspects of a mother's occupation arise chiefly out of the following conditions:

1. The hours of employment removes the mother from the home during the time when the child is not at school or asleep. This means that the ordinary relationships between parent and child have little or no opportunity to develop, and there is the subsequent loss of whatever these relationships might come to mean.

2. The complement of unusual working hours for mother may be a schedule that does not fit into the child's life. This may mean that the child cannot play at home for fear of disturbing her rest. He cannot bring other children home, or is constantly restrained and urged to be quiet until all spontaneity is squeezed out of his home life.

3. Family life comes to be organized on the basis of the parent's absence, such a child has, and yet does not have, a parent.

These listed causes seem to determine the effects on the child; Chapter IV contains the case studies.

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CHAPTER IV  
CASE STUDIES

To show a correlation between the working mother's absence from home and the incidence of youthful misbehavior, 26 cases were picked at random from the files of the County Probation Office, under the supervision of the Probation Officer.¹ Cases "A", "F", and "W" will be reported first, and at greater length, because this writer had the opportunity to witness the court proceedings and adjudication. The remainder of cases will follow in their respective alphabetical order.

Cases

Case "A". A girl of 16 was brought before the court on the charge of taking money from the person of another. The complaining witness, a man of 65 years of age, was flouting money about, and in his drunken condition, became an easy "mark" for the girl, who declared, "As long as he wants to throw his money about, I might as well have it."

"A" is no stranger to the court² as her past offenses include: curfew violation and open and notorious drunkenness. In appearing before the court with her mother and stepfather, "A" was placed on a weekly reporting basis to the probation officer, and warned to observe the curfew.

¹Wilkinson, Fred, Probation Officer, 18th Judicial District, Gallatin County, Bozeman, Montana.

²The terminology refers to the judicial branch of government as well as an individual judge. In reporting these cases, the word "court" shall be construed to be synonymous with W. W. Lessley, Judge, 18th Judicial District, Gallatin County, State of Montana.
Because "A's" mother worked at the lunch counter in one of the local saloons, she was allowed to enter the premises (because of its nature as a public business house) but was given strict orders -- not to go beyond the immediate vicinity of the lunch counter or in the area of the bar.

In reviewing her file, it was found that "A" was in a quandry, as what to do. Although her actions were not sanctioned by her mother, the unusual working hours of her mother's employment -- 8:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. -- left the girl unsupervised time and nothing to do; consequently, she would hang around the street corners and saloons, talking to the boys and men, and not infrequently, would accompany them on an evening's adventure.

Case "F". A lad of 12 was brought before the court on the charge of stealing a transistor radio from a local appliance store. His past offenses included theft, curfew violation and truancy.

In appearing before the court, for the third time, "F" was adjudicated a "Juvenile Delinquent" and placed on probation until he reached majority.

In an interview with the probation officer, it was found that "F" was the middle child of a large family, whose father's salary was inadequate to support his family, hence, this situation forced the mother to work to supplement the income. While the parents worked, "F" roamed the streets and department stores, bent on securing those niceties -- by shoplifting -- that other children had.

Case "H". A lad of 17 was brought before the court on the charge of car theft. His past offenses listed petty theft, grand theft,
drunkenness, speeding and the improper use of another's motor vehicle. Upon previous occasion he had been admonished to change his ways, and when he did not attempt to correct his pattern of behavior was called before the court, which in turn placed him on a weekly reporting basis to the probation officer. For a time, this procedure seemed to afford a remedy, yet it was not lasting. Upon the preponderance of evidence to support the current charge of theft, "H" was committed to the State Industrial School.

In a personal interview with "H", the writer found that "H" felt his present situation had been dictated by various circumstances. At the tender age of 6 years he was farmed out to neighbors while his mother pursued a professional career, and his father followed the carpentry trade. The contrasting occupations caused a family conflict, wherein, separation and divorce followed.

"H" was then left in his mother's care, which again resulted in a substitute form of supervision, while she continued to work. As he grew older, he was allowed to be his "own keeper" and to account for his day's activities upon the mother's return from work.

Because of the mother's exhausted condition after a day's work, "H" felt it best to facricate his day's activities in the light of propriety, so as not to cause her mental anguish, and turn into turmoil, what might have been a pleasant evening; consequently, what might have been a form of supervision was refused by "H" and abused by the mother's laxity.

Soon "H" associated with a "peer group" whose actions were contrary to conformity and the inevitable consequences of such an association resulted in his being committed to the State Industrial School.
Case "B". A boy who wanted to impress his peer group.

Present offense: Car theft
Past offense: None
Situation: "B", an 11 year old, stole a car to joy ride
Father's occupation: Laborer
Mother's occupation: Clerk

Case "C". A 1½ year old girl who played truant to be with a service man.

Present offense: Truancy
Past offense: None
Situation: Skipping school to be with a "service man"
Father's occupation: Farmer
Mother's occupation: Typist

Case "D". An underprivileged girl who wanted to improve her personal appearance.

Present offense: Truancy
Past offense: Theft
Situation: Girl, 1½ years of age, stole several combs and toilet articles from a department store
Father's occupation: None
Mother's occupation: Cleaning woman

Case "E". A boy who wanted to drive but was required to wait until he was of legal age.

Present offense: Car theft and traffic violation
Past offense: None
Situation: A boy, 1½ years of age stole his mother's car, while she attended a meeting and damaged it severely.
Father's occupation: Salesman
Mother's occupation: Professional woman

Case "G". The consequences of nothing to do, and alcohol.
Present offense: Street fighting
Past offense: Beer bust
Situation: A girl, 14 years of age, was engaged in a street battle with several girls from her "gang".
Father's occupation: Engineer
Mother's occupation: Clerk

Case "I". Driving while under the influence of alcohol.
Present offense: Traffic violation
Past offenses: Drunkenness, suspension of driver's license
Situation: A boy, 16 years of age, was travelling at an excessive rate of speed down Main Street and ran into a parked car.
Father's occupation: Logger
Mother's occupation: Stenographer

Case "J". One girl and five boys on a "beer bust."
Present offense: In company with 5 boys on a beer bust
Past offense: None
Situation: A girl, 17 years of age, was found in company with 5 boys on a beer bust. Parents are separated.
Father's occupation: Laborer
Mother's occupation: Telephone company

Case "K". Driving while license was suspended.
Present offense: Traffic violation
Past offense: Beer bust, traffic violations, driving while license was suspended
Situation: A boy, 16 years of age, has had many dealings with the law. Presently, he is under orders not to drive as his license is suspended. Parents are separated.

Father's occupation: Miner
Mother's occupation: Hotel worker

Case "L". A lad who was under the impression that he needed no fishing license.

Present offense: Fishing without a valid license
Past offense: None

Situation: A boy, 16 years of age, was apprehended while fishing without a license.

Father's occupation: Deceased
Mother's occupation: None (drunkard)

Case "M". An apparent disregard for conformity.

Present offense: Possession of beer
Past offense: None

Situation: A girl, 15 years of age, on a beer bust, this is a family that has had a lot of trouble so far as their children's escapades resulting, in contact with the law.

Father's occupation: Laborer
Mother's occupation: Cleaning woman

Case "M". What started out to be a ride, turned into a beer bust.

Present offense: Possession of beer
Past offense: None

Situation: A girl, 15 years of age, on a beer bust. Parents are separated.

Father's occupation: Salesman
Mother's occupation: Professional woman
Case "O". Decided to augment his pocket money by burglary.

Present offense: Burglary
Past offense: Theft
Situation: Burglarized a department store, stealing over $100 worth of sporting goods. Restitution of damaged goods is being made on a monthly basis.

Father's occupation: Carpenter
Mother's occupation: Professional woman

Case "P". Had parental approval, but no license.

Present offense: Traffic violation
Past offense: None
Situation: Operating a motor vehicle without a license

Father's occupation: Laborer
Mother's occupation: Clerk

Case "Q". Runs with his gang, and is not subjected to home discipline.

Present offense: Theft
Past offense: Shoplifting, traffic violations
Situation: Theft of beer from parked beer truck. Has had numerous contacts with the law. Parents separated.

Father's occupation: Laborer
Mother's occupation: Waitress

Case "R". At 15, this boy has been "labelled" a delinquent.

Present offense: Traffic violation
Past offense: An adjudicated Juvenile Delinquent
Situation: A boy, 15 years of age, whose past character deemed that the court "label" this lad as a Juvenile Delinquent at the age of 11.
Father's occupation: Professional man
Mother's occupation: Saleslady

Case "S". Claimed she had no other way to obtain cosmetics.
Present offense: Shoplifting
Past offense: None
Situation: A girl, 14 years of age, whose parents are separated was "picked up" for shoplifting.
Father's occupation: Salesman
Mother's occupation: Clerk

Case "T". A boy who suffers from lack of parental supervision.
Present offense: Possession of beer
Past offense: Theft, drunkenness, traffic violations
Situation: A boy, 16 years of age, in constant "touch" with the law because of his actions.
Father's occupation: Professional man
Mother's occupation: Saleslady

Case "U". An unfortunate accident, wherein, the brakes failed.
Present offense: Traffic violation
Past offense: None
Situation: Lost control of auto at busy intersection and damaged other car.
Father's occupation: Farmer
Mother's occupation: Housewife

Case "V". Seems to oppose conformity.
Present offense: Theft
Past offense: Shoplifting
Situation: A boy, 15, years of age, stole beer from parked beer truck; has a reputation as a shoplifter.
Father's occupation: Clerk
Mother's occupation: Housewife

Case "W". Did not know that he was within city limits.

Present offense: Shooting in city limits
Past offense: None

Situation: A boy, 11⁄4 years of age, was shooting a .22 caliber rifle within the city limits

Father's occupation: Tradesman
Mother's occupation: Housewife

Case "X". Has always had the best of everything and in this case was trying out his new car.

Present offense: Traffic violation
Past offense: None

Situation: A boy, 17 years of age, driving through Yellowstone Park at excessive speed. A transient case referred to Gallatin County officials.

Father's occupation: Auto dealer
Mother's occupation: Housewife

Case "Y". Had to be home at a certain hour and decided to drive home disregarding the fact that he was inebriated.

Present offense: Drunken driving
Past offense: None

Situation: A boy, 17 years of age, was driving auto while under influence of alcohol.

Father's occupation: Trucker
Mother's occupation: Housewife
Case "Z". An apparent lack of home discipline.

Present offense: Street fighting
Past offense: Promiscuity, drunkenness
Situation: A girl, 15 years of age, was engaged in a street fight with others. Parents divorced.

Father's occupation: Unknown
Mother's occupation: Waitress

The major premise of this investigation was to show that a significant relationships did exist between the working mother's absence from home and the incidence of youthful misbehavior. In the 26 reported cases as shown in Table 1, 20 mothers were gainfully employed while six mothers did not work. Of the 20 working mothers it was found that the incidence of past misbehavior occurred more frequently among their children in the ratio of 26 offenses to 20 offenders, while in the cases of those children whose mothers did not work, the ratio was 1 incident of past misbehavior to 6 offenders as shown in Table 2.

The influence of speed, sex and alcohol, theft and alcohol, and speed and alcohol are recognized in Table 3, wherein, speed and alcohol are found to be greatest of items in regard to the frequency of occurrences.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Number of Offenses</th>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>I</td>
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<td>T</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Z</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
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### TABLE 2. THE NUMBER OF OFFENSES OF 20 YOUTHS OF NON-WORKING MOTHERS.

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<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>W</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
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TABLE 3. CAUSAL FACTORS AND THE FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCES IN 26 CASES OF YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offenses</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speed</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex and Alcohol</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft and Alcohol</td>
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<td>Speed and Alcohol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoplifting</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol and Peer Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unlawful use of Firearms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex and Truancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improper use of Fishing License</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The belief has been held that the absence of mother from the home would result in youthful misbehavior, and that the status of the youthful offender is determined by lack of supervision during the greater part of the day, while the mother works.

To proceed in this investigation, the writer reviewed the related literature in the fields of Juvenile Delinquency and limited this investigation to twenty-six cases of youthful offenders, which are on record in the Gallatin County Court House, Bozeman, Montana.

The review of literature revealed that certain time eras became focal points in the incidence of youthful behavior; wherein, Juvenile Delinquency increased during World War I, when many mothers left the home to work for the war effort to meet the patriotic challenge and for monetary gains. It was shown by Derby of the National Parole and Probation Association that the incidences of delinquency increased during this time period.

The Depression, which was the second focal point, ended a boom reflective of Post War I conditions. Jobs became scarce and preference was given to men, which resulted in many women returning to the home and family wants. It is noted by Montgomery and also Waytinsky that at this particular time, delinquency had an appreciable drop.

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World War II, a third focal point, depleted the male population to a minimum and once again full utilization of women's capabilities were recognized. As mothers continued to answer "industry's call", it was noted that delinquency had an appreciable upswing as mothers left the home for the job.

The pattern of family life has been altered drastically by World War II. Fathers were in the military service and it was often necessary for mothers to work in defense plants or get secretarial jobs to support the family. After the Korean War broke out, the same pattern repeated itself. Defense industries needed workers, the cost of living spiraled to new high-levels, and many mothers went back to work to piece out the family income. Millions were still working because of financial obligations and personal reasons. As Montgomery has stated:

"In 1940 only 7% of mothers with children under five years of age held jobs; by 1945 the number had jumped to 10.2%. In 1955 there were 2,500,000 mothers, with small children, at work; since 1918 a "normal" point because it falls between World War II and the Korean War, the number had increased to 66%."

The behavior incidents of youth are correlated as much by home supervision, as they are by time eras. Table 1 on page 22 sets out a Post World War II series of cases, wherein, the mother was gainfully employed and the incidences of past misbehavior are relatively great, twenty-six offenses to twenty offenders, when compared to Table 2 on page 23, which lists one case of past misbehavior for six offenders whose mothers do not work. It is interesting to note that the combinations of speed, theft, sex and alcohol were causal factors in the greater

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3Ibid., p. 169.
number of offenses set out in Table 3, page 21. The desire of women
to retain their place in industry since the war is not without sinister
implication, as Adlow stated:

While women legally have a right to participate in indus-
try, there is no moral sanction for abandoning a much more sacred
responsibility, and great decision which the modern women must
make is whether she prefers the career of motherhood to that of
a worker. She cannot undertake both successfully.4

4Adlow, Elijah Judge, Municipal Court of Boston, Massachusetts,
Teen-Age Criminals, Atlantic Monthly, July 1955, p. 49.
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