

CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS LEADING TO JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN BARANGAY MUZON SOUTH IN SAN JOSE DEL MONTE BULACAN

ABSTRACT

AUTHORS

Briggs Distor
Iverson Ebias
Charlie Rafael
Marco Ronquillo
John Jater Solomon

RESEARCH ADVISER

Edgar A. Reyes, MPA

AFFILIATION

Bestlink College of the
Philippines

DISCIPLINE

Criminology

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Juvenile delinquency in Barangay Muzon South, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, has emerged as a serious and growing societal concern. The increasing involvement of youth in criminal activities has reached an alarming level, warranting expert examination of its causes and potential solutions. This study aims to identify the contributory factors leading to juvenile delinquency in Barangay Muzon South, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan. This study utilized a quantitative descriptive research design to determine the characteristics of the target population and the phenomenon under investigation. Purposive sampling was employed to collect data from 50 respondents, comprising 24 minors, 6 members of the Philippine National Police, 15 personnel from the City Social Welfare and Development (CSWD), and 5 barangay officials from Muzon South. Data were gathered through structured questionnaires to assess the level of contributory factors related to juvenile delinquency. The results indicated that the minors were predominantly female, with high school graduation as the most common educational attainment. Respondents collectively rated the contributory factors to juvenile delinquency in Barangay Muzon South as "Strongly Agree." Across all respondent groups, social and environmental factors were identified as major contributors to juvenile delinquency. The findings highlight that social, environmental, family, and individual factors significantly influence juvenile delinquency in Barangay Muzon South. To address these issues, community-based programs focusing on socialization, recreation, and skill-building are recommended, alongside family therapy and trauma-informed care for at-risk youth. Identified challenges such as limited participation in prevention programs and cases of emotional or physical abandonment can be mitigated through youth mentorship initiatives, parent-child therapy, and accessible counseling services to strengthen family bonds. Furthermore, providing financial and emotional support to vulnerable families, promoting healthy lifestyles through sports and wellness activities, and encouraging active community involvement in youth development are essential strategies.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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