

## ABSTRACT

### AN EXAMINATION OF VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR JUVENILES

Few governmental activities result in the drain of social and economic resources as those associated with the Criminal Justice System. The direct costs associated with warehousing prisoners beyond those of the law enforcement agencies and court system required to bring people to justice, staggers the imagination and sensibilities. What is true for the adult population is doubly true for the Juvenile Justice System where delinquent youngsters engage in appropriate behaviors that lead to incarceration or rehabilitation activities.

Incarceration is easily understood. Lock them up, deny privileges and freedom, and perhaps the individual will learn a lesson. Rehabilitation, however, is a different matter. Rehabilitation requires deliberate interventions enabling individuals to learn appropriate behaviors through structured activities.

This study consisted of identifying those intervention strategies found in the research to produce desired results. These strategies were then compared to the perceptions of 14 Juvenile Parole Officers (JPOs) as to their opinions of the best rehabilitation procedures based on their experiences.

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