



## A Study on the Effects of Family and Delinquent Peers on Juvenile Delinquency in Turkey

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this article is to explore the effects of peers and family on juvenile delinquency. Open-ended and multiple choice questionnaires were applied to 1526 juveniles in two cities of Turkey; Ankara and Istanbul. Consistent with the literature findings showed that the family has an indirect and partial effect on juvenile's tendency to commit crime because they cannot provide organized social networks, role models, and social controls for their children. On the other hand, by developing a differential association with the juvenile, by which violence and criminal acts are learned, legitimated, supported or encouraged; the peer network has a direct and an incredible influence to initiate the juvenile into crime.

### KEYWORDS

Juvenile Delinquency; Turkey; Social Learning Theory; Differential Association

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