

# RELAPSE PREDICTION IN DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR

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## General objectives

- Study of delinquent behavior at adolescents
- Study of delinquent behavior at young age
- Relapse incidence and cauzality

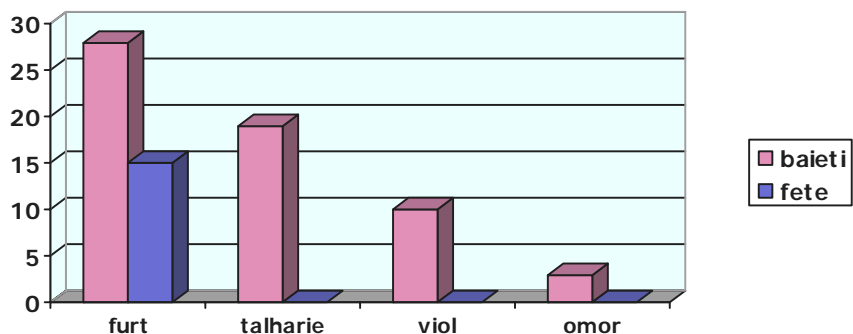
## Specific objectives

- Analyze relapse particularities in delinquent behavior
- Identify the factors involved in relapse delinquent behavior at young age, with theoretical and practical considerations and romanian experience in this area

## Subjects

- 75 subjects
- Age between 15 and 18 (average 16,23, standard deviation 1,12)
- Gender report 4:1 (male: female)

All the subjects present an certain delinquent behavior, convicted for burglary, rape or homicide. We exclude cases with an medical diagnosis establish before delinquent acts happened, or with an chronic medical pathology. Delinquent relapse appear in all cases in time of study



*Figure 1 Subject repartition from nature of delinquency*

METHOD

Time estimated: 10 years; study development between september 1997-august 2007

Type of study: longitudinal research

Place: Forensic Institutes from Cluj, Oradea, Police Department from Bihor County and Clinical Hospital of Psychiatry and Neurology, Oradea

- We used: information from police files, social investigation, school results, peer observations and family/neighborhood information, results from the interview of forensic commission and psychological investigations
- Informations are organized in 7 dimensions: biography (age, education, profesion, religion, marital status); delinquency and law status: nature of delinquency, age at first criminal act, nature of relapse, attitude and evolution, behavior in prisonment time), family structure, educational antecedents, work activity, free time, psychological particularities)

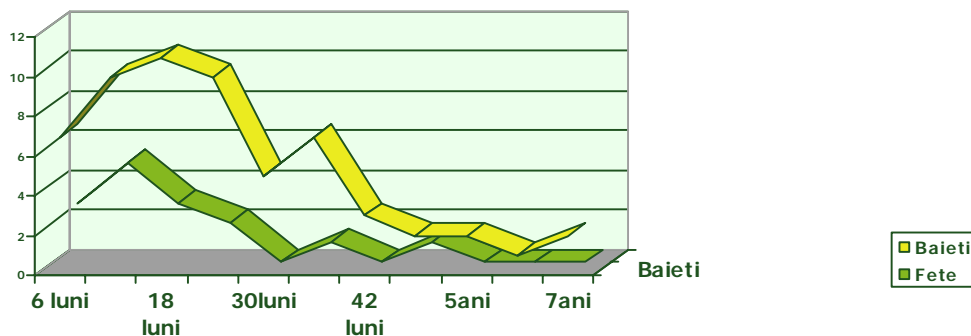


Figure2 Repartition of subject from time of relapse

SKILLS

- Intelligenece test: (Raven, Bonnardel, Domino, Wechsler) and personality questionnaire (California Personality Inventory, Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory II, Eysenck Personality Inventory, Eysenck Personality Inventory Questionnaire, Woodworth-Mathews Test, 16 Personality Factors și Freiburg Personality Inventory and results at projective test: Koch-Storra, Luscher, Szondi, Thematic Apperception Test and Rosenzweig Picture-Frustration Test).

## RESULTS

- Propension to delinquency and relapse appear under multifactorial circumstances
- We used statistical methods (Thurstone centroid method). We identified three factors involved in relapse. They covered 54,73% from variance (first factor), 34,14% from variance (second factor) and 11,13% from variance (third factor).
- Significance of this factors are:
  - First factor include vulnerable personalities, characterized by: emotional lability, low tolerance at frustration, inadequate coping, aggressive-hostile behavior, affective disturbances and inferiority complex.
  - Second factor include environmen relations particularities: social inadaptation, rules negation, low stages in moral development (after Kohlberg, Mira Y Lopez)
  - Third stage include: school abandon, low income and economical problems in family, delinquent pattern (conviction in 3/4 from all cases at someone from family) and in 75% this was father.
- Analyzed fig.1& 2 we observed a propensity for burglary. This sustain in relapsed (evidence are quite identical), confirmed the hypothesis of „specialization” in one delinquent are. Personality factors are strongly involved (aggressive behavior, instability, low tolerance level at frustration for violent delinquency).
- Relapse distribution, for all sexes is important in first 36 months (more than 75%).
- Interesting results observed in prisonment adaptation (arrest, jill, recovery programm)

## CONCLUSIONS

- Longitudinal perspectives is one of the most important way in juvenile delinquency comprehension and understanding
- Is important to use an complex evaluation (psychological, sociological, medical and legal) to be able to analyze exhaustive juvenile delinquency
- Special programm obtained encouraging results in young age delinquency

## FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- We proposed to continue and extend time of surveillance for more than 15 years (like in classical longitudinal studies (Feldman, 1983, Henggeller, 1989,))
- Develop another centers (multicentric evaluation) to facilitate longitudinal studies

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