

Family Factors Influencing Juvenile Delinquency In Malindi Township, Kilifi County

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ABSTRACT

The number of delinquent cases in Malindi Township has been on the increase over the years. The objectives of the current study were to investigate the effect of family structure, establish the influence of family relationships, and assess the influence of family communication on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County. For this study, three theories about child delinquency were reviewed which were family structure theory, family systems theory, social control theory, and social learning theory respectively. The study adopted a descriptive research design. The participants of this study were 210 juveniles and parents/guardians placed at the Malindi Township remand home. The selection of respondents was 120 juveniles and 90 parents/ guardians at the Malindi Township remand home. The individuals were selected at random and by chance. Questionnaires containing both structured and unstructured questions were given to the study respondents. The questionnaire contained both close-ended and open-ended questions. Data from this study were analyzed using both quantitative and methods of analysis. Descriptive statistics (frequency, mean, and standard deviation) were used in the analysis of quantitative data through the aid of the statistical packages for social sciences (SPSS) Version 22. The results of the study showed that there is a connection between the process of family socialization and committing of various juvenile crimes. Family relationships tend to affect the committing of crimes by children, teenagers, and adolescents. Family conflicts increase the threat for not only domestic violence, but also violence against others. Familial conflicts also increase vulnerability to crime and violence. Since lack of frankness and confidence between juvenile and parent result in delinquency, this study recommends that parents /guardians show affection and concern to their juveniles and be open and frank with them. The study further found that parent disagreements, fights, and separation influence child delinquency. This study, therefore, recommends that parents/guardians solve their issues privately.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Globally, more young people are increasingly engaging in delinquency. According to the World Youth Report (WYR,2003), the causative factors of juvenile delinquency vary from one region to another. In the developing countries, poverty and unemployment are the main factors. In the developed nations, a better economy and the availability of a rising range of consumer products are the major causes of child deviancy. The deviant behaviors often associated with juvenile delinquency include theft, vandalism, truancy, remand dropout, and the destruction of property. Early antisocial behavior might be the top predictor of later delinquency (Wasserman et al., 2003). Antisocial behaviors include numerous forms of rebellious rule violation and aggression, such as physical fighting, burglary, and vandalism. Childhood aggression appears to be the most noteworthy social behavior characteristic to predict delinquent behavior before attainment of 13 years of age.

Fergusson and Meehan (2011) observe that poor intellectual growth and behavioural problems during early childhood can be used to explain the relationship between academic success, and delinquency. Moffitt et al. (2006) state that the verbal IQs of delinquents are often lower compared to their nonverbal IQs. Delinquents also possess lower rates of mean global IQs as well as remand achievements than non-delinquents. Mild neuropsychological deficiencies experienced during birth can escalate into serious behavior issues by way of affecting an infant's disposition. These shortfalls can negatively impact a juvenile's control of behaviors such as oppositional behavior, language, attention, aggression, and hyperactivity. Basic mental deficits may also be linked with impaired social cognitive practices, such as failure to address appropriate social prompts (e.g. peers' social initiations, adults' instructions). Hyperactivity studies demonstrate that fidgety, squirmy, and restless juveniles are more likely to be involved in later delinquent behavior (Lynam, 2007).

A study by Lahey et al. (2000) concluded that hyperactivity leads to crime only when it arises with physical hostility or rebellious behavior. Family, social, and environmental risk factors tend to gather, and any number of them can come about together within the same family. Comprehending the role and impact of each of these factors is a challenging undertaking (Cicchetti & Rogosch, 2012). For instance, early child offending may progress through several pathways. For some juveniles, the key risk factor may be a domestic risk factor such as lack of parental supervision; for others, it may be a personal risk factor such as a diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

In Africa, historically, one facet of a family organization that has received a high level of attention as a risk factor for delinquency is growing up in a family that has undergone separation or divorce. While numerous studies have found a connection between broken homes and delinquency (Wells & Rankin, 1991), there is an extensive debate about the import of the association. For instance, longitudinal studies have established an amplified level of behavior disorder and behavioral disturbance in juvenile of divorcing parents prior to the divorce. Capaldi and Patterson (1991) showed that disorderly parenting practices and the antisocial temperament of the parent(s) accounted for ostensible effects of divorce and remarriage. Thus, it is probable that the increased possibility of delinquency witnessed among adolescents of broken homes is linked to the domestic conflict preceding the divorce or separation, rather than to family breakup itself. In their longitudinal study of family disruption, Juby and Farrington (2001) established that boys who remained with their mothers following the breakup had delinquency rates that were almost identical to those raised in two-parent families.

In allocating parental responsibility to parents, most African cultures place a weighty burden on families. Such cultures dispense to the parents the task of raising juveniles to follow the culture's norms for acceptable conduct. It should be unsurprising, therefore, when families have problems with the charge placed on them, that the outcome often is child delinquency (Kazdin et al., 1997). Family structure (who lives in a household) and family functioning (how the family members treat one another) are two broad groups under which family effects on delinquency have been studied (Jiménez et Al., 2019).

The question of juvenile delinquency in Africa began eliciting the interest of researchers in the early 1960s. In a groundbreaking work in 1966, William Clifford compared delinquents and non-delinquents in Zambia. He found that the real dissimilarities between these two groups seemed to be focused on family relationships and emotional uncertainty. Clifford recommended that the spread of urban culture appeared to be a far more significant stimulus toward crime in Zambia than any native tribal or cultural influences. He concluded that crime and delinquent action in thirdworld countries can be explained by urban forces on the family rather than by cultural variances (Clifford, 2006).

In an extensive study, Weinberg stated that delinquents and non-delinquents in Ghana and Western countries have a lot in common. First, he confirmed that delinquents in both societies suffered more stress in domestic circumstances than did nondelinquents. He noted that delinquents either; lived with guardians other than their parents or close kin, Were more removed toward other families than their own, were shifted for unfavorable aims, encountered the first family shift before the first year to five years, were truants from the family, and were impacted by the broken home.

In Kenya, there has been a rise in the number of juvenile delinquents serving time in correctional facilities for offenses committed. Simultaneously, institutionalized youth return to face the criminal justice system at disturbingly high rates. Approximately two-thirds of the youth in the child justice system are minority youth (Griffin, 2010). Child delinquency is not a new phenomenon in Kenya. However, it was not until the 1930s that the issue started gaining the necessary attention from the then colonial government. Although the magnitude and manifestations of the problem vary from place to place its impact has nevertheless been felt by all. While studying the socioeconomic factors which influence delinquency in Nairobi (Jacynter, 2012) identified interactivity variables led by family socioeconomic status. She argues that broken homes, parenting skills, teenage parenthood, maltreatment of juvenile, large families, and parental education are the leading variables in the family that influence delinquency.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Juvenile and adolescent interaction and development with peers and family determine the growth of social behaviour. Rebellious and delinquent behaviour may emanate from various interactions that the child and adolescent come across. Family interaction is of greatest significance during early childhood, but they have enduring effects. In the early adolescent life, relationship with their contemporaries takes on higher prominence. Regular affection, supervision, and discipline help to nurture well-adjusted adolescents (McCord, 2008). The aspect of delinquency reduction in the ages of 15 to 17 years appears to be associated with interactions of adolescents and their parents. The growth of the juvenile is impacted at home and school. The remand environment influences child behaviour and also those of another juvenile. The good or bad behaviour amongst juveniles is impacted by peers one spends time with. Conservatories play a key part in the upbringing of adolescents and the occurrence of social and antisocial behaviour. Academic performance remains a predicting factor of delinquency, after accounting for individual intelligence.

The number of delinquent juvenile cases in Malindi Township has been increasing over the years. Ideally, juveniles of this age bracket should be in school, but in Malindi Township the number of juveniles in the juvenile remand home indicates that there is an increase in truancy and delinquency. Numerous reports by the education department inform that the juveniles are out of remand and are unaccounted for during most remand days. They are either working in sand and stone mines as cheap labor force, working as domestic servants and servants in private homes, out by the beach sides enticing tourists as (beach boys/girls) or begging in the streets of the township and those not so lucky arrested, serving time while others are placed at the juvenile remand home pending trial and repatriation. This study ought to establish the familial factors influencing delinquency in minors, with the case study of Malindi Town, Kilifi County.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The need for this research arose from the awareness of the need to gather and consolidate crucial research findings in a readily practical and suitable layout for the extensive assortment of professionals concerned with the subject area of this research. It is aimed at individuals working within Juvenile Remand Homes and the Juvenile Protection Centers who could use the strengths and limitations of different methods to develop proper practices and improve efficiency. Legislators find the information a valuable reference tool in considering best practice in the light of emerging national and local guidelines. Finally, the research is certainly a valuable resource for academics and other researchers who would add to rather than merely replicate the efforts made in the field.

The study focused on juvenile institutionalized at the juvenile's remand home in Malindi, Kilifi County, and those who are brought into the child protection center located within Malindi township. It involved the collection of data from 150 juveniles aged between 10 years to 18 years held at the Government of Kenya (GOK) remand facility and those that are referred to the child protection center, their parents, and institution staff. These juveniles were charged with various offenses and truancy/ delinquency traits which ranged from petty theft to more serious offenses such as robbery with violence and murder.

1.4 Objectives

The current study was guided by the following objectives:

- i. To examine the influence of family structure on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.
- ii. To establish the influence of family relationships on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.
- iii. To assess the influence of family communication on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.

1.5 Research Questions

The study sought to answer these research questions:

- i. What is the influence of family structure on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County?
- ii. How do family relationships influence juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County?
- iii. In what way does family communication influence juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County?

1.6 Justification of the Study

Delinquency is a primary concern to Kenyan parents and the government. There is a need to understand the delinquency behaviour amongst juveniles. The adjustment of juvenile behaviour for those taken to long-term treatment procedures like juvenile remand homes requires understanding and this is achievable through empirical research. Therefore, the current study aimed at investing in the family factors influencing juvenile delinquency and how they can be resolved by various interventions. This will go a long way in promoting social development, which is one of the main pillars of Kenya's Vision 2030, and Sustainable Development Goals, as the government puts in place important measures to address crime in the nation. Family therapy helps youths who are 11–18 years old. The intervention, and has been successfully tried in multicultural and multiethnic contexts to treat youths and their respective families. Adolescents are typically targeted for therapy when they are at risk for or involved in criminal behavior such as substance abuse and violence.

1.7 Significance of the Study

The study will be important to the National and County Governments in establishing more regulations that will help in mitigating the delinquency behaviour among the juvenile and adolescents. The national and county governments through the study can impact budget and resource allocation concerning construction and development of the juvenile remand homes.

The study will be of importance to academicians and researchers who need to teach more and provide solutions for effective prevention and reduction of delinquency among minors. The data from the study will provide a blueprint to other researchers and academics willing to conduct studies in the same field. It will also help other

research counselors or social workers who are undertaking a similar project cycle to learn from this casing point.

The findings from this study will also be beneficial to the general public in understanding the rise in the rate of delinquent activities by minors. It may enable institutions such as the Ministry of Gender and Juvenile, Juvenile's Department,

Juvenile's Remand facility, the Child Protection Centre, Juvenile's Court, Police Gender and Juvenile's desk, and Probation and Aftercare Department, to take the necessary steps to make adjustment and support. The Sub-County Commissioners and Local Administration authorities like the police; private agencies and religious organizations are also assisted in establishing ways of assisting and supporting delinquent juveniles. It is projected that the information, propositions, and recommendations produced from the study will be useful to policymakers in the legislation and enactment of policies specifically, for educational stakeholders.

The study will also be of importance to family therapists as research has revealed that the program can help develop the functioning of the family, improve academic performance, decrease delinquency, and lower internalized distress scores.

1.8 Assumptions of the Study

The study derived from the following assumptions:

- i. The respondents gave relevant information.
- ii. That all the information that was collected in the interviews and questionnaires was true and correct.
- iii. That the study test group is illustrative of the whole population.

1.9: Operational Definition of Terms

Child	It refers to juveniles ten years to seventeen years old.
Juvenile Delinquency	It refers to the habitual committing of criminal acts or offences by a young person, especially one below the age at which ordinary criminal prosecution is possible.
Family Communication	The relationship between communication and delinquency is explored through self-reported perceptions of delinquency and open or closed communication with one's parents.
Family Relationship	Child delinquency is partly determined by the nature of the child's relationship with the parents
Family Structure	The family structure, particularly the broken home

has a direct influence on the negative peer pressure that leads to juvenile delinquent activity and personality mal-adjustment.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a review of the literature concerning the research objectives highlighted in chapter one. The chapter has three main sections: theoretical framework, empirical review, and conceptual framework. The summary of the review is also provided at the end of the chapter.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

For this study, three theories about child delinquency were reviewed. These were family structure theory, family systems theory, and social control theory.

2.2.1 Family Structure Theory

Family structure theory was developed by Salvador Minuchin in the year 1974 (Pardeck, 1989). The theory seeks to address issues related to family functioning. During therapy sessions, structural family therapists infiltrate the family system to understand the invisible laws guiding its functioning, outlining the relationships between individual members of the family, and at the end attempt to break down dysfunctional relationships that exist to develop healthier patterns. Minuchin observes that pathology does not rest on the individual but the family system.

Apart from using special terminology, family structure theory also utilizes diagrammatic features to depict key family parameters. The theory focuses on both the structures and substructures of the family unit. Minuchin's structures are identified by the relations among the interrelated systems within the family reminiscent of the system and communication theory. His notion of change is heavily influenced by the systems' ideas of equifinality and wholeness.

Minuchin enters various family subsystems to fulfill his goal of healthy restructuring of the family system by continuously creating unstable situations that call for change and restructuring of the family unit to adapt. The theorist states that therapeutic change cannot take place until pre-existing frames of reference are altered to be more flexible and develop new ways of functioning (Gehart, 2007). Minuchin accelerates structural change

through manipulation of the structure of therapy sessions by isolating subject subsystems from the rest of the family either through positioning within the room (seating) or sending away non-members but allowing them viewing access behind a one-way mirror. These measures are aimed at causing an unbalancing of the family system to reveal dysfunctional patterns and assist the family to remain open to restructuring. Minuchin achieves this change gradually in digestible steps for it to be valuable and lasting. Minuchin asserts that the therapeutic change that occurs within sessions, especially when there is negative feedback, can be maintained beyond the sessions due to the self-perpetuating nature of the structures. The family structure theory attempts to address the dysfunctional situations in a family unit that lead to juvenile delinquency.

2.2.2 Family Systems Theory

The family systems theory was put forward in 1974 by Murray Bowen. That is why it is commonly known as the ‘_Bowen theory.’ It is one of the earliest theories to comprehensively address the functioning of family systems (Kerr & Bowen, 1988). Though it was not fully embraced in Australia and New Zealand, it has taken a central role in family therapy practice in North America. Some local family therapists have arguably been influenced by a lot of Bowen’s ideas without articulating the connection to Bowen.

Bowen focuses on anxiety-defusing patterns adopted within families. The main cause of anxiety within families is either great distant relationships or too much closeness. The level of anxiety in any family is influenced by its levels of stress from external factors and sensitivity to generational themes within the family. A constant state of chronic anxiety or reactivity develops in a family if its members react anxiously to perceived emotional demands without the capacity to think through their responses.

Through his research work, Bowen came to suggest that different varying degrees of fusion can be found in all families. According to him, ‘_differentiation’ refers to an individual’s capacity to be autonomous in decision-making while still emotionally connected to the potency of a valued relationship system (Kerr & Bowen, 1988).

Bowen’s principles of fusion are contrasted with Minuchin’s concept of enmeshment which does not acknowledge boundaries between family sub-systems (Minuchin,

1974). Minuchin’s structural terms of ‘_enmeshment’ and ‘_disengagement are in direct contrast with Bowen’s fusion concept. Fusion is less concerned about the family relationship structure and more focused on each individual’s reactions within the relationship. Therefore, according to Bowen, the anxious cutting off of the relationship is as much an indicator of the concept of fusion as intense submissiveness. Individuals infused relationships have knee-jerk reactions to the demands of their partners without thoroughly considering the choices or discussing the relationship issues with their partner. They invest a great amount of energy into distancing themselves (ensuring their emotional comfort) or taking things personally (ensuring the comfort of another). Families with higher fusion tendencies have lower flexibility in adapting to stress in the family.

Bowen came up with the notion of ‘_differentiation of self scale’ to aid in teaching the concept of fusion. The researcher denotes the concept was not designed to be an instrument by which people can be assigned to particular levels of fusion (Kerr & Bowen, 1988). Bowen emphasizes that factors such as individual differences in reactivity to stressors, stress levels, and the degree of contact with extended family compound the unpredictable nature of estimating a level of differentiation. Bowen asserts that hypothetically ‘_complete differentiation’ occurs in individuals who have resolved their emotional attachment to their family and can function independently within the family.

2.2.3 Social Control Theory

The development of social control theory also referred to as a social bond theory, is attributed to Hirschi (2010). The theory posits that breakdown of societal bond leads to lawbreaking by the individual. Additionally, Hirschi outlines four elements that form the societal bond which include a commitment to following rules; attachment to other individuals; involvement by typical social behaviours; and belief in the validity of societal norms and values.

Social control theory holds that the breaking of the law by individuals is motivated by the breakdown of the societal bond. The relationships, values, beliefs, norms, and commitments that people embrace deter them from breaking the law. Therefore, if individuals internalize morals, codes and are given a stake in the community, they are less likely to commit a crime. The theory aims at exploring strategies that can be used to reduce the chances of the development of criminality among individuals in society. Jensen (2011) elaborates the social control theory about juvenile crime. He also specifies methods that can be used to measure important control mechanisms related to self-reports of various forms of delinquent behavior. The researcher came to formulate this theory after having an interview with 780 youths from Washington State. His sample has received wide criticism since was not representative of any urban environment. It was argued that the respondents selected for the study were likely to portray unfavorable pictures of their families.

Some critics of Jensen also note that the term ‘—criminal activity’ is only used in two of the research questions. As a result, it is held that his extrapolation of the crime rate, in general, is seen to be unsafe. Just like

Reiss, the author regards the family as an important source of control. Moreover, Schreck and Hirschi (2009) specify proposes three different models of control: direct control, indirect control, and internal control. Direct control involves giving rewards and punishments. indirect control entails maintaining affectionate relationships with those who are not criminals. Internal control involves having a sense of guilt or conscience. In regard to this research, the juvenile can be controlled directly using various constraints imposed by their parents, and through appropriate rewards as well as punishments. These strategies can help to limit juvenile crime opportunities. If direct control fails to work, juveniles can be controlled indirectly through parental approvals and disapprovals. Additionally, developing a sense of right and wrong can be an important internal control that can be used to restrain juveniles from committing a crime. The idea of treating the family as a source of control against juvenile crime contrasts the focus on economic conditions as a source of the same crime.

2.2.4 Social Learning Theory

The Social Learning Theory (SLT) is based on the presumption that human beings learn from their interactions with others in a social context. The theory by Albert Bandura 1977 involves observation, imitation, and modeling of social behaviours that are reinforced through rewards in the social context (Nabavi, 2012). According to

Nabavi (2012), Bandura's theory posits that children learn and imitate behaviours they have observed in people around them and consequently adopt them as their own.

This theory is relevant to the present study as juvenile delinquency is strongly influenced by the actions of their family members and people close to them in their surroundings. Therefore this study seeks to analyse the effect familial relationships have on minors' propensity towards juvenile delinquency.

2.3 Empirical Review

2.3.1 Family Structure and Juvenile Delinquency

The family is the first agent of socialization for any person. It is where we learn right from wrong. We learn basic behavior such as table manners and how to treat other people. Our immediate and extended family plays an important role in shaping our personality and character. That means therefore that we can also learn bad behavior such as delinquency from our family members just as we learn good behavior. According to Graham and Bowling (as cited in Cheseto, 2012), family factors that influence offending include parenting level, how children are disciplined by parents, separation, and conflicts between parents, parents, and siblings with a history of crime, abuse from parents, neglect, and the existing relationship between children and their parents.

Broken homes lead to personality mal-adjustment among children (Mullens, 2004). The most common juvenile crimes reported among male juveniles are petty theft offenses. In contrast, female delinquents are prone to cases of sexual deviancy and running away from their homes. Some juvenile crimes are caused by broken homes. These include fighting, truancy, and running away. According to Mullens (2004), children from broken homes are 2.7 more likely to run away as compared to those who come from intact homes. Such is one of the situations that reflect the kind of influence that a broken home is likely to have on certain juvenile crimes.

Family arrangements tend to change with time as a result of divorce cases, death of the parent(s), substance abuse, and unemployment (Demuth & Brown, 2004). The current research literature identifies five types of family arrangements: two-parent arrangements, extended family arrangements, single-parent arrangements, foster/adoptive arrangements, and other types of family arrangements. The two-parent family is advantageous in the sense that both parents are involved in nurturing the child. However, this often happens in cases where families are intact, and the parents involved are the biological parents of children.

The type of parenting styles employed by a parent or a caregiver may also contribute to delinquency in a child. While studying the effect of different parenting styles in promoting deviant behavior acquisition among juveniles between 8-18 years of age in

Western Kenya, Malayi et al. (2013) argued that parenting style has a significant impact on the behavior of a child. He found that juveniles whose parents used democratic type of parenting were less likely to be delinquents since the juvenile gets a chance to make choices and can discuss issues with their parents. Parents who used the authoritarian type of parenting were found to be more likely to raise juveniles with deviant behavior. This is due to the tendency of the parent to be aggressive and insensitive towards the child. A combination of the aspects of democratic and authoritative parenting styles seems to be appropriate.

The impact of parental abuse and neglect as a contributing factor to the behavior cannot be overemphasized. According to the juvenile's department in Kenya, neglect is regarded as a type of child abuse in the country. This is a push factor for many juveniles who engage in petty theft and other types of crimes. For example, in 2012, a child was taken to the Juvenile's department in Malindi for stealing *ugali* (maize meal). He argued that he committed the offence out of hunger as his parents were neglectful drunkards who did not feed him.

Malindi District Development Plan (DDP,2008-2012, p.36) defines poverty as families' inability to meet basic needs, including food, housing, clothing, education, and health. The Kilifi County Development Profile (KCDP, 2013) report shows that Malindi is one of the poorest districts of the country whose absolute poverty level stands at 71.7%. The KCDP report shows that poverty and a lack of basic needs are major contributory factors to delinquent behaviour.

Having delinquency in the family is yet another factor leading to delinquency to the child. According to Ferguson (as cited in Farrington et al.(2001) boys who have a convicted family member, have a higher likelihood of being convicted for a delinquency offense than boys who do not have a convicted family member. Other studies have argued that crime runs in families. In comparison, statistics show that 6 out of 10 convicted inmates in any prison come from families with a generational history of crime.

In most cases, child abuse takes place alongside other factors within the family that contribute to the early onset of offending. Looking at the relationship between juvenile aggression and physical abuse, Brown and Shillington (2017) denote that 20% of the abused juveniles become delinquent before they reach the stage of adulthood. Those who are highly physically abused end up becoming violent and developing antisocial behaviors. However, comparing juveniles without a history of neglect or abuse with juveniles who were subjected to abuse and neglect, Widom (2009), established that the latter accrues greater child and adult apprehension by the time they are 25 years old. It was also found that the neglected or abused juveniles tend to commit offenses more frequently and that they start doing so early in life.

Demuth and Brown's (2004) study also revealed that juvenile delinquency is associated with broken homes. However, he also found that family arrangements are not just an issue of broken homes in the United Kingdom. The researcher specifically established that juvenile delinquency was high among teenagers living with single fathers, and low among teenagers who reside in two-parent households. He inferred that the high rate of crime among juveniles living with father is caused by inadequate involvement of the parent in the life of the teenager. The researcher concluded that overall, limited parental supervision and lack of a close relationship between parents and teenagers are some of the common factors responsible for juvenile crime.

Mullens (2004) asserts that juveniles from broken homes are less likely to run away than those who come from broken homes. This argument is based on the assumption that there is an imbalance in broken homes. The situation is in most cases detrimental to the socialization of a child and his or her personality adjustment. However, In a study on the administration of juveniles in Nigeria, Wilkinson (2011) deduced a lack of significant relationship between cases of juvenile delinquency and families that were broken. This position tends to contradict the findings of Mullens (2004) that established a positive relationship between the two scenarios.

Hetherington (2006) compared boys of divorced parents with boys of parents who remained in marriage. He found that those whose parents were divorced exhibited continuing problems with coercive, non-compliant, and antisocial behaviours through the age of 10. However, the researcher suggested that it is difficult to establish the exact impact of divorce due to other co-occurring factors, including losing parents, negative life events (such as family conflicts, declining family income, and child behavioural problem during the pre-divorce period), and subsequent remarriage of the parent.

Poor economic conditions tend to turn stable families into disorganized neighbourhoods characterized by high rates of crime (Anderson, 2002). This situation is likely to expose children to delinquent behaviours. With time, they may end up becoming members of delinquent gangs. The researcher also opines that financial vulnerability is also likely to cause strain and hardship among children of singleparent families. The situation may make it difficult for their needs to be met. As a result, they might be pushed to engage in delinquent actions such as extortion and theft to make ends meet.

Every year, about 3.3 million juveniles witness some form of verbal or physical abuse (Jaffe et al., 2010). Witnessing instances of domestic violence is associated with more child behavioural problems, especially among boys and young juveniles. Not much is known about the age at which juveniles are most vulnerable or the length of the persistence of associations. In many families, when the woman is battered, the juveniles also get battered (McKibben et al., 1989). The co-occurrence of witnessing domestic violence and experiencing child abuse more than twice affect juvenile's adjustment than witnessing domestic violence only (Hughes et al.,1989). Another notable factor that contributes to vulnerability in violent families is high incidences of behavior problems (e.g., incarceration and alcohol abuse) among male batterers. Maternal psychological distress as well subjects juveniles to other indirect risks due to the emotional unavailability of mothers to juveniles (Zuckerman et al.,1995).

Constant supervision, discipline, and affection are vital for the creation of wellsocialized adolescents. Low cases of delinquency among juveniles aged between 15 and 17 years seem to be associated with friendly interactions between parents and teenagers. This situation promotes strong family ties and remand attachment (Liska & Reed, 1985). However, juveniles who are victims of parental neglect tend to be highly vulnerable to delinquency. McCord (1983) and Widom (1989) established that just like physically abused juveniles, neglected juveniles are likely to commit various violent crimes later on in their lives.

On their part, Matheme and Thomas (2001) looked at how the family environment serves as the predictor of various forms of juvenile delinquency. They found that about 1,234 youths in the United States run away from their homes and that around 2,225 teenagers tend to drop out of remand every day.

2.3.2 Family Relationships and Juvenile Delinquency

Sanni et al. (2010) observe that adolescents who lack the supervision of parents during and after the remand period are at high risk for delinquent acts. Featherstone et al. (2012) suggest that young people who come from families that are intact are less likely to exhibit remand problems than those who are members of single-parent families.

While Ugwoke and Duruji's (2015) study, among other studies, found no significant relationship between juvenile delinquency and broken homes, Kimani (2010) study found a positive relationship between unstable homes and juvenile criminal behavior. Factors like ineffective parenting and lack of control by parents are commonly attributed to high juvenile delinquency cases. However, juvenile delinquency literature states that the main cause of juvenile delinquent behaviour is family breakdown. Poorly socialized children and those who have personality problems are highly vulnerable to negative peer influence. This results in committing juvenile crime acts. Such cases are rare in stable families since a balanced structure exists with a man and woman serving as positive role models for their children to acquire law-abiding roles.

2.3.3 Family Communication and Juvenile Delinquency

In their study, Clark and Shields (1997) established a correlation between communication in the family and juvenile delinquency. The scholars argue that the level of communication that exists among family members is a significant predictor of juvenile crime. Investigating the purpose of family cohesion, Cashwell and Vacc (2010) found that there are minimal chances of occurrence of delinquent behaviours in cohesive family environments. In the same way, Clark and Shields (1997), established low adaptability of the family to socioeconomic changes contributes to high juvenile crime levels. Thus, it is clear that juvenile crime and family arrangements are interrelated.

Comparing broken homes and cases of runaway offenses, Rankin (2010) established that children of single parents are 1.8 times more likely to run away from home than those who are members of intact homes. These odds increase to 2.7 among children living with a step-parent and one biological parent, and to 4.0 among children who do not live with a biological parent regardless of their age and sex. Despite being important, this literature does not provide information on the reason for running away to streets among children who have been exclusively brought up in children's homes.

The developmental research of Moffit (2006) led to the realization of the existence of two types of delinquents during adolescence. The first one is known as the repeat offender who is also referred to as a life-course-persistent offender. This type of offender begins offending and exhibiting antisocial behaviours during adolescence and goes on to adulthood. The second type of delinquent is the age-specific offender, also known as the adolescence-limited offender. Such an offender starts offending during adolescence (sometimes even childhood) and commits crime only during this stage of life. Since most teenagers portray some aggressive, antisocial, and delinquent behaviors during the stage of adolescence, there is a need to account for these behaviors-limited kinds of offenders even though many of them often drop their criminal activities once they enter adulthood. The adolescence-limited offenders exhibit less pathology compared with life-course-persistent offenders.

Several studies point to the existence of certain psychosocial mental disorders among youth offenders (Cuellar et al., 2006; Grisso, 2008; Hoeve et al., 2013). These include anxiety (generalized anxiety, separation anxiety, panic, post-traumatic disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorder), disruptive behavior disorders (attention-deficit hyperactive disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, and conduct disorders), and various forms of substance use disorders. Some symptoms of such conditions sometimes increase young persons' susceptibility to aggressive behaviours (Hoeve et al., 2013). These include emotional symptoms, such as anger, and self-regulatory symptoms such as impulsivity.

Freud (1939) came up with a psychoanalytic approach to understanding human behavior. The basic tenet of the approach is that the unconscious and instinctual factors are responsible for the behaviours that individuals display. Deviance is particularly the impact of unconscious desires and various drives that are manifested through behaviours. The main objective of psychoanalysis is to identify the unconscious and its associated precipitating factors to develop conscious methods that can be used to deal with the situation.

Psychoanalysis tries to establish the cause of delinquent behaviour by way of bringing the unconscious conflict that exists between the superego and the id to the consciousness. In most cases, psychoanalysis is only referred to when an individual shows deviant behaviour. However, the conflict between the id and the superego may not always be regarded as deviance. Instead, this internal conflict manifests itself differently. Other individual factors as well are responsible for the development of antisocial behavior later in life. By the beginning of the fourth year of human life, a child can freely express a wide range of emotions, including pride,

guilt, shame, and anger. Such negative emotions can be managed effectively through the influence of parents, administrators, peers, and other parties that affect the socialization of juveniles. Overall, the way juveniles express their emotions, especially anger, during the early stages of life is likely to increase or reduce their vulnerability to delinquency.

In his delinquency studies, Gray (1982) focuses on the ideas of behavioural activation and behavioural inhibition. According to the investigator, behavioural activation involves seeking sensation and novelty, predatory aggression, impulsivity, and hyperactivity. On its part, behavioural inhibition includes anxiety, shyness, timidity, and fearfulness in response to the punishment of some new stimulus. In a related study, Farrington (2008) found that low behavioural inhibition and high behavioral activation are antisocial behavior risk factors. For instance, the exhibition of daring behavior among children aged between 8 and 10 years is a significant predictor for self-reported delinquency and convictions before attainment of 21 years of age. In the same study, the measurement of guilt and anxiety did not give such predictions.

Cognitive and emotional development is sometimes associated with the ability of juveniles to control their social behaviors within their first two years of life. Hooper and Holford (2008) hold that such factors play a vital role in the onset of early delinquency. They affect the learning of different social rules. On top of IQ and other traditional measures, the researchers examined cognitive development in terms of social cognition, language development, neuropsychological function, and academic achievement. On his part, Adler (1956) believes that risk factors for delinquent behaviors are individual factors. The researcher notes that an individual's psychological movements help to shape his or her characteristics. As Dreikurs (1950) suggests, one's body, mind, perceptions, emotions, and other functions all move towards a chosen goal regardless of whether the individual is goal-directed. Thus, the functions tend to compensate minus situations with attempts to achieve a plus. This makes an individual an indivisible social being with a behaviour influenced by his or her interaction with the social setting.

2.3.4 Juvenile Delinquency

Media news and images often portray young persons and children committing various forms of crime. This situation raises public safety concerns, and it has ignited a national debate on what leads to juvenile crime and youth criminality, and the appropriate responses to the same (Omboto et al., 2013). In 2007, the United States diplomat to Kenya advised the government to curb insecurity since crime hindered development and foreign investment. Despite this, it is only a few organizations are giving serious attention to the issue of juvenile delinquency. Yet it is known that unemployment and poverty are some of the major causes of crime among young people (Omboto et al., 2013; Wambugu et al., 2015).

In Kenya, children who are at high risk for delinquency include those who come from poor backgrounds, victims of tribal clashes, children of separated parents, neglected children, children of single parents, those who come from broken families, and children whose parents take alcohol (Wambugu et al., 2015). Other causative factors include HIV/AIDS orphaning, and abusive home conditions (Wambugu et al., 2015). These factors are majorly a legacy of poor development policies in the country that started during the colonial period (Chloe, 2002). They set a platform for juvenile delinquency. After independence, Kenya inherited these problems, and the situation has been worse over years. It is believed that the adoption of effective development logics can engage young people in meaningful ways, thereby preventing and reducing cases of juvenile delinquency.

National development is in most cases planned by the government in power. In this case, economic, financial, social, and physical aspects are all important for the planning (Shaw & United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNDCDC], 2010).

Economic planning entails mobilizing the government's monetary and real resources to promote meaningful development. Financial planning centres on revenue, capital budgeting, recurrent expenditure, and financial institutions. Social planning involves the provision of social and welfare services, alleviation of various social problems, change of attitude, and cultural development. Physical plans are concerned with land location, layout, and use, and design and transport structures in both urban and rural areas (Shaw & UNDCDC, 2010). A document analysis on the development plans of Kenya showed that the country does not have adequate policies for the prevention of juvenile delinquency. Most of the plans analyzed only addresses symptoms of delinquency without addressing causes. According to the plans, juvenile delinquency symptoms included high rates of school dropout, increased rural-urban migration, unemployment, and inequitable distribution of various resources. (Government of Kenya [GOK], 1973; Government of Kenya [GOK], 1978). Instead of putting preventive approaches in place, each Kenyan government that has been in power has only perfected the legacy of its predecessor in improving the correctional treatment of juvenile offenders.

Each Kenyan government has tended to perfect the legacy of treatment of symptoms of juvenile delinquency by 'improving' correctional treatment employed by its predecessor in place of seeking preventative approaches. Mugo et al. (2006) observe that correctional treatment of juvenile offenders has undergone paradigm shifts from 1909 to the middle years of 1990. There are different schools of thought that can be used

to explain the shifts. The first one is the disciplinary paradigm which considers a child who lacks adequate parental and guardian care, and supervision. The second school of thought is the —caritative paradigm which focuses on perceiving a child as a victim of various forms of deprivation. The third one is the egalitarian paradigm which is concerned with right-based perceptions of the child engaged in delinquent acts. The fourth and last paradigm is the systematic paradigm which holds that a delinquent child is only a symptom of an existing problem that is much bigger. Mugo et al., (2006) use the systematic paradigm to analyze how different Kenyan governments have overtime failed to prevent juvenile delinquency. These governments have only tried to treat the symptoms of the problem rather than looking at its genesis. This is what has been happening in both pre-colonial and post-colonial Kenya.

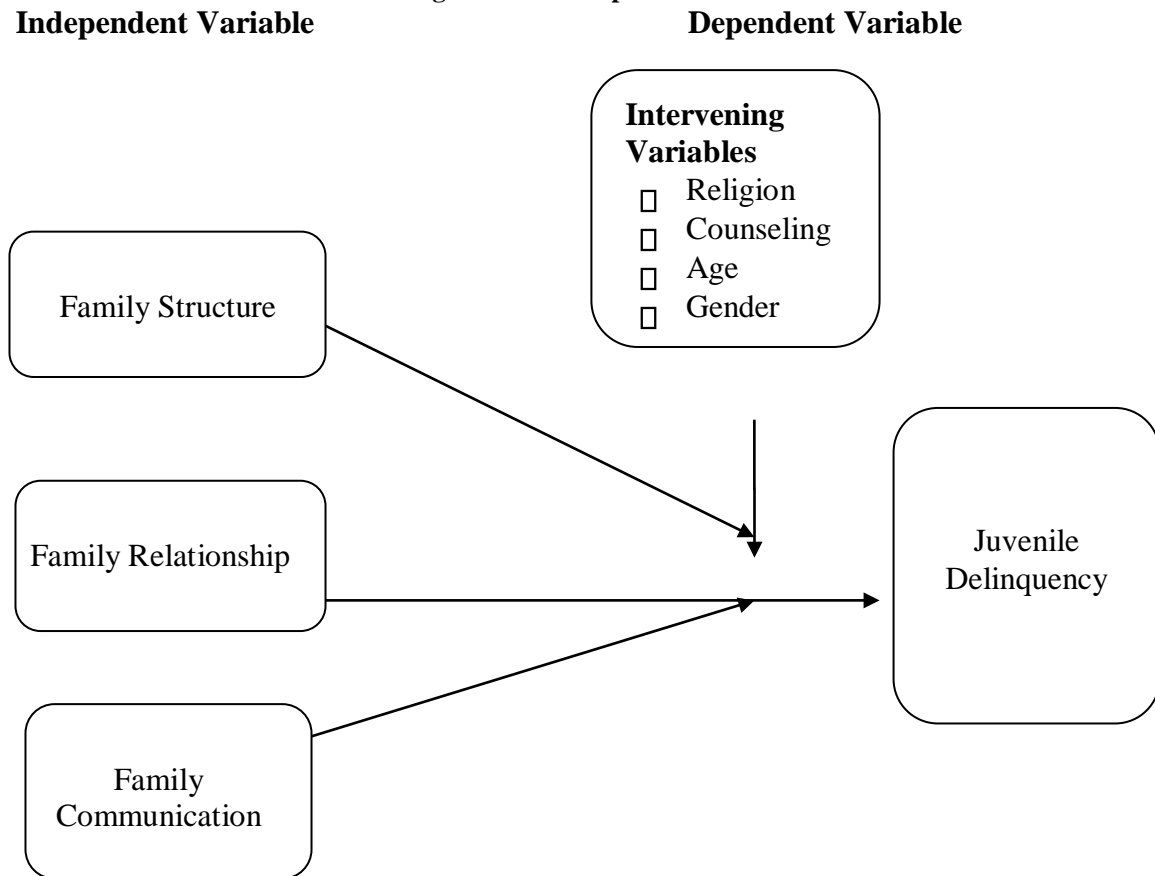
In the process of handling juvenile delinquency symptoms, the past governments only came up with short-lived solutions. The danger posed by juvenile delinquency can only be effectively solved by applying preventive measures (Omboto et al., 2013). The past governments have constructed more juvenile delinquency correction facilities. However, the development of more slum dwellings and failure to meaningfully engage youths who have dropped out of school have led to an increase in juvenile delinquency since independence. Studies demonstrate that the governments are in most cases aware of what causes juvenile delinquency (Mugo, 2006; Omboto et al., 2013; Wambugu et al., 2015). Even if they are not aware, they have the required machinery they can use to identify the causative factors of the problem. Therefore, the government does not have to treat juvenile offenders as parasites that have to be exterminated through warehousing in rehabilitation schools.

The best way forward is to put in place effective preventive strategies.

2.4 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework underlying this study was based on the relationship between the concept of family structure, family relationship, and family communication, and the influence the variables have on juvenile delinquency. The relationship between the study variables is depicted in figure 2.1;

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework



III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The chapter discusses the study's research design, population targeted, data collection instruments and procedures, data analysis techniques and presentation, and ethical considerations.

3.2 Study Site

This study was conducted in Malindi Township Remand Home. This is the second largest town in the coastal region of Kenya. It is located approximately 120 kilometres north of Mombasa, south of the Equator, and has a coastline of about 155 kilometers (Kilifi County Integrated Development Plan [CIDP], 2018).

3.3 Research Design

A descriptive research design was adapted to establish the factors that influence juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, specifically at the Juvenile's Remand Home and Child Protection Centre. According to Orodho (2005), a research design refers to a structure or plan of investigating to obtain answers to give research questions. Coopers and Schindler (2006) denote that a descriptive survey design is a blueprint for data collection, measurement, and analysis. The study adopted mixed research methods i.e. quantitative and qualitative approaches.

3.4 Target Population

The study targeted all the juveniles placed at the Malindi Township remand home. As far as the Malindi DDP (2008-2012, p.36) is concerned, the child protection center in Malindi receives an average of 300 juveniles per year.

3.5 Sampling Procedure

Random sampling was applied given the fact that it allows the participants equal chances of being included in the study. Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) assert that random sampling is a sampling technique that enables the researcher to make use of cases with the required information concerning the study objectives. Random sampling was adopted due to the large population of juvenile delinquents in the study area (Kombo & Tromp, 2006). Random sampling according to Lavrakas (2008) refers to selection techniques that select members by chance but with some known probability of selection used to estimate sampling error. The selection of respondents was 120 juveniles and 90 parents/ guardians, at the Malindi Township remand home. The individuals were chosen randomly and by chance. This undertaking ensured that each had the same probability of getting selected during sampling. This sample was considered appropriate as the variability of the perceptions on the determinants to juveniles' involvement in delinquent activities is usually deemed low. From a population of 150 juveniles in Malindi Township, the researcher arrived at the actual sample size based on Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) recommended sample of 10% to 30 % of the target population

3.6 Data Collection Instruments

Questionnaires comprising both structured and unstructured questions were given to the selected respondents. The questionnaire contained close-ended and open-ended questions. The research assistants helped the respondents to understand the questionnaires. Questionnaires were chosen since they are a quick and effective way of gathering extensive information from a large sample size (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2013). The audio recordings were also used to capture information from focus group discussions and key informant interviews. Data collection instruments for FGDs and KIIs were FGD guides and KII guides respectively.

3.7 Data Analysis and Presentation

The collected data was analyzed with the help of qualitative and quantitative techniques. Descriptive statistics (frequency standard deviation, and mean) were used to analyze quantitative data. Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22 was also applied. Quantitative results were presented using tables, pie-charts, and graphs. Qualitative data was analyzed using content analysis. its results were presented using verbatim quotes.

3.8 Ethical Considerations

According to Saunders et al. (2007), research ethics refer to the appropriateness of the researcher's behavior concerning the rights of study subjects or the parties affected. The authors rightly note that research ethics has inevitably be influenced by behavioral social norms. The researcher sought clearance and permission from the manager of the institutions to allow the research to be conducted. His/her facilitation was needed to ensure that the research program runs smoothly and is sought. The respondents, being juvenile, parents, and remand home staff, the researcher upheld utmost ethical standards to safeguard their dignity and protect their identity. The researcher sought consent for participation in the study before administering the questionnaires. Confidentiality was adhered to to attain anonymity. The respondents were assured that the results of the study were going to be used only for academic research purposes.

IV. RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Introduction

The study investigated factors influencing juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, in Kilifi County, Kenya. This section provides information on the analysis of data, results interpretation, and presentation of findings intending to meet the objectives of this study. The specific objectives of this study were;

- i. To examine the influence of family structure on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.
- ii. To establish the influence of family relationships on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.
- iii. To assess the influence of family communication on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.

4.2 Responses Rate

The sample size for this study was 120 juveniles and 90 parents/guardians, at the Malindi Township remand home. Table 4.1 shows the rate of response.

Table 4.1: Response Rate

Category	Sample Size	Response	Response rate
Juvenile	120	120	100.00
Parents/guardians	90	89	98.89
Total	210	209	99.52

Out of the 210 respondents expected, 209 turned up. This gives a response rate of 99.52%. Nulty (2011) denotes that a 75% response rate is adequate for data analysis, and making important inferences and conclusions about a given population. Further, Kothari (2012) indicates that a 50% rate of response is average, 60% to 70% is adequate, while 70% and above is excellent. This implies that the response rate of 99.55% was adequate for analysis, drawing conclusions, and reporting.

4.3 Demographic Findings

The demographic findings of the participants comprised of their gender, age, level of education, job designation of the administrators, family makeup of the parents/guardians, and family background of the juvenile.

4.3.1 Gender of the Respondents

Participants who included the juvenile, and parents/guardians, were requested to indicate their genders. Table 4.2 below depicts the results of their views.

Table 4.2: Respondents' gender

Category	Juvenile		Parents/guardians	
	Frequency	Percent (%)	Frequency	Percent (%)
Male	85	70.8	42	47.2
Female	35	29.2	47	52.8
Total	120	100.0	89	100.0

From the results above, 70.8% of the juveniles were of the male gender while 29.2% were female. Thus, most of the juvenile respondents in this study were male. Further, 52.8% of the parents/guardians were female while 47.2% indicated that they belonged to the male gender. This implies that the majority of the parents/guardians who took part in this study were females hence the rate of child delinquency was high on juveniles brought up by their mothers. According to Sigmund Freud, jealousy and envy are usually directed at the father who is the object of the attention and affection of the mother. This shows that truancy and delinquency are high in the male juvenile as compared to the female juvenile hence implying that gender influences child delinquency. According to Graham and Bowling (as cited in Cheseto, 2012), various family factors influence child delinquency. They include; parenting level, gender, how a child is disciplined by parents discipline, parental separation or conflicts, history of criminals within the community, neglect, and abuse by parents, and the kind of relationship that exists between parents and their children.

4.3.2 Age Bracket of the Respondents

The participants (juveniles and parents/guardians,) were also asked to state the age brackets into which they belonged. Table 4.3 highlights the results.

Table 4.3: Respondents' age

Category (years)	Juvenile	Parents/guardians
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	Frequency	Percent (%)	Frequency	Percent (%)
10- 12	8	6.7	0	0.0
13-15	48	40.0	0	0.0
16-18	64	53.3	0	0.0
20-30	0	0.0	19	21.4
31-40	0	0.0	17	19.1
41-50	0	0.0	34	38.2
51-60	0	0.0	18	20.2
61-70	0	0.0	1	1.1
Total	120	100.0	89	100.0

From the results 53.3% of the juvenile specified they were aged between 16 and 18years, 40% were between 13and 15 years old, while 6.7% had between 10 and 12 years of age. The statistics imply that many of the juveniles who were engaged had 16 to18years. Furthermore, 38.2% of the parents/guardians indicated they belonged to the 41-50 age category, 21.4% specified 20-30 years, 20.2% specified 51-60 years while 19.1% indicated 31-40 years. The implication here is that the age of most parents/guardians who turned up for the study was between 41 and 50 years. It shows the rate of child delinquency is very high in juveniles within the age of 16-18 years as they are in their adolescence stage at which they are neither juvenile nor adults.

4.3.3 Level of Education of the Respondents

The respondents (juveniles, parents/guardians, and administrators) were also required to state their highest level of education. The results of their responses were captured in table4.4 below.

Table 4.4: Education level of Respondents

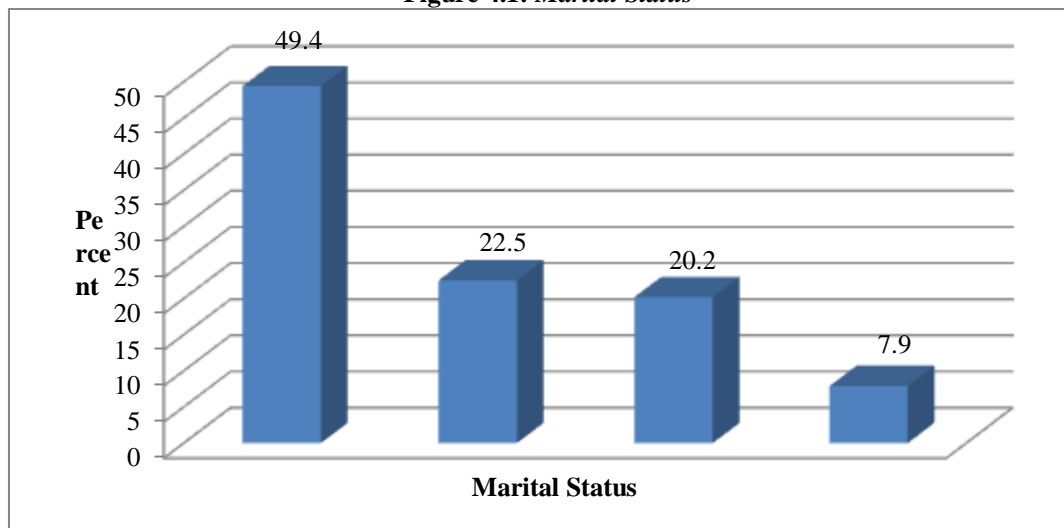
Category	Juvenile		Parents/guardians	
	Frequency	Percent (%)	Frequency	Percent (%)
Never been to school	3	2.5	8	9.0
Primary education	98	81.7	23	25.8
Secondary education	19	15.8	37	41.6
Certificate	0	0.0	0	0.0
Diploma	0	0.0	12	13.5
Bachelors' Degree	0	0.0	9	10.1
Masters' Degree	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	120	100.0	89	100.0

From the results 81.7% of the juvenile had primary education as their highest academic level,15.8% had secondary education, while 2.5% never went to school. This demonstrates that a good number of the juveniles who participated in the current study had only received primary education. Furthermore, 41.6% of the parents/guardians indicated a KCSE certificate as their highest level of education, 25.8% specified a KCPE certificate, 13.5% indicated a diploma level while 10.1% had a bachelor's degree while 9% never went to school. This implies that the majority of the parents/guardians were holders of KCSE certificates. This shows that child delinquency is highest in juveniles with primary education.

4.3.4 Marital Status of the Parents/Guardians

The parents/guardians were requested to specify their marital status. The findings were as in figure 4.1:

Figure 4.1: Marital Status

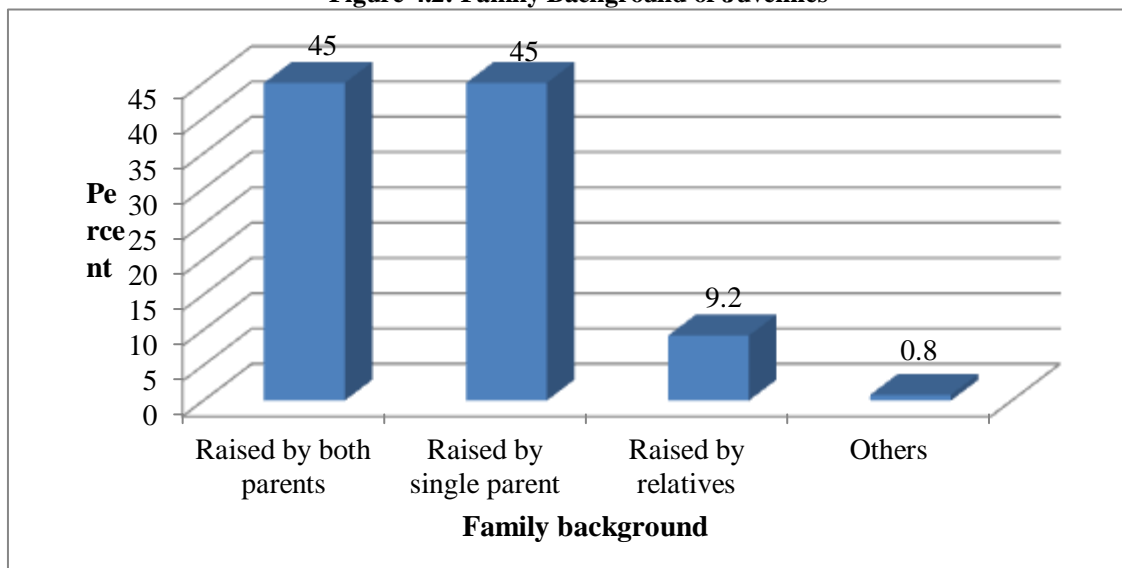


According to the findings, 49.4% of the parents/guardians were married, 22.5% were single, 20.2% had separated while 7.9% were divorced. This means 50.6% of the single parents hence child delinquency was high among singles parents, this might be brought about by lack of a father figure in the family.

4.3.5 Family Background of the Juvenile

The juveniles were asked to specify their family background. The results were shown in Figure 4.2.

Figure 4.2: Family Background of Juveniles

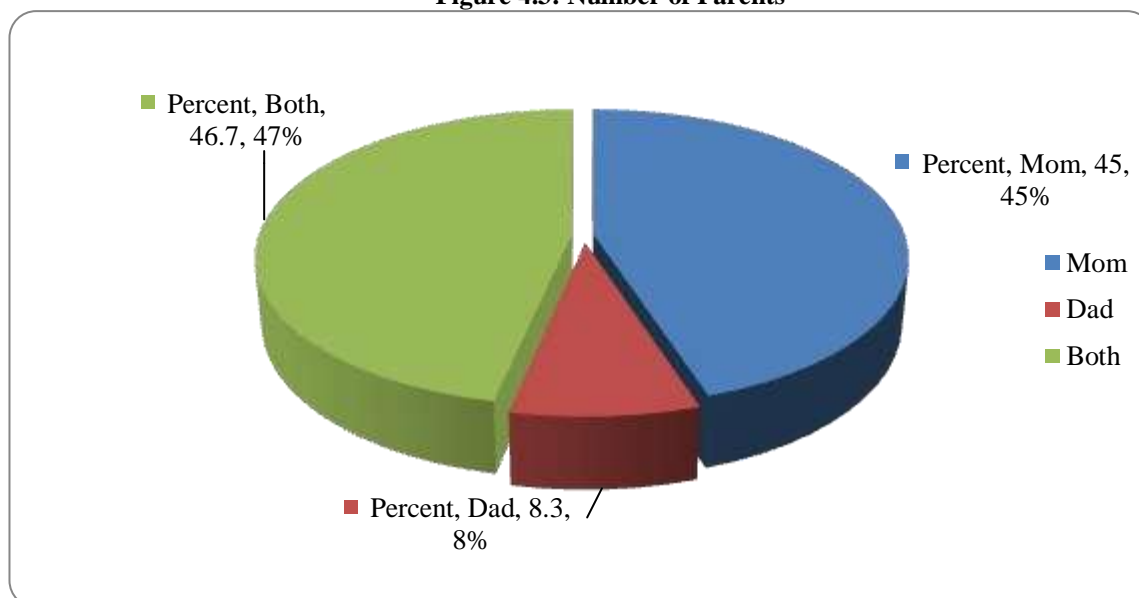


As indicated in the results 45% of the juvenile were raised by both parents while the same percentage of the juveniles was raised by a single parent. 9.2% of the juvenile were raised by relatives while 0.8% specified others. This implies that most of the juveniles were raised by single parents. This shows that delinquency is high in juveniles brought up by both single parents.

4.4 Number of Parents

Those who indicated they had parents were further asked to specify. The results were shown in figure 4.3.

Figure 4.3: Number of Parents



As indicated in the results 46.7 % had had both parents,45% had only their Mother while 8.3% had only their Dad. This implies that most of the respondents were raised by single parents. This implies that the delinquency rate is high in juveniles raised by single parents as compared to juveniles raised by both parents. This indicates that the majority of single parents are not capable of disciplining their juveniles and directing them in the right discipline.

4.5 Juvenile Delinquency

Part of the study required the juvenile respondents to indicate the extent to which they agreed with various statements relating to juvenile delinquency among the juvenile delinquents in Malindi Township, in Kilifi County. The results were presented using table 4.6.

Table 4.5: Juvenile Delinquency

	Mean	Std. Deviation
In our society, there has been an increase in minor crimes committed by juveniles.	4.783	.611
There is an incidence of chronic violation of the rules among juveniles in Malindi Township.	4.767	.590
Peer associations contribute to juvenile delinquency.	4.592	.527
Most juvenile delinquents are capable of changing and becoming productive society members after being discharged from correctional facilities.	4.425	.785
There are cases of early juveniles pregnancy in Malindi Township.	4.800	.442
Juveniles drop all criminal activities once they are adults.	2.683	1.145
Most of the juveniles in Malindi Township use illicit drugs such as bhang and cocaine.	4.567	.896

From the findings, with an average mean of 4.767 (std. dv = 0.590), the juveniles also agreed strongly that there is incidence of chronic violation of the rules among juveniles in Malindi Township. In addition, as indicated by a 4.783 (std. dv = 0.611) mean, the juvenile strongly suggested that in their society, there has been an increase in minor crimes committed by juveniles. Andolfi (2018) argued that antisocial behavior during the early stage of life can be used to effectively predict later delinquency. Based on this context, antisocial behaviors entail different kinds of oppositional rule aggression, and violation, including physical fighting, vandalism, and theft.

With a mean of 4.592 (std. dv =0.527), the juveniles strongly agreed that peer association contributes to juvenile delinquency. Also, with a 4.425 (std. dv = 0.785) mean, the juveniles also noted that most of the juvenile delinquents can change for the better and become not only productive but also happy after being

discharged from a correctional facility. With a mean of 4.800 (std. dv = 0.442), the juvenile strongly agreed that there are cases of early child pregnancy in Malindi Township. Fishman (2017) indicates that the onset of delinquency and antisocial behavior is partly influenced by the relationships or interactions that exist between juveniles, and family members or peers. Family interactions tend to be of great importance in childhood, but can as well have a long-lasting impact.

From the findings of the study, the juveniles strongly agreed that most juveniles in Malindi Township use illicit drugs such as bhang and cocaine. This is characterized by a mean of 4.567 (std. dv = 0.896). Nevertheless, with a 2.683 (std. dv = 1.145) mean, the juveniles were neutral on the statement indicating that juveniles drop all criminal activities once they are adults. This implies that some juveniles may abandon the criminal activities when they become adults while others may not. Morenoff and Gannon-Rowley (2012) suggest that students' behavior may be influenced by the local areas surrounding conservatories. Youths who are exposed to high violent crime rates and drug abuse find it hard to change even once they are adults due to addiction.

4.5 Family Structure

The first objective of the study centered on examining how family structure influences juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.

4.5.1 The Prevailing Remand Conditions and Child Delinquency

In a KII, the administrators were asked to specify whether the remand conditions play a key role in shaping a child's personality and character. From the interview, the administrators revealed that;

Access to the internet, bad company, and peer pressure, corporal punishment, lack of adequate administrators, imitating each other, stress, entertainment functions like sports, strict remand rules and regulations are the key conditions influencing child delinquency. In addition, prevailing remand conditions that influence child delinquency also include: always sending the child home due to lack of remand fees, idle administrators and administration that does not listen to student grievances, long-distance from school, harsh treatment, and harassment by administrators (Administrators).

Child delinquency is influenced by drug abuse, peer pressure, lack of role models, lack of proper measures to instill discipline, students being in relationships, and bullying. Stress, strict rules, and regulations, poor dressing, lack of guidance and counseling from the school, sexual abuse, and idleness influence child delinquency. Other prevailing remand conditions that influence child delinquency were insecurity, as students escape from school, lack of proper remand facilities, remand mismanagement, increased pregnancy, and remand dropout facilitated by the administrators who befriend the pupils (Administrators).

4.5.2 Importance of Education on Juveniles' Future

The administrators were asked whether they felt the juvenile attach importance to their education for their future life. From the findings, 85.7% of the administrators agreed that the juvenile attach importance to their education for their future life while 14.3% disagreed. This implies that most of the respondents felt that the juvenile attach importance to their education for their future life. The findings show that the value of education of the juvenile is negatively affected by child delinquency.

4.5.3 Administrators and the Juvenile's Delinquency

The administrators were asked whether administrators in remand contribute to the juvenile's delinquency. From the findings, 85.7% of the administrators agreed the administrators in remand contribute to the juvenile's delinquency while 14.3% disagreed with the statement.

Harassment of students by administrators affect commissioning of delinquency at school, further teacher-student relationship adversely affects character building or emulation standards among the juvenile in Malindi Township remand home (Administrators)

According to Malayi et al, (2013) teacher-student relationship has a significant impact on child delinquency in school. This implies that administrators in remand contribute to the juvenile's delinquency whereby some of the remand administrators lack the skills to deal with students who appear hot-tempered. Further, a poor teacher-pupil relationship facilitates child delinquency.

4.5.4: Importance of Schooling/ Education to Child's Future Life

In the interview, the parents/guardians were requested to indicate how important schooling/ education is to their juvenile's future life. These were some of their responses:

"Education helps a child to secure a bright future, become knowledgeable, and afford their needs. Education helps to instill discipline in the students and also it provides the necessary skills and knowledge. It shapes a child to become responsible and acquire self-awareness (parents/guardians)."

"Education shapes child's behaviour and makes him/her have a sense of understanding what is right and wrong. It also shapes the character of the student to be a good person. Education empowers a child to be a future leader, innovator and secure a job. It enlightens and gives a bright future, enables a child to read and write and secure a job in the future, empowers a child to cope with the world, gives a child a bright life, and

helps to realize and nurture child's talent, education helps the students to have manners and acquire skills and knowledge needed in the job market. (Source: Parents/guardians).

This implies that through educating the juvenile, the rate of child delinquency will greatly reduce since education equips juveniles with relevant skills hence enabling them to focus on building their career rather than engaging in illegal activities.

4.5.5 Remand Friends and Child Character

The juveniles were asked whether they felt their friends in remand influence their character. From the findings, 76.4% agreed that their friends in remand indeed influenced their character, while 23.6% disagreed. This implies that a child's friends who are on remand are likely to influence him or her through peer pressure.

4.5.6 Administrators' Attitude towards Juvenile

The parents/guardians were further asked whether administrators in remand have a positive attitude towards their juveniles. From the findings, 76.4% of the parents/guardians specified that administrators in remand indeed had a positive attitude towards their juvenile, while 23.6% indicated that the administrators did not have a positive attitude. This shows that delinquency is high in juveniles despite the positive attitude of administrators towards them this might be brought about by poor remand attendance.

4.5.7 Remand Environment and Development of Delinquency

The administrators were requested to indicate whether the remand environment facilitates the development of delinquency to the juvenile. From the results, 85.7% of the administrators agreed that the remand environment facilitates the development of delinquency to the juvenile while 14.3% of the administrators indicated that the remand environment does not facilitate the development of delinquency to the juvenile. This implies that the remand environment facilitates the development of delinquency among juveniles.

4.5.8 Remand Environmental Factors and Juvenile Delinquency

The juveniles were also requested to point out their agreement level on several statements regarding the influence of remand environmental factors on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township in Kilifi County. The researcher used a 5-point Likert scale whereby 1 represented —strongly disagree, 2 stood for —disagree, 3 was for —Neutral, 4 represented —agree, and 5 corresponded to —strongly agree. The results of the responses were as shown in table 4.7.

Table 4.6: Remand Environmental Factors and Juvenile Delinquency

	Mean	Std. Deviation
Students are punished for disobeying any or all of the regulations or rules in the remand homes.	4.22	.522
There are cases of physical fights among the juveniles in Malindi Township remand home.	3.72	.791
There are set rules and regulations that govern the behaviour of juveniles at the remand home.	4.08	.392
Juveniles complain of an increase in robbery and theft in the remand home.	2.09	.970
The intelligence level of juveniles plays a key role in their involvement in criminal activities.	3.87	.579
The establishment of schooling facilities for juveniles prevents	4.15	.644
Harassment of students by administrators affects the	4.53	.744
Administrators-student relationship adversely affect character	4.420	.752

As indicated in the findings, the respondents agreed that students were punished for disobeying any or all of the regulations or rules in the remand homes. This was depicted by a mean of 4.22 (std. dv = 0.522). Further, the juvenile also agreed that there are set rules and regulations that govern the behaviour of juveniles at the remand home. This was captured using a 4.08 (std. dv = 0.392) mean. As represented by a 3.72 (std. dv = 0.791) mean, the juvenile agreed there are cases of physical fights among the juveniles in Malindi Township remand home. Gottfredson, (2001) indicates that conservatories play a significant role in socializing juveniles, and they support antisocial behaviour development.

As characterized by a 4.15 (std. dv = 0.644) mean, the juveniles observed that the establishment of schooling facilities for juveniles prevent them from engaging in violence or crime. Besides, the participants

agreed with a 3.87(std. dv = 0.579) mean that the intelligence level of juveniles plays a key role in their involvement in criminal activities. However, the juvenile disagreed with the statement indicating that Juveniles complain of an increase in robbery and theft in the remand home. This is shown by a mean of 2.09 (std. dv = .970). Jacynter, (2012) indicates that conservatories with adequate resources and proper management as well as wellformulated rules and regulations enhance the good behaviour of the students. This shows that inadequate remand facilities facilitate child delinquency.

The juveniles strongly agreed that harassment of students by administrators affects the commissioning of delinquency at school. The agreement is represented by a 4.53 (std. dv = 0.744) mean. Further, the juvenile also noted that the administrators-student relationship adversely affects character building or emulation standards among the juveniles. This is shown by a mean of 4.420 (std. dv = 0.752). Mason and Blumberg, (1969) argued that poor teacher-pupil relationship is as well higher in conservatories poorly coordinated by administrators, and when rule enforcement is poor.

Additionally, poor rule enforcement among conservatories is linked with higher student delinquency levels. This shows that delinquency is very high due to poor teacher-pupil relationships.

4.6 Family Relationship

Specific objective number two of the current study was to find out how family relationship influences juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.

4.6.1 Ability to Provide Basic Needs

The parents/guardians were requested to indicate whether they can provide the basic needs to their juvenile e.g. food, shelter, clothing. According to the findings, 79.8% indicated they were able to provide basic needs to their juvenile while 20.2% specified they were not able to. This implies that most of the parents/guardians are in a position to provide the basic need to their juveniles.

4.6.2 Influence of Family Structure on Child Delinquency

From the interview guide, the parents/guardians were requested to indicate how the family structure influences child delinquency. From the findings, the parents/guardians indicated that;

Single parents may negatively influence their juveniles especially if they engage in bad behaviors like prostitution. Other factors include change of financial status and environment, child abuse by the extended family, lack of remand fees resulting in a child escaping from home, juvenile born out of wedlock, divorce resulting to juvenile abusing drugs, lack of basic needs and parent disagreements, death of one parent leads to family conflict and child harassment as well as remand dropout (parents/guardians).

Child delinquency results due to lack of parental guidance, permissive parenting and lack of parental guidance, separation results in Childs'' indiscipline and disrespect to the parents, parents fighting in the presence of a juvenile, engaging in various sexual acts at a child''s presence, parent health problems result to child abusing drugs, too much parental love and early marriages (parents/guardians).

4.6.3 Juvenile Adherence to Supervision and Guidance Provided

The parents/guardians were asked to specify whether the juvenile under their custody adhered to the guidance given to them. The findings were shown in table 4.8:

Table 4.7: Juvenile Adherence to Supervision and Guidance Provided

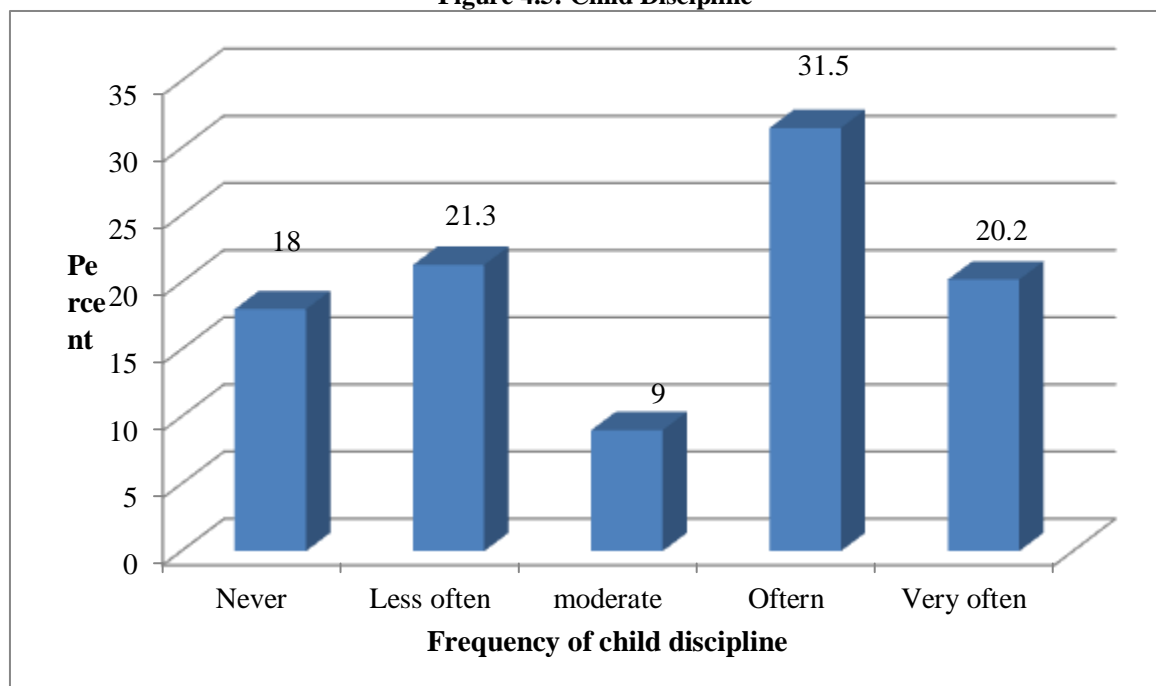
Parents/Guardians		
	Frequency	Percent
Yes	16	18
No	73	82
Total	89	100

From the findings, 82 % of the parents/guardians agreed that their juveniles adhere to the guidance and supervision they provide while 18% indicated that their juveniles do not adhere to the supervision and guidance provided. This implies that most of the juveniles adhere to the supervision and guidance provided.

4.6.4 Child Discipline

The parents/guardians were asked to indicate how frequently they disciplined their juveniles. The results were shown in figure 4.5.

Figure 4.5: Child Discipline



From the findings, 31.5% specified that they frequently disciplined their juvenile, 21.3% specified less frequently, 20.2% specified very frequently, 18% of the parents/guardians never disciplined their juvenile while 9% disciplined them moderately. This implies that most of the parents/guardians disciplined their juveniles frequently. This means that harshly disciplining the juvenile by their parents/guardians could be the reason why most juveniles opt to run away from their homes. In addition, the home setting might also influence the high rate of child delinquency.

4.6.5 Family Member with Criminal/ Delinquent Traits

The parents/guardians were asked to specify whether there is any other family member with criminal/ delinquent traits in their family. From the findings, 60.7% of the parents/guardians specified that no other member in their family with criminal/ delinquent traits while 39.3% specified that there are other members in their family with criminal/ delinquent traits. This implies that most of the parents/guardians had no other family member with criminal/ delinquent traits. This shows that child delinquency is not determined by family history.

4.6.6 Parenting and Juvenile Delinquency

The juveniles were requested to indicate the degree to which they agreed with certain statements based on the influence of parenting on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township in Kilifi County. Table 4.9 below was used to capture the results.

Table 4.8: Parenting and Juvenile Delinquency

	Mean	Std. Deviation
Divorces attribute to growth in the rate of delinquency among juveniles.	4.675	.610
Lack of frankness and confidence between juvenile and parent result in attribute to delinquency.	4.625	.503
Lack of parental affection and parental care attribute to minor crime among juveniles.	4.533	.607
Parental discipline is necessary for the prevention of crime relate among juveniles.	4.558	.547
The guardians/parents of delinquents are harsher compared to ordinary parents concerning punishing juveniles.	4.433	.683
Parents place rules that govern the behaviour of juveniles in society.	4.39	.584

Permissive parenting style influences youth engagement in drug use.	.707
Homes that exhibit a high level of parental supervision and 4.658 supervision show low signs of juvenile involvement in criminal activities.	.542

From the findings, the juvenile strongly agreed that divorces attribute to growth in the rate of delinquency among juveniles. This was illustrated by a 4.675 (std. dv = 0.610) mean. As represented by a 4.625 (std. dv = 0.503) mean, the juveniles also strongly agreed that lack of frankness and confidence between juvenile and parent result in attribute to delinquency. Further, the juvenile strongly agreed lack of parental affection and parental care attribute to minor crime among juveniles. This is shown by a mean of 4.533 (std. dv = 0.607). Cheseto (2012) argued that family factors that tend to influence offending include parenting level, disciplinary actions adopted by parents against their children, parental separation and conflict, history of crime among parents and siblings, neglect, abuse from parents, and the quality of the relationship that exists between children and their parents.

From the findings, the juvenile strongly agreed that parental discipline is necessary for the prevention of crime relate among juvenile. This is portrayed by a 4.558 (std. dv = 0.547) mean. Additionally, as represented by a 4.433 (std. dv = 0.683) mean, the juvenile agreed that the guardians/parents of delinquents are harsher compared to ordinary parents concerning punishing juvenile. Further, the juvenile also agreed that parents place rules that govern the behavior of the juvenile in society. This is shown by a mean of 4.39 (std. dv = 0.584). Farrington et al, (2011) revealed that proper communication, parent-child relationship, and disciplines ensure juveniles grow in the right manner. Further involving the juvenile in decision-making makes them feel valued hence upholds good morals to make their parents happy.

As indicated in the results the juvenile strongly agreed that homes that exhibit a high level of parental supervision and supervision show low signs of juvenile involvement in criminal activities. This is denoted by a mean of 4.658 (std. dv = 0.542). Further as indicated by a mean of 4.5667 (std. dv = 0.707), the juvenile strongly agreed that permissive parenting style influences youth engagement in drug use. Poor disciplinary and management practices embraced by parents lead to delinquent behaviour. Jeronimus et al. (2014) revealed that lack of clear expectations for juvenile's behaviour, severe and inconsistent discipline, and lack of supervision and monitoring of juveniles predict delinquency later in human life.

4.6.7 Effects of Parenting on Juvenile Delinquency

The juveniles were further requested to state in their view how else parenting influences juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township in Kilifi County. From the findings, the respondents indicated that

“physical child abuse by parents makes the juvenile ran away from home and end up engaging in criminal activities, further, too much freedom of juvenile from the parents encourage them to do what they want and some end up engaging in drug abuse. Poor parenting, lack of parental discipline, and lack of proper rules to govern their behavior may lead to bad characters. In addition, poor handling of a juvenile in their adolescent stage can result to parents mistreating the child, this may lead to the subject disobeying any instructions they are given by their parents” (Juvenile).

“In addition, the strictness of the parents facilitates good character of a child, broken marriages result to juvenile becoming undisciplined, divorce and separation affect juvenile negatively. Juveniles who are brought up by guardians most of them are sexually abused and end up running away from home. In addition, domestic violence leads to juveniles running away from home and engage in crime, lack of basic needs greatly influences the youth to criminal activity. Other factors facilitating delinquency included mental illness of the parents and parents fighting in the presence of their juvenile parents adhering to cultural values which are out-dated like female genital mutilation, poor cooperation between administrators and parents, the parent not being open to their juvenile, not involving them in decision making and not giving them adequate time. In most of the times, parents do not have ample time with their juveniles as they engage in business, thus juveniles have free time to do what they like and are involved in peer association and are ruined behavior” (Juvenile).

These arguments concur with Malayi et al (2013) findings that the type of parenting styles employed by a parent or a caregiver may also contribute to delinquency in a child. Further, he indicated that parents who used the authoritarian type of parenting were found to be more likely to raise juveniles with deviant behaviour. This is due to the tendency of the parent to be aggressive and arrogant towards the child. A combination of the aspects of these parenting styles seems to be appropriate.

4.7 Family Communication

The third specific study objective was to establish the influence of family communication on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.

4.7.1 Psychological Factors and Child Delinquency

The administrators and the parents/guardians were asked to specify the psychological factors that influence child delinquency. From the results, the administrators revealed that:

“Psychological factors influencing child delinquency include; child abuse, child neglect, domestic violence, lack of parental control, low self-esteem, depression, death of parents, bullying from peers and family conflicts”(administrator).

“Other psychological factors that influence child delinquency include divorced parents, disrespecting one another in front of the juvenile, stress, depression and frustration, trauma, poverty, loss of loved ones, adolescence, family conflict, peer pressure, low self-esteem per, health problems, isolation and stigma, sexual harassment and negligence,” (Parent/Guardian).

“Other remand environmental factors on juvenile delinquency include harsh disciplinary measures resulting to students dropping from school, poor remand management and sexual harassment to students, peer pressure, administrators failing to execute discipline to the students, administrators” lack of skills to deal with hottempered students. Some of the remand administrators lack the skills to deal with students who appear hottempered and when they are provoked it is easy for them to fight the teacher as they defend themselves” (juvenile).

Issues of abuse and neglect are symptoms of a breakdown of proper communication channels within a family structure. This implies that to solve child delinquency, the psychological factors influencing the juvenile should be put into consideration.

4.7.2 Stressful Situations Experienced by the Juveniles

The administrators and the parents/guardians were asked to specify whether the juvenile at the facility expressed having experienced a stressful situation in their life. The results were highlighted in table 4.10,

Table 4.9: Experience of Stressful Situation in the Juveniles Lifetime

	Parents/Guardians	
	Frequency	Percent
Yes	74	83.1
No	15	16.9
Total	89	100

From the findings 83.1% of the parents/guardians agreed that their juveniles have experienced stressful situations in their life while 16.9% specified that their juveniles have not experienced stressful situations. This implies that most of the juvenile have experienced stressful situations in life. Hence to help juveniles address the high rate of child delinquency, one should deal with the stressful situations affecting them.

4.7.3 Juvenile Gratification as they were Growing

The parents/guardians were asked whether they felt the juvenile emotions were well gratified while they were growing up. The results were shown in table 4.11.

Table 4.10: Juvenile Gratification as they were Growing

	Parents/Guardians	
	Frequency	Percent
Yes	74	83.1
No	15	16.9
Total	89	100

4.7.4 Counseling Interventions and Juvenile Delinquency

The juveniles were requested to indicate whether they were in agreement with some statements on the influence of counseling interventions on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township. The results were depicted using table 4.12;

Table 4.11: Counseling interventions and Juvenile Delinquency

	Mean Std. Deviation
Encouraging juveniles to build a good relationship with their 4.300 peers facilitates the transition of immoral behaviour.	.774
There is a guidance and counseling team at the remand home in 4.208 Malindi township.	.428

Supportive psychological counseling with respect to the social aspect plays a critical role in preventing juveniles from engaging in violence.	4.267	.463
Spiritual counselling enables delinquent juveniles to control their anger, stress, and depression.	4.317	.635
I always attend individual counseling.	4.033	.634
Parental guidance promotes peace or harmonious living among juveniles in society.	4.300	.559
Through guidance and counseling, individuals get solutions on how to deal with psychological problems that might affect their wellbeing.	4.408	.510
Parental guidance enable juvenile to abstain from using illicit drugs	4.500	.622

From the findings, the juvenile agreed that encouraging Juveniles to build a good relationship with their peers facilitates the transition of immoral behavior. This agreement was a mean of 4.300 (std. dv = 0.774). As represented by a 4.267 (std. dv =

0.463) mean, the juvenile also agreed that supportive psychological counseling with respect to the social aspect plays a critical role in preventing juveniles from engaging in violence. Furthermore, as shown by a 4.208 (std. dv = 0.428) mean, the respondents suggested that there is a guidance and counseling team at the remand home in Malindi Township. Moffit (2006) argued that counseling programs help in controlling the behavior of teenagers through correcting their mistakes and guiding them in the right way. Further, through these programmes juveniles are in a position to speak out their minds.

From the findings, the juvenile agreed that spiritual counseling enables delinquent juveniles to control their anger, stress, and depression. This was indicated using 4.317 (std. dv = 0.635) mean. Furthermore, as captured by a mean of 4.300 (std. dv = 0.559) the juvenile noted that parental guidance promotes peace or harmonious living among juveniles in the society. The juvenile also agreed that they always attend individual counseling. This is shown by a mean of 4.033 (std. dv = 0.634). Jeronimus et al. (2014) argued that through parental care and guidance minimal chances are availed for the development of bad behavior among the juvenile.

The juvenile strongly agreed that parental guidance enables the juvenile to abstain from using illicit drugs. A mean of 4.500 (std. dv = .622) was used to show this. As illustrated by the results, the juvenile also agreed with a 4.408 (std. dv = 0.510) mean that through guidance and counseling individuals get solutions on how to deal with psychological problems that might affect their wellbeing. This implies that guidance and counseling of juveniles are rarely done hence the high rate of child delinquency.

Wai-Yung (2018) believed that an individual's characteristics are characterized by the psychological movement of an individual. The individual's body, mind, perceptions, emotions, and all other functions move towards the achievement of the chosen goal, regardless of the recognition of the individuals' goal-directed nature.

V. CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This last chapter entails a summary of the study findings, conclusions, and possible recommendations. The chief purpose of this study was to find out the influence of family structure, family relationship, and family communication on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County.

5.2 Summary

The sub-section presents the summary of the findings of this study concerning its specific objectives.

5.2.1 Family Structure in Malindi Township

The study found that administrators at the Malindi Township remand home were frequently handling disciplinary issues. In addition, the prevailing conditions influencing child delinquency include access to the internet, bad company and peer pressure, corporal punishment, lack of adequate administrators, entertainment functions like sports, strict remand rules and regulations, harsh treatment and harassment by administrators, drug abuse, poor dressing code by female administrators, and increased pregnancy and remand dropout facilitated by the administrators who befriend the pupils. This is also supported by an argument that administrators in remand, as well as the teacher-child relationship, contribute to the juvenile's delinquency. Also, the study revealed that a child's friends in remand influence the child's character.

The study found that education helps a child to secure a bright future, become knowledgeable, and afford their needs. Education also helps to instill discipline in the students and also it provides the necessary skills and knowledge. It is essential to the child since it enriches him/her with the knowledge that enables good life,

education shapes a child to become responsible, acquire self-awareness. In addition, it shapes a child's behaviour and makes him/her have a sense of understanding of what is right and wrong.

From the findings, it was further revealed that students are punished for disobeying any or all of the regulations or rules in the remand homes. In addition, there are set rules and regulations that govern the behaviour of juveniles at the remand home. The study also revealed that the intelligence level of juveniles plays a key role in their involvement in criminal activities.

5.2.2 Family Relationship in Malindi Township

The study found that parents/guardians can provide the basic needs to their juveniles e.g. food, shelter, clothing. In addition, family structure was found to influence child delinquency whereby the results established that juveniles from single-parent families often receive lower supervision, hence having more freedom which leads them to illegal activities, lack of parental monitoring was also found to not only contribute directly to the anti-social behaviours of juvenile but also indirectly to association with deviant peers. Further, the results revealed that juveniles are more likely to engage in illegal activities if there is separation, divorce, single parenting or polygamy, lack of role model, child abuse, lack of basic needs, parent disagreements, and death of parents.

The study established that juvenile adherence to supervision and guidance provided by the parents/guardians. In addition, study findings revealed that parents/guardians discipline their juveniles frequently. From the findings, it was found that the parents/guardians had no other family member with criminal/ delinquent traits. Findings also revealed that lack of frankness and confidence between juvenile and parent result in delinquency. Also, lack of parental affection and parental care attribute to minor crime among juveniles. The findings further indicated that parents place rules that govern the behaviour of juveniles in society. Permissive parenting style was found to influence youth engagement in drug use. However, the results revealed that the guardians/parents of delinquents are harsher compared to ordinary parents concerning punishing juveniles.

5.2.3 Family Communication in Malindi Township

The study findings established that family communication influences juvenile delinquency. Findings also revealed that the juveniles at Malindi Township remand home have experienced stressful situations in life.

The study established that through counseling interventions a child can understand the challenges and get solutions; one is also able to share how they feel and perceive issues facing them. Further, it was revealed that counseling amends a person, who has gone through a stressful life, it also creates awareness on dangers of engaging in criminal activities, it helps one to reform his bad character. Through counseling, the youths acquire self-awareness and can control their anger.

The study findings further established that encouraging juveniles to build a good relationship with their peers facilitates the transition of immoral behaviour. In addition, it was also established that there is a guidance and counseling team at the remand home in Malindi Township. Further, it was found that supportive psychological counseling with respect to the social aspect plays a critical role in preventing juveniles from engaging in violence. The study further established that spiritual counseling enables delinquent juveniles to control their anger, stress, and depression. Furthermore, the study found that parental guidance promotes peace or harmonious living among juveniles in society. Findings also revealed that through guidance and counseling individuals get solutions on how to deal with psychological problems that might affect their wellbeing. Further, the study revealed that parental guidance enables juvenile to abstain from using illicit drugs

5.3 Conclusions

Based on the study's first objective to examine how juvenile delinquency is influenced by the family structure in Malindi Township, Kilifi County, the study concluded that family members' unity is influenced by family structure. The nature and extent of various forms of interaction between family members and children is key to comprehending the association between the family structure of a child, and delinquent behavior.

using the results of the study's second objective which was to establish the influence of family relationship on juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County, it was found that children who come from homes that are biologically intact tend to have low illegal behavior incidences paralleled by low susceptibility rate to peer pressure and to commit deviant acts.

There is an association between family structure and juvenile deviance. The family directly influences negative peer pressure that is likely to impact the involvement of juveniles in delinquent activity.

Regarding the third and final objective of the current study on how family communication tends to influence juvenile delinquency in Malindi Township, Kilifi County, it was concluded that the act of crime among juveniles is partly influenced by family communication. The kind of parenting practices embraced early in life and during adolescence serve as buffers that do prevent delinquent behavior, and they help adolescents involved to abstain from juvenile crime. Exposures to various acts of violence are a vital source of early role exists among adolescents. This means that juvenile witness violence occurs both within the family, and outside.

There is a close relationship between family socialization and juvenile crime. Family relation influences the act of committing crime among juveniles. Family conflicts tend to increase the risk for domestic violence, and acts of violence directed towards other people. Moreover, conflicts within the family conflict increase risk for

violence and crime. Since children learn through example, there is a possibility that children learn aggressive behaviour by way of observing aggression in their own families and the society around them.

5.4 Recommendations

5.4.1 Recommendations to Parenting

1. Since lack of frankness and confidence between juvenile and parent result attribute to delinquency, this study recommends that parents /guardians should show affection and concern to their juveniles. In addition, they should be open and frank to them.

2. The study also found that the guardians/parents of delinquents are harsher compared to ordinary parents with respect to punishing juveniles. This study, therefore, recommends that parents/guardians should talk to their juveniles and advise them accordingly instead of punishing them.

3. The study found that parent disagreements, fights, and separation influence child delinquency. This study, therefore, recommends that parents/guardians should solve their issues privately.

4. Juvenile with a criminal history should be subjected to rehabilitation programmes and interventions of counseling. Generally speaking, youth juvenile crime starts with trivial offenses such as violent behaviour, and as robbery or, which are traceable and can be corrected using community, family, institutional environments. Additionally, law enforcement needs to be part of the rehabilitation measures.

5.4.2 Recommendations to the Management of Malindi Township

The study found that the juveniles at Malindi Township remand home have experienced stressful situations in life. This study, therefore, recommends that intense counseling and care should be shown to these juveniles to help them forget and reform from bad behaviors. Further, the counseling teams ensure a good relationship with the juvenile to facilitate the transition of unsuitable behavior. Psychological problems affect the wellbeing of the juvenile. This study, therefore, recommends that parents/guardians ensure their juvenile access to supportive psychological counseling concerning social aspects to support them understand better ways of solving their issues.

5.4.3 Recommendation for Further Studies

This study was carried out on one government remand facility within Kilifi County, namely, Malindi Juvenile's Remand Home and one (1) Child Protection Centre also in Malindi Township. Therefore, this study recommends further studies on:

- i. Factors that influence juvenile delinquency on other Remand Homes and Child Protection Centers in Kilifi County and other County Governments in Kenya.
- ii. Further studies to be conducted to identify other factors influencing juvenile delinquency in Kenya.
- iii. Counseling intervention to be emphasized in the remand home and out of the remand home.

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