

I confirm that I have not used any AI tools in the research and creation of this assignment. I confirm that I have not presented any AI generated materials as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used, which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

Adam Pawlak, 2508253, BMLC4010, Examine how race and class have influenced youth offending patterns in the UK

Introduction:

Youth offending is and always will be a problem within the UK. Youth offenders are always seeking for attention from their friends and through their communities that they were brought up in Barry, M, A (2004). Youth ages are in-between 10-17 within the UK. In this period of their life, they go through a lot of hormonal changes, and a lot is going on with their mind. Not only with themselves, their friends around them are also changing and people might start to do different things, leading into them also doing it as well, due to being such a young age and not totally knowing what is going on.

Social Class and Race and influence on youth offending:

Social class has a big impact on the youth. Someone with parents who have a lot of money have a higher chance to be a better youth than someone with a family of a lower income. The reasoning that the wealthy class may have more advantages compared to the disadvantaged class may be because they have more services at their disposal. Not only that but wealthier people tend to be more motivated in their life therefore they would want the best for their children. For example putting their child into private school, tutoring, youth clubs which allows them to have a good start with their life Farrington, Ttifu, Piquero (2016). Furthermore, children alongside young people that are from another background and live in a country which is not their 'home' country, might be double punished as they could be poor but not only that they are from a migrant status. Adding onto that the reason why they might have a higher chance of offending all leads down to how people treat them resulting in how they react.

Youth/Young people might feel not wanted or 'disconnected' from everyone around them and then lead to offending behaviour Webster (2018). Research suggests that someone's race can have a major impact on how a young person experiences the youth justice system. In the study by Wainwright & Larkins (2020) it is shown that a lot of people who had experience with the youth system reported that their race played a big role within it. Like mentioned before, if young people have a feeling that their race has an influence on how people treat them and how everyone around them is. This can have a major impact and influence on the youth offending pattern as they might turn to criminal activity because of their past experiences. Adding onto social class we can see in this research a major impact on young people and if they offend is how their brought

up and their housing. In more detail researchers are trying to figure out whether someone's household if its clean, how parents are, where they are and all the other things can influence someone into committing crimes at such a young age. Young people in these households might have overcrowding and a high level of deprivation, with this in consideration they might not be able to have high levels of education which could impact them on how they are in later life Wilkstrom (1991). Moreover, families that had experienced criminal behaviour in the past, have substance/alcohol abuse are at a very higher chance that their children will follow like they do and then have an extremely high chance of committing crimes. In their mind this behaviour can be tracked as 'normal' to them as their parents do it which results in them thinking that its totally fine if they do it and proceed to follow. Not only that if they do this younger people might think that they are doing good and will be applaud for it, but in fact they are not and need help Cheng, Chu, Zeng, Li, Ting (2016). Another significant factor is a lot of people are blaming the 'urban minority youth' for all this violence and this crime that is happening, but it is completely not true, it does not matter what race you are, what religion criminals are not born they are made. Adding onto this we can see that a lot of criminals are made, this is stated by Blumoff (2009) where it is talked about how past experiences that happened to unfortunate children often play a part in how they treat others in their life future. For example, a child who had gotten abused in the past has an extremely high chance of being an abuser later in their life. Another key point is, white males have a lot easier punishment when fitting the role of a criminal. Meaning that compared to someone who is black their outcome would be far harsher than a white person. Even if there was a group that matched the criminal aspect the minority youth can still be treated a lot worse. Also, in the article by Bell (2013) it is shown that race and gender play a part in criminality, they intersect and is super important for youth. Studies have shown that women are more sensitive than men Givon, Berkovich, Cohen, Rubinstein et al (2023). This plays a major role in youth offending due to the reason that if they are brought up in horrible conditions not only does that impact them, but they struggle to take it emotionally which makes it a lot harder for them. Studies have shown that a lot of people in the criminal justice system are in fact socioeconomically disadvantaged. This means that children who cannot afford to go to school and get the right education struggle a lot in the real world. It is shown that

people who do not have 'minimal levels of education attainment and weak labour market attachment dominate the prison population'. On the other hand, in the article by Box, Ford, (1971) it is shown to us that it is extremely overestimated on how much people think lower class people commit crime. There is always assumption that it's the lower class because they are not as fortunate as other people and instantly get the blame put on them. Higher class people still commit crimes, but it might be a lot less visible and a lot less likely for them to end up in prisons because they have a name for themselves, and they can get away with a lot more things than the lower class. This can play a major part in the youth as families with higher income might teach their children indirectly that having money means you can get away with things that other people can't, resulting in them being spoilt and doing the same things with no consequences. This is also shown in the study by Douglas, Ross, Hammond, Mulligan (1966) where middle class children are more likely to have a higher education and have a lot better learning resources have a lot lesser chance to become a youth offender. Not only that but they also end up in court a lot less and have less delinquent behaviour compared to lower class children.

Conclusion:

To conclude this assignment, it is obvious that youth offending isn't made up of one thing but several. What this means is that race and social class play a big part within the offending. If there was more funding for the youth and their families especially the 'urban minority' they would have more opportunities in life that education and less aspects of their life would lead to committing less crimes and living a better life. Lastly, it appears that it does not matter where you are from or what race you are born into, it matters about who supports the youth, what education you are receiving and who you're surrounding yourself with. What this means is the parents play a vital role in shaping their children to become better citizens within that social class to set a new example on how to treat people on how they want to be treated. Lastly, family environments are extremely important, they shape the youth as that's who they are brought up by so whatever the parents do they might follow as they 'look up' to them resulting in the youth doing bad if the parents are doing bad. Relationship to drugs, alcohol, abuse all plays a super important role in shaping who their children become.

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Conclusion

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