

A STUDY OF JUVENILES REFERRED TO THE POTTER  
COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR  
RUNAWAY, 1968 THROUGH 1972

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A Thesis

Presented to  
the Faculty of the Institute of Contemporary Corrections  
and the Behavioral Sciences  
Sam Houston State University

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In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Arts

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by  
Larry Dan Watson  
May, 1975

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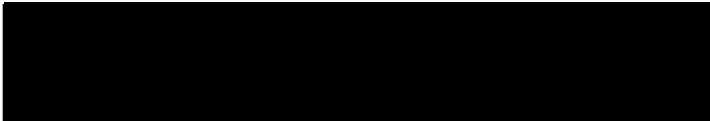
by


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A THESIS

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## ABSTRACT

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### Purpose

The purpose of this study was to explore the sociological implications of runaway children and their processing within the juvenile justice system. The study was an examination and comparison of demographic characteristics of children referred to the Potter County Juvenile Court as runaways. An examination was made of how the runaway child was processed before the enactment of the Texas Family Code to provide a source of comparison in evaluating the impact of the Family Code on the juvenile court in its processing of the runaway child.

### Methods

The universe of the study was the total referrals to the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department during the period from 1968 through 1972. Out of this group, every juvenile who had been referred for running away was identified. Those who had home addresses outside Potter County were eliminated. It was this five year period of runaway cases, whose home addresses were in Potter County, that constituted the sample of the study. Information was

gathered which included the child's sex, race, age, residency of child, source of referral, offense, disposition and whether the disposition was official court action or an administrative decision. This information was transferred to computer cards, and a computer was utilized in compiling the data. A composite of the annual reports of the Chief Probation Officer for the five year period being considered was prepared.

### Findings

1. During the five year period, runaway referrals steadily declined from the 98 referrals in 1968 to 60 referrals in 1972. At the same time police statistics show a marked increase during this same period. The indication being that the runaway is being dealt with in settings other than the juvenile court.

2. Females were more frequently referred for running away from home than were males. There were 247 females (60 percent) referred during this period of time compared to 165 males (40 percent) that were referred.

3. The most frequently referred juvenile was the Caucasian female, followed by the Caucasian male. These two groups accounted for 371 of the total runaway referrals, leaving only 41 to all other categories.

4. Minority group males were the least often referred (2.1 percent) of all groups.



5. Fifteen year olds were the most frequently (29 percent) referred age group.

6. Children who ran away most often lived with both natural parents, however, those from one natural parent homes were referred nearly as frequently (546 from natural parent homes as compared with 506 from one natural parent homes).

7. Of the total group of runaway referrals, their next most common offense was for burglary.

8. Of the 178 juveniles placed on official probation during the five year period, 86, or slightly less than one-half of them had been referred at least once during that time for running away.

9. Of the 102 juveniles committed to the Texas Youth Council during the five year period, 54, or over one-half of them, had been referred at least once for running away.


10. The 412 juveniles studied accounted for 549 referrals other than runaway referrals.

11. Of the 33 girls committed to the Texas Youth Council, 24 had been referred at least one time for runaway.

12. The 412 juveniles accounted for 686 runaway referrals.

13. During the five year period, the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department processed 686 runaway referrals in which the child was a resident of Potter County and 615 cases in which the child was a resident of

another county or state.



Supervising Professor

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Appreciation is also expressed to Honorable Carl Periman, Potter County Court of Domestic Relations Judge, Amarillo, Texas, and to Mr. E. A. Ballew, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Potter County, Texas.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

The runaway child is a problem that must be dealt with by law enforcement agencies, by probation departments, by parents and by juvenile courts. The magnitude of the problem is great and the orientations by which to deal with the runaway child and the runaway problem as a whole are many and varied. The runaway child has traditionally been within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and, therefore, the juvenile probation departments which serve the court have had to deal with the problem. The act of running away, like the act of being truant from school is referred to as a status offense or a juvenile offense. That is, it is an offense only for a child and not for an adult. Testimony before the Senate Sub-Committee to investigate juvenile delinquency indicated that an estimated one million children run away in the United States each year. The runaway problem is multi-faceted and viewed as a legal, sociological and psychological problem. As a legal question, one must ask if the runaway child should be the responsibility of the juvenile court, or if jurisdiction should be with other existing agencies. The runaway may also be viewed from a sociological perspective--that is, viewing the runaway as a product of the society; and as such is only an expression of society's ills. Finally, the runaway has from time to

time been viewed as ill or as having some deep-rooted psychiatric disturbance. When one examines the approaches to the causation of the runaway problem, he becomes aware that there are numerous factors which must be examined. The multi-factors approach generally views runaway as a surface manifestation of a complex sociological condition and psychological development. Whatever the cause of the problem and whether or not it is rightly a concern of the juvenile court are points that are open to question and examination.

#### Statement of the Problem

The juvenile court, the juvenile probation departments and the law enforcement agencies in Texas have found themselves in the position of being charged with the responsibility of the runaway child while having few resources for dealing with him. The Texas Family Code, enacted on September 1, 1973, took steps to decriminalize the runaway child by changing the status of the offense from "delinquent conduct" to "conduct indicating a need for supervision" and at the same time limited the disposition that could be made to probation or placement in a suitable foster home or other placement. The fact is, however, that it has been and continues to be a problem that must be dealt with by the juvenile courts. Since only the chronic runaway would be likely to finally come to the



attention of the court, the problem is that there are few private placements that are able to control the chronic runaway and more likely than not, such a placement has been tried before court intervention was sought. The juvenile court still has resources to work with the occasional runaway, but has few resources to deal with the child who is a chronic runaway. It is in this area that the juvenile court and its staff will have to develop resources and realign its programs. This will have a great impact since a large portion of the work load of the juvenile probation staff in Texas has been spent in dealing with the runaway.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this study is to explore the sociological implications of runaway children and their processing within the juvenile justice system. Data have been collected and analyzed elsewhere on the subject, but never focused on the Panhandle of Texas. The specific research of this thesis was aimed at an examination and comparison of certain demographic characteristics of children referred to the court as runaways and the relationships that exist between these characteristics. The study will raise future research questions involving larger samples that will expand knowledge about the runaway and the sociological implications. This study will draw on only a few of the many characteristics available for examination. Administrative decisions

regarding the runaway are rooted in the political and social structure of our culture. The information contained in this study will give future administrators and other scholars a more comprehensive understanding of the sociological factors involved in the phenomenon of the runaway.

The study will examine the processing of the runaway by the juvenile court before the enactment of the juvenile code and will provide a source of comparison for a similar study after the family code has been in effect five or ten years. This should provide a scientific comparison of the runaway problem under two sets of laws and be useful in evaluating the effectiveness of the Family Code in dealing with the runaway.

#### Definition of Major Terms

It is recognized that the use of many terms with varying definitions relating to the runaway have proven to be confusing and misleading. For the purpose of this study, a runaway is a child between 10 to 16 years of age for boys and 10 to 17 years of age for girls, who have been reported to law enforcement officials as being away from home without the consent of their parents or other responsible persons. It should be noted that there is a discrepancy in these definitions and the current law with regard to age and intent of the child. However, it should be recognized that all of the data gathered will be from histories prior to



September 1, 1973. The term "juvenile court" means a court designated under Section 51.04 of the Texas Family Code to exercise jurisdiction over proceedings under the Family Code, or courts exercising jurisdiction over juveniles before the enactment of the Texas Family Code. "Delinquent conduct" means a felony or misdemeanor punishable by jail sentence if committed by an adult, or violation of an order of the juvenile court after having been found to have violated a penal law (Manual for Texas Juvenile Court Judges, 1973). "Conduct in need of supervision" is conduct which includes the offenses of runaway, truancy and acts that are fineable misdemeanors when committed by adults (Manual for Texas Juvenile Court Judges, 1973). "Informal adjustment" is a voluntary agreement by which the child is under supervision of the juvenile probation department. "Administrative probation" is another term for informal adjustment, and the two terms may be used interchangeably.

#### Description of Agency Setting

The Potter County Juvenile Probation Department, located in Amarillo, Texas, a Panhandle city, consists of a chief probation officer, four assistant probation officers and two secretaries. The department serves as the probation staff of the Potter County Court of Domestic Relations. The juvenile probation officers in Potter County are responsible for working each case from the time of referral until final

disposition of the case. The probation officer's caseload is comprised of both official cases and those which are being supervised on probation as a result of an informal adjustment. It is within the probation officer's duties to recommend to the county attorney's office which cases should be handled informally and which cases should be brought to the attention of the juvenile court. For those children who are brought before the court, the juvenile probation officer makes a recommendation as to the disposition of the case. This responsibility includes placement planning when such a recommendation is made. It is the probation officer who initiates action leading to the revocation of probation.

The Potter County Juvenile Probation Department operates a juvenile detention home which is staffed by one couple, who live in as house parents, and another couple, as relief parents on weekends. Educational programs for the juveniles detained in the detention home are provided by the Amarillo Independent School District through a teacher and teacher's aide provided through the Special Education Department.

### Basic Questions

The basic questions to be answered in this thesis are:

1. What are the common characteristics of the

juveniles referred to the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department?

2. How was the runaway child processed before the enactment of the Texas Family Code?

3. What effect will the passage of the Texas Family Code have on the relationship between these runaway children and the juvenile court in Texas?

## CHAPTER II

### THE RUNAWAY CHILD: THEORIES, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

#### Changing Views in Regard to the Runaway

The public concern for the runaway child is evident in the Youth Runaway Act before the Congress which would provide thirty million dollars in federal funds for establishing runaway shelters. Historically, the problem of the runaway had been viewed as a juvenile delinquency problem and thus, a problem of the juvenile court. Today, while there is a growing concern about the runaway child, it has been voiced by some that it is not and should not be a concern of the juvenile court. Edwin M. Lemert (1967), professor of Sociology and an associate of the Center for the Study of Law and Society at the University of California at Berkeley, has stated that if disobedience and runaway are retained within the juvenile court jurisdiction that a showing of their material relevance to serious law violation should be required by statute. He further advocates a requirement of showing that the other agencies have been incapable of containing the problem. Lemert states that when such behavior is written into statutes, it allows parents, neighbors, school officials, police and youth to abdicate their responsibilities. Lemert's observation of the statutes allowing parents, schools, police and children to



abdicate their responsibility is an important point. However, it might also be stated that because of the statute many members of the juvenile court staffs see the responsibility as being placed rightly and feel threatened at the prospect of losing their authority in this area of behavior which has been traditionally thought of as a delinquent act. This is to say that in many cases the responsibility has been so well established with the juvenile court that there has been and there will continue to be a resistance to the idea that the runaway should not be dealt with within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

William Sheridan (1967), the Assistant Director of the Division of Juvenile Delinquency Services of the Children's Bureau, also has called for at least a limitation to the dispositions that can be made in cases involving non-criminal acts. He has raised serious questions as to the practice of subjecting those engaging in non-criminal acts to correctional programs. The number of children who have been subjected to these correctional programs is great. In Sheridan's paper, "Why in Corrections," he states that in a review of the populations of nearly 20 correctional institutions for delinquent children, it was found that 25 to 30 percent of their population was composed of children whose offenses would not be classified as criminal if they were adults. A large portion of these non-criminal offenders were runaways. The Texas Youth Council has not been an



exception to this finding. The 1971 annual report of the Texas Youth Council to the Governor indicates that 28.6 percent of the population was committed to the state training schools for non-criminal offenses. The 28.6 percent figure (out of a total of 2640) represents 755 children committed for acts that would not be classified as criminal if the offenders were adults. There were 378 commitments for running away (14.7 percent of total number of commitments), (1971 Texas Youth Council Report). The opinion has been voiced that the juvenile court jurisdiction should be limited to children who have broken laws applicable to all ages, since there is no evidence that the non-criminal offenses lead to real criminality, or that court intervention and correctional treatment is effective in rehabilitating and prevent further delinquency (Burns and Stern, 1967). The idea that runaway, along with other non-criminal offenses, should be outside the jurisdiction of the juvenile court gained the most public attention in 1967. At that time the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice stated that because of the stigmas and uncertain gain accompanying official action, serious consideration should be given complete elimination from the court's jurisdiction of conduct illegal only for a child (Burns and Stern, 1967).

#### Texas Law and the Runaway

In dealing with the runaway the Texas legislature

has moved in the direction recommended by the President's Commission. While leaving the runaway within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the legislature has attempted to limit the dispositions that can be made in non-criminal matters. This limiting of disposition came as the result of Title III of the Texas Family Code on September 1, 1973. Prior to the enactment of the Texas Family Code, the runaway could be declared a delinquent child and committed to the Texas Youth Council under a broad provision which stated that a child was delinquent if he "habitually so deported himself as to injure the morals of himself or others," (Vernon's Civil Statutes, Article 2338-1). As was stated previously 14.7 percent of the 1972 population of the Texas Youth Council's state schools was committed for running away. At a per capita cost of \$3,682.00 for 1972, this commitment of these 387 runaways cost the State of Texas approximately one and one-half million dollars (1971 Texas Youth Council Report).

The Texas Family Code (Title III) deals with the runaway by redefining what constitutes running away under the law. The offense of running away is defined as "the voluntary absence of a child from his home without the consent of his parents or guardian for a substantial length of time or without intent to return," (Texas Family Code, Title III). Questions at this writing remain unanswered as to what constitutes a substantial length of time and how to

prove what the intent of the child was. The act of running away is not delinquent conduct, but is defined as conduct indicating a need for supervision. If the court finds that the child has committed this conduct which indicates a need for supervision, it may make disposition only if it is determined that the child is in need of rehabilitation or that the protection of the public or the child requires that disposition be made. If the court finds that it is necessary for disposition to be made, the option open to the court includes "probation not to exceed one year, subject to extension not to exceed one year each in the child's home or that of a relative or other fit person or in a suitable foster home or suitable public or private institution or agency except the Texas Youth Council," (Texas Family Code, Title III). While it seems that this provision specifically forbade commitment of runaway children to the Texas Youth Council, there has at times been discussion as to the legality of committing runaways to the Texas Youth Council by the following procedure. The child would first be declared to be a child in need of supervision; if the child runs away again he would be declared delinquent for violating a reasonable and lawful order of the juvenile court. Should the child run away for a third time, he could be committed to the Texas Youth Council for probation violation.

Lemert (1967) dealt rather harshly with such procedures



when he stated:

... A depressing sidelight is that the Juvenile Court itself can be a cause of incorrigibility when in effect it holds a child in contempt. This failure to obey an order of the court can be an official reason for a more severe disposition, even commitment to an institution. ... Inasmuch as the original cause for taking jurisdiction may have been minor, it can be seen how problems of children have grown and aggravated in interaction with the court. It might be said that in such cases the ego of the court causes incorrigibility.

The status of the runaway child is a question that has had to be dealt with in many states. There seems to be much yet unanswered as to what the status of the runaway child will be in Texas. Much attention has come to the runaway child in recent years as the problem has increased. The magnitude of the problem has caused a re-evaluation of programs and in some cases, such as Texas, a change in statutory law. This, however, is not the first time that runaways have been a public concern. A look at the runaway problem during other periods of time in our history helps to give insight into how the runaway first came within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and what theoretical criteria were behind policy-making decisions.

#### The Runaway in Theory and in Practice

In August, 1973, when it was discovered that 27 boys had been murdered in the Houston area in what appeared to be a series of sex crime murders, the runaway problem reached its pinnacle of public awareness. News publications pointed

out that many of the victims were runaway boys. The subsequent interest in police runaway files and concern of the parents of runaways brought a new awareness of the problem to the nation. During the depression era of the 1930's, the runaway boy was of particular concern. This, however, seems to be a different runaway than is being dealt with today. The runaway boy of that era was one who was often attempting to escape from economic hardships and to lighten the family's financial burden. As the nation began to regain economic stability, the incidents of runaway boys reduced. It was felt that as general conditions improved, the basic economic and social reasons for leaving home would be reduced. While it was generally recognized that much of the runaway problem of that day could be attributed to economic conditions, there was still the recognition of the part of the problem that could not be explained in terms of economics alone. The "spirit of adventure" idea which is prevalent throughout literature dealing with the runaway was expressed by one depression era author (Outland, 1938) when he stated that as the conditions improved, the spirit of adventure would be sublimated into other channels and transiency would be the wonderings of the personality maladjusted. This statement seems to represent the two views into which runaway studies can be divided. In a recent article published by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency the authors (Goldmeier and Dean, 1973) stated



that previous research on runaway behavior attributed to personal conflicts that could not be solved in any other way. The runaway behavior was explained in terms of the child's individual psychopathology. The second category was the situational view which embraced the idea of the search for adventure and the idea that running away was an expected response for problem solving.

The first of these two orientations enjoyed the most popularity during the time of mass immigration to the United States. Not only running away, but much of juvenile delinquency was viewed as a "clash of civilizations" and some authors went so far as to suggest that delinquency was a lack of adaptation of immigrants of inferior mental organization (Armstrong, 1937). Running away was viewed as a psychoneurotic response triggered by an unstable makeup which developed because of the fear, distress and insecurity brought on by this "clash of civilizations," (Armstrong, 1937). Also within this framework are the theories which attribute running away to an oedipal conflict with parents. This particular theory is applied more frequently to the female runaway in which running away is seen as a complex neurotic interaction between the parents and the daughter in a "triangle" situation. This triangle situation was viewed as being created by a threat of an incestuous relationship with the father which would lead to the dissolution of the family (Robey, et al, 1964). The studies which could

be thought of in this psychopathology framework all had the common denomination of seeing the child as running away because of some inner weakness. These weaknesses were thought to be the result of many and varied circumstances, but regardless of the circumstances causing the weakness, the runaway was seen as possessing an inner weakness.

The second theoretical orientation into which runaway studies can be divided is the situational view, which holds that the child does not runaway because of a weakness on his part, but rather for reasons such as a search for adventure or as an approach to problem solving. Some have said that the runaway child was doing no more than participating in an activity akin to adults taking a vacation. The runaway is viewed as taking a vacation from the toothbrush, wash rag and the clock (Josselyn, 1955). It is this love of adventure which is often so deeply engrained in American folklore that is often heard as the motivation for running away. One author (Armstrong, 1937) said empathy probably directs the often voiced adult opinion that wanderlust and love of adventure motivate the runaway.

Debate over which of the theoretical orientations presented thus far is correct could be an endless endeavor. While both orientations are obviously applicable in many cases a more realistic approach to the examination of the motivation for running away is to construct a typology of

runaways and to examine the runaway child in terms of what kind of a runaway. English (1973), during his work at Ozone House in Ann Harbor, Michigan, developed a typology of runaways which has merit. He classifies the runaway child as belonging to one of four kinds of runaways: The "floaters," the "runaways," the "splitters" and the "hard road freaks," (English, 1973).

The "floaters" are identified as the largest of the runaway groups. These are the children who are toying with the idea of running away. This would include the child who runs away for a short time and returns or who returns with a little encouragement from parents or others. Whether or not the "floater" becomes a real runaway depends upon the companions he meets during his period of transiency. If he learns how to exist on his own, his action is positively reinforced and he may advance to the bona fide runaway classification (English, 1973). The runaway is identified as the child who stays away from home for weeks, or even months. He or she is the child who stays away long enough to learn the ways of the street. After a child has returned home he has the new-found status of runaway. This status may include a new probation worker, new-found importance among peers from having "been around" and a new-found way to punish parents. He may then become a "splitter." If the child finds all of these to be desirable he may advance to the group known as the "hard road freaks." Fortunately,



this group is not large because by the time the child has progressed through the stages of floater, runaway and splitter, he is older and there is not the pressure to stay at home. This group has been on the streets for many years and completely rejects its traditional role in society.

This typology seems to have a great deal of merit in that it recognizes the changing motivations throughout the career of the runaway. Of particular interest to this study is the idea that the court and the juvenile justice system gives rise to the status of the runaway child. Edwin M. Lemert (1967) compares the runaway by a child to the attempts at suicide by adult women in that both acts have a quality of dramatic demonstration. He says that while police action is often clearly indicated in runaways, action by the court is decidedly not, and if drama is needed, it should be staged under some other auspices.

The theories as to why children run away are numerous as are the ideas to how the runaway child should be treated. The purpose of this paper is not to delve into the motivations of the runaway, but it is important to study the various schools of thought as these either directly or indirectly are the bases on which policy-making decisions have been made. The changed status of the runaway child under Texas law is somewhat indicative of the public's changing view of the runaway. The purpose of this paper

is to examine the processing of runaway cases under this old law in an attempt to see what impact the new law will have on the juvenile court.

## CHAPTER III

### THE METHODOLOGY

The universe of the study was the total number of referrals to the Potter County, Texas, Juvenile Probation Department during the period from 1968 through 1972. Every referral made to the Juvenile Probation Department during that period of time was considered regardless of offense. The five year period from 1968 through 1972 was selected for examination because of the uniformity of procedures in handling cases referred during those years. The first full year in which the guidelines as set forth in the Gault Decision of 1967 were in effect was 1968, and likewise, 1972, was the final complete year before the enactment of the Texas Family Code.

Every case referred to the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department is entered in a ruled ledger; information in this ledger includes the child's name, date referred and offense. At the same time the entry is made in the ledger, a 5" by 7" card, referred to by department employees as a "hard card," is prepared. Information on this card includes name, address, date of birth, parents' names, school attending, case number and docket court number. The portion of the card containing this information is used primarily as a master index for the department. It is a method by which to check and see whether or not a given



child has been referred to the department previously. Other information on the card is a brief history of the child's dealings with the department. It includes his sex, race, date referred, age, source of referral (police, school, etc.), who the child lives with, offense, disposition and whether the disposition was official court action or administrative.

Only one card or set of cards are prepared for each child. Subsequent referrals are entered on the original card or an additional card is attached.

It was from the ledger that the runaway cases were identified. A list was prepared by years, listing the names of all children who had been referred for runaway. Every name was entered on the list, regardless of how many times it had appeared previously. After the list for the entire five year period was complete, the names were alphabetized in order that each child's name was to appear only once. Thus, the effect was having a record of all children referred for runaway. From the prepared list, all the corresponding hard cards were pulled from the files, and those listing home addresses for children outside Potter County were eliminated. The decision to eliminate these cases was based on the fact that two interstate highways intersect Potter County, and many out-of-state runaways are handled by the department. Much of the work with these children involves only making arrangements for transportation back to

their home state. It was felt that considering these cases would give a distorted view of the runaway situation in Potter County. After this elimination process the total number of persons referred for runaway during the five year period was 412. It is this five year period of runaway cases whose home addresses are in Potter County that constitutes the sample of this study.

Photostatic copies were made of these 412 cards in order that the day-to-day business of the department would not be hampered. The case numbers which are part of the information on the card enabled the author to examine detailed files when information on the hard card was incomplete, or when more information was needed. Each of the cards was assigned a number which was also entered next to the child's name on the master list. After this was done, all of the identifying information on the duplicated cards was deleted, by blackening it with a felt tip pen. This precaution was taken to insure anonymity as some clerical duties were performed by persons outside the staff of the juvenile court.

Because of the volume of the information being considered in the study, it was felt that utilization of a computer system would be justified. All of the information on the hard card, other than identifying information, was transferred to computer cards. The hard card coding system was readily adaptable to the computer card structure and

was used without further coding other than assigning code numbers for sex and race. A computer program was written with the goal of extracting as much pertinent information from the card as possible. Not only were the runaway referrals considered, but also the other offenses which were committed by children who were referred at one time or another for runaway during the five year period.

For the purpose of comparison a composite of the annual reports of the Chief Probation Officer for the five years being considered was prepared. By this method a comparison of the data on total referrals was made to that data collected on the runaway children. The information compiled from these reports included total number of referrals, number committed to the Texas Youth Council, number of official probation cases and number of official placements. Also included in the report was the number of cases handled administratively and the rates of recidivism. Referrals were reported in terms of sex, race, age, source of referral, who the child resided with and offense.



## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS

In the years from 1968 to 1972, the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department received 3880 referrals. To view the runaway child within the framework of his processing within the juvenile probation department, it is necessary to look at the total picture of the administration of juvenile court services for the five year period being considered. Of the 3880 referrals, 1301 were for running away. Running away was the most common offense referred to the department and accounted for approximately 34 percent of the referrals during the five years. Of these 3880 referrals, 2668 were boys and 1212 were girls. The majority were Caucasian--2874; followed by Negro--593; and those with Spanish surnames accounted for 412 of the referrals. The peak age for the total referrals was 16, accounting for 1218 referrals. This age group was only slightly higher than the 15 year olds who accounted for 1055 of the total referrals.

Of the 3880 referrals, 1719 lived with both natural parents. The next most prevalent living arrangement was living with the mother only--1232.

During the five year period, the juvenile court processed 423 cases. Disposition of these cases was as follows: 102 were committed to the Texas Youth Council. 178 were placed on official probation, and 67 were officially



placed in foster homes or private facilities. The majority of the children who were under active supervision by the department were on an informal or administrative basis--624.

Of the 102 Texas Youth Council commitments, 54 were committed on the first petition and 48 were probation revocations. Therefore, 130 successfully completed their probation or were still active during the five years. Of the 57 placements, only 15 were girls. During the same period, 33 girls were committed to Texas Youth Council.

The following information was drawn from the data that follow in the next section in the form of tables. The information was drawn from a study of 412 cases from 1968 to 1972. This includes all Potter County juvenile residents referred to Potter County Juvenile Probation Department for runaway.

1. During the five year period, runaway referrals steadily declined from the 98 referrals in 1968 to 60 referrals in 1972. At the same time police statistics show a marked increase during this same period (Bull). The indication being that the runaway is being dealt with in settings other than the juvenile court.

2. Females were more frequently referred for running away from home than were males. There were 247 females (60 percent) referred during this period of time compared to 165 males (40 percent) that were referred.

3. The most frequently referred juvenile was the

Caucasian female, followed by the Caucasian male. These two groups accounted for 371 of the total runaway referrals, leaving only 41 to all other categories.

4. Minority group males were the least often referred (2.1 percent) of all groups.

5. Fifteen year olds were the most frequently referred (29 percent) age group.

6. Children who ran away most often lived with both natural parents, however, those from one natural parent homes were referred nearly as frequently (546 from natural parent homes as compared with 506 from one natural parent homes).

7. Of the total group of runaway referrals, their next most common offense was for burglary.

8. Of the 178 juveniles placed on official probation during the five year period, 86, or slightly less than one-half of them, had been referred at least once for running away.

9. Of the 102 juveniles committed to the Texas Youth Council during the five year period, 54, or over one-half of them, had been referred at least once for running away.

10. The 412 juveniles studied accounted for 549 referrals other than runaway referrals.

11. Of the 33 girls committed to the Texas Youth Council, 24 had been referred at least one time for runaway.

12. The 412 juveniles accounted for 686 runaway

referrals.

13. During the five year period, the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department processed 686 runaway referrals in which the child was a resident of Potter County and 615 cases in which the child was a resident of another county or state.

TABLE 1

Local Runaway Referrals  
Potter County--1968-1972\*

Year	Male	Female	Total
1968	37 (50%)	37 (50%)	74 (100%)
1969	40 (41.8%)	58 (58.2%)	98 (100%)
1970	33 (36.2%)	61 (63.8%)	94 (100%)
1971	29 (34.9%)	57 (65.1%)	86 (100%)
1972	<u>26 (43.3%)</u>	<u>34 (56.7%)</u>	<u>60 (100%)</u>
Total	165 (40%)	247 (60%)	412 (100%)

\*Percentages are shown in parentheses.

TABLE 2

Runaway Cases Handled by Amarillo Police Department

Year	Number of Runaways
1968	442
1969	520
1970	895
1971	855
1972	<u>896</u>
Total	3608

TABLE 3

Flow Chart

TOTAL NUMBER OF RUNAWAYS  
PROCESSED BY AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

3608

TOTAL NUMBER OF RUNAWAYS  
REFERRED TO POTTER COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

1301

615

Out of County

686

Local (412 individuals)



TABLE 4

Total Referrals and Official Dispositions  
Potter County--1968-1972

Year	Referrals	Court Cases	Official Probation	TYC*
1968	601	66	27	23
1969	778	105	57	20
1970	943	94	28	17
1971	901	81	36	19
1972	<u>657</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>23</u>
5-Year total	3880	423	178	102

\*TYC--Texas Youth Council.

TABLE 5  
Local Runaway Referrals by Race  
Potter County--1968-1972

	Caucasian	Negro	Mexican-American
Male	156	5	4
Female	<u>215</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>11</u>
Totals	371	26	15

TABLE 6  
Age Distribution of Local Juveniles Referred  
for Runaway, Potter County--1968-1972

	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15	Age 16	Age 17
Male	3	3	9	20	38	55	34	0
Female	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>25</u>
Totals	3	6	20	55	77	109	99	25

TABLE 7

Distribution of Sources of Local Runaway Referrals to Juvenile Court  
Potter County--1968-1972

	Parents	Police	Other Courts	School	Self	Social Agency	Other
Male	32	509	3	14	4	1	35
Female	<u>36</u>	<u>581</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>22</u>
Totals	68	1090	4	21	7	2	57

TABLE 8

Distribution of Local Child's Living Arrangements  
Potter County--1968-1972

	Both Natural Parents	One Natural Parent	Relatives	Foster Home	Independent Arrangement	Other
Male	266	223	21	5	6	69
Female	<u>280</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>42</u>
Totals	546	506	50	5	7	111

TABLE 9

Other Offenses Committed by Local Juveniles  
 Referred at Least Once for Runaway  
 Potter County--1968-1972

Offense	Male	Female	Total
Auto Theft	47	9	56
Burglary	57	15	72
Stealing	34	16	50
Malicious Mischief	7	0	7
Truancy	37	27	64
Ungovernable	25	40	65
Sex Offense	2	4	6
Injury to Person	24	5	29
Illegal Concealment/ Possession	5	1	6
Narcotics	4	2	6
Glue Sniffing	8	3	11
Forgery	1	0	1
Transfer In	4	0	4
Other	99	73	<u>172</u>
TOTAL			549



While the number of runaway children referred to the Amarillo Police Department increased during the five year period, the number referred to the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department decreased. This can be accounted for by the fact that the Juvenile Division of the Amarillo Police Department has taken more responsibility in the area of dealing with the runaway. The casual runaway is most generally released back to his parents without referral to the juvenile court. This may be done with a recommendation that the family seek aid of another agency such as Amarillo Family Counseling, Big Brothers, Big Sisters or another agency. While the number of children referred to the juvenile court has decreased, those who are referred represent the chronic or the problem runaway.

It is the Caucasian female that is most often referred to the courts for runaway. While the female juveniles are the most often referred, the data indicate that they are the group for which there are fewer resources available. Of the 33 girls that were committed to the Texas Youth Council, 24 of them had been referred at one time or another for running away from home. During the same period of time 15 girls were placed with private agencies such as Girlstown, U.S.A. or other child care placements; placements were found for 42 boys during the five year period. Of the 15 girls that were officially placed in private agencies, 14 had been referred for running away.

One often heard argument for retaining jurisdiction over the runaway child is that children are exposed to narcotics and sexual exploitation. During the five year period, health, welfare and morals were grounds for the court to take jurisdiction, but of all the juveniles studied only six were referred for narcotics' violations, and only six for sex offenses. Of the 412 children referred for running away, only 12 were referred for sex offenses or narcotics' offenses as well.

#### New Approaches

On September 8, 1974, the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare announced a comprehensive coordinated \$2.1 million federal program to deal with the problem of runaway youth.

The program consists of 39 grants and contracts which will be used in the many areas of the runaway problem. These will range from support of temporary living shelters to further study on the legal ramifications of running away. Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger stated:

This intradepartmental undertaking is designed as a part of a series of short-term and long-range efforts to demonstrate and support innovative techniques for providing a variety of services to runaway youth (HEW News, September 8, 1974).

Of the total grants, 18 will be used to provide shelter care services for runaway youth, 10 will be used in training projects for community personnel who deal with

runaway youth, and six will evaluate and assess existing runaway programs to help determine future needs for runaway youth service programs.

The Community Service Administration is to develop a national training program to better equip those who work in the fields of law, education and social work to better deal with the runaway youth problems.

Scientific Analysis Corp. of San Francisco, California is to develop a typology of runaway youth. They are to develop the typology by means of studying the characteristics of youth runaways in street hangouts, communes, shelter homes and detention centers. They are to examine reasons for running away, problems encountered and supportive services used.

The Behavioral Research and Evaluation Corp., Boulder, Colorado, is to test the feasibility of a national study to determine the actual number of youth who run away, who they are and where they come from.

Educational Systems Corp., Washington, D. C., is to conduct three regional conferences involving directors of runaway shelters, law enforcement, parents, representatives from public and private youth service agencies and other interested individuals to help determine future federal programs to deal with the runaway youth problem. This same company will study the legal status of the runaway youth. The study will examine 53 jurisdictions with the



emphasis on existing laws and how they affect the rights and obligations of children.

An approach which is gaining wide-spread recognition is the Hotline; on July 9, 1974, a grant was awarded for the establishment of a National Telephone Hotline for runaway youth. The project, run by Metro-Help., Inc., Chicago, was an eight month demonstration of the feasibility of providing a toll free, 24-hour telephone service as a neutral channel of communication between runaway youth and their parents. The toll free number is: 800 621-4000 (HEW News, September 8, 1974).

In September, 1973, Operation Peace of Mind was begun in Houston, Texas. The program was an outgrowth of the tremendous inquiries by parents of runaways in the wake of the discovered bodies of the 27 boys in the Houston area. In its first year of operation, some 4000 runaways used the services to contact someone about their safety (Criminal Justice Highlights, October, 1974).

One of the pilot project runaway hostels funded by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare Office of Youth Development is FOCUS in Las Vegas, Nevada. Juveniles whose only offense is running away are taken to FOCUS by law enforcement personnel and not referred to the juvenile court. According to James P. Carmany, Director of Juvenile Court Services, the number of runaways referred to juvenile court will be reduced by fifty percent. The



year before FOCUS came into operation, 583 children were referred to the court for running away.

Carmany candidly, and unremorsefully, recommends this country's other cities establish their own Focus-like hostels.

I don't see any reason why they couldn't, he said. The nation is beginning to pay attention to the whole issue of children traveling or running away or whatever term you wish to use. It's probably one of the biggest problems facing the country today as far as kids are concerned. They are middle class and upper middle class kids on the move. Some of the problems they get into are the results of traveling with limited funds and not having the kinds of places in the community they can get to.

The experience we've had with Focus would indicate it does work and it doesn't cause a lot of problems for the community. We haven't seen a lot of vandalism in the neighborhood. Focus doesn't exist in the ghetto of the city. It exists in a very nice neighborhood in our city and there aren't the kind of problems people suspected we would have.

Focus has proven its type of set-up works.  
(Gang, 1974).

If the runaway child is to be retained within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, there should be specific goals to be accomplished as a result of the court intervention. Since it is the chronic runaway that comes to the attention of the court, the following objectives were formulated by Richard B. Traitel to deal with him. The goals he outlined were:

1. Hopefully, reestablishment of tolerable and appropriate home and family circumstances enabling youngster to perceive home as somewhere he wants to be and in which he can survive.
2. Where this is impossible, finding satisfaction and support in a family living setting away from home.
3. An understanding of why he and his family are or were in conflict and better ways of coping with these problems.

4. A reduced need to turn to other forms of anti-social behavior.
5. An identification of himself as a worthwhile person (and not as a delinquent in anything other than the legal sense of the term).
6. A renewed or enhanced sense of trust in adults, seeing them as capable of recognizing, understanding and responding to his various needs (social, emotional, educational, etc.), (Traitel, 1974).

Dr. Traitel suggests the runaway house as a means of implementing these specific goals. He views the runaway house as not only a temporary shelter, but rather a place away from home to cool down and as a place to provide reconciliation counseling. If reconciliation is not accomplished, the child could be placed in a group foster home for longer term residence. In cases where court intervention became necessary, the child could be placed in a public or private residential program but with less emphasis on rigid security which is prevalent in such placements for hard-core delinquents.

### Summary

This study was an examination of the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department in Amarillo, Texas, and its processing of runaway referrals. The data were gathered by examining the agency's records for a five year period, from 1968 to 1972.

The primary objectives of the study were to examine:

1. The total referrals of the department as they

related to the total runaway referrals.

2. Dispositions made and method of disposition.

3. Demographic characteristics of the runaway child.

4. Processing of the child referred to the juvenile court for the offense of runaway.

### Conclusions

Runaway referrals accounted for approximately 34 percent of the total referrals to the Potter County Juvenile Probation Department. Four hundred twelve local juveniles accounted for 686 of the runaway referrals, out of county runaways accounted for 615 referrals, and the local runaways accounted for 549 referrals other than the offense of runaway. That is to say that children who ran away from home during the five year period accounted for 1850 of the 3880 referred, or approximately 48 percent of the total referrals.

Resources for dealing with these children have been extremely limited. This is particularly apparent in light of the fact that only 15 girls were officially placed in private placements, while 33 were committed to the Texas Youth Council.

Since the Texas Youth Council is no longer an option to the court in making dispositions of runaway cases, new sources of placements must be developed if the court is to effectively deal with the problem. This need is now being



met, partially by the Opportunity House in Amarillo, Texas, which is an interim home for girls. A "drop-in" center would be a means of disposing of those runaway cases which warrant more than simply returning the child to the parents. These cases could be handled without court intervention and would reduce the volume of runaway referrals. For the cases that required court action, a local interim home could be of great value in providing the "cooling off" periods and a place for reconciliation counseling for the child and his parents. Should these efforts fail, long-range planning could be completed and benefit made of existing private residential agencies. There is a need for some degree of security on a local basis for the chronic runaway, and this should be provided in a setting other than the detention facilities for delinquent youths.

Finally, there is the type of runaway child that is the subject of the most heated debates; that is the child that is out of control and cannot be placed in a private placement. The court does not have an alternative under current Texas law. There is a need for a residential placement with a degree of security, but separate and apart from the Texas Youth Council's facilities for delinquent children.

The outlook for dealing with our nationwide runaway problem is good--the wheels are in action. Texas had made a step to deal with the problem, but as with any change in the



law, it has created a period of transition and adjustment. This has been an attempt to view one probation department and its runaway experience in the hope of providing some of the information needed in making these necessary adjustments.

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APPENDIX A

COMPOSITE OF ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

## POTTER COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

## COMPOSITE OF ANNUAL REPORTS

1968 - 1972

## JUVENILE COURT:

Court Cases:	423
Texas Youth Council	69 Boys 33 Girls
Official Probation	151 Boys 27 Girls
Official Placements	42 Boys 15 Girls

## TEXAS YOUTH COUNCIL:

## Race:

White	42 Boys 18 Girls
Negro	20 Boys 8 Girls
Mexican-American	7 Boys 6 Girls

## Committed by:

Petition	54
Motion	48
Detention Home	1024
Days	8466
Average Stay	10.9
Over 10 Days	348
City Jail:	
Children	1406
Days	3117
Average Stay	2

County Jail:	
Children	343
Days	1807
Average Stay	7.1

CHILDREN ON PROBATION:	985
Unofficial	367 Boys 257 Girls
Official	299 Boys 62 Girls

# RECIDIVISTS:

Number of Children	1398
First	636 Boys 307 Girls <u>943 Total</u>
Second	178 Boys 75 Girls <u>253 Total</u>
Third	79 Boys 31 Girls <u>110 Total</u>
Fourth	38 Boys 9 Girls <u>47 Total</u>
Fifth	21 Boys 7 Girls <u>28 Total</u>
Sixth	9 Boys 5 Girls <u>14 Total</u>
Seventh	1 Boy 1 Girl <u>2 Total</u>

## REFERRALS:

Total Referrals	3880
Sex:	2668 Boys 1212 Girls
Race:	
White	2875
Negro	593
Mexican-American	412
Age:	
10-11	143
12	195
13	399
14	689
15	1055
16	1218
17	211
18	1

## SOURCES:

Relatives	178
Police	3327
Other Courts	36
School	75
Social Agency	9
Self	7
Other	248

## HOMES:

Natural Parents	1719
Mother and Step Father	240
Father and Step Mother	92
Mother Only	1232
Father Only	203
Relatives	240
Foster Family	18
Independent	20
Institution	27
Other	174



## OFFENSE:

DWOC and Auto Theft	277
Burglary	479
Stealing	384
Malicious Mischief	76
Truancy	213
Runaway	1301
Ungovernable	186
Sex	39
Injury to Person	164
Illegal Concealment/Possession	94
Narcotics	33
Glue Sniffing	58
Forgery	17
Transfers to Department	29
Other	643

APPENDIX B  
CLASSIFICATION OF DATA

Total Runaway Referrals by Year

1968	74
1969	98
1970	94
1971	86
1972	<u>60</u>
Total	412

Total Males Referred for Runaway

1968	37
1969	40
1970	33
1971	29
1972	<u>26</u>
Total	165

Total Females Referred for Runaway

1968	37
1969	58
1970	61
1971	57
1972	<u>34</u>
Total	247

Caucasians Referred for Runaway

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	34	34
1969	38	49
1970	32	54
1971	28	46
1972	<u>24</u>	<u>32</u>
Totals	156	215

Negroes Referred for Runaway

1968	2	1
1969	1	4
1970	0	5
1971	1	9
1972	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	5	21

Mexican-Americans Referred for Runaway

1968	1	2
1969	1	5
1970	1	2
1971	0	2
1972	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	4	11



Ten Year Olds Referred for Runaway

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	1	0
1969	1	0
1970	0	0
1971	1	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	3	0

Eleven Year Olds Referred for Runaway

1968	1	1
1969	2	1
1970	0	1
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	3	3

Twelve Year Olds Referred for Runaway

1968	3	1
1969	1	3
1970	3	1
1971	2	3
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
Totals	9	11

Thirteen Year Olds Referred for Runaway

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	4	3
1969	5	4
1970	2	7
1971	7	15
1972	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
Totals	20	35

Fourteen Year Olds Referred for Runaway

1968	10	3
1969	9	13
1970	10	8
1971	6	10
1972	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
Totals	38	39

Fifteen Year Olds Referred for Runaway

1968	14	8
1969	12	18
1970	9	19
1971	7	9
1972	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>
Totals	55	64

Sixteen Year Olds Referred for Runaway

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	4	16
1969	9	9
1970	8	18
1971	6	17
1972	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
Totals	34	65

Seventeen Year Olds Referred for Runaway

1968	0	5
1969	0	7
1970	0	6
1971	0	3
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	0	25

Referred by Parents or Relatives

1968	14	11
1969	4	3
1970	4	2
1971	5	16
1972	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	32	36

Referred by Police

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	118	67
1969	162	188
1970	101	143
1971	84	134
1972	<u>44</u>	<u>49</u>
Totals	509	581

Referred by Other Courts

1968	3	1
1969	0	0
1970	0	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	3	1

Referred by Schools

1968	6	3
1969	7	2
1970	0	1
1971	1	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	14	7



Referred by Self

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	2	0
1969	1	1
1970	0	1
1971	1	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	4	3

Referred by Social Agency

1968	0	0
1969	0	1
1970	1	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	1	1

Referred by Others

1968	10	3
1969	12	7
1970	5	3
1971	3	5
1972	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	35	22

Child lives with Both Natural Parents

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	47	25
1969	87	92
1970	51	58
1971	49	84
1972	<u>32</u>	<u>21</u>
Totals	266	280

Child lives with One Natural Parent

1968	83	56
1969	69	97
1970	36	71
1971	23	38
1972	<u>12</u>	<u>21</u>
Totals	223	283

Child lives with Relatives

1968	4	3
1969	1	8
1970	2	3
1971	6	11
1972	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	21	29

Child lives with Foster Parents

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	4	0
1969	1	0
1970	0	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	5	0

Independent Living Arrangements

1968	6	0
1969	0	1
1970	0	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	6	1

Child lives with Others

1968	6	0
1969	22	5
1970	22	19
1971	16	8
1972	<u>1</u>	<u>10</u>
Totals	67	42

Referred for Auto Theft

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	11	0
1969	10	1
1970	8	7
1971	8	0
1972	<u>10</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	47	9

Referred for Burglary

1968	10	2
1969	20	7
1970	10	2
1971	11	2
1972	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	57	15

Referred for Other Stealing

1968	15	1
1969	17	11
1970	2	3
1971	0	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	34	16



Referred for Malicious Mischief

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	7	0
1969	0	0
1970	0	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	7	0

Referred for Truancy

1968	11	6
1969	15	7
1970	7	4
1971	4	9
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	37	27

Referred for Running Away

1968	63	68
1969	67	131
1970	47	103
1971	37	98
1972	<u>26</u>	<u>46</u>
Totals	240	446

Referred for Ungovernable

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	8	4
1969	2	8
1970	4	12
1971	6	12
1972	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	25	40

Referred for Sex Offense

1968	1	2
1969	0	1
1970	0	1
1971	1	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	2	4

Referred for Injury to Person

1968	3	0
1969	13	2
1970	6	0
1971	2	3
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	24	5

Referred for Illegal Concealment/Possession

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	2	0
1969	3	1
1970	0	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	5	1

Referred for Narcotics

1968	0	0
1969	1	0
1970	0	0
1971	2	1
1972	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	4	2

Referred for Glue Sniffing

1968	0	0
1969	3	1
1970	3	0
1971	2	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	8	3

Referred--Transferred In

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	3	0
1969	0	0
1970	0	0
1971	1	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	4	0

Referred for Forgery

1968	0	0
1969	0	0
1970	1	0
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	1	0

Referred for Other Offenses

1968	12	2
1969	40	32
1970	23	18
1971	19	19
1972	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	99	73



Disposition--Administrative Handling

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	60	39
1969	84	96
1970	54	71
1971	46	84
1972	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>
Totals	275	314

Disposition--Counseling

1968	10	19
1969	14	13
1970	11	0
1971	15	5
1972	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	55	38

Disposition--Continue Probation

1968	5	0
1969	2	1
1970	0	0
1971	4	0
1972	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	12	2

Disposition--Probation

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	18	3
1969	19	9
1970	2	4
1971	4	2
1972	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	46	20

Disposition--Texas Youth Council

1968	11	3
1969	13	11
1970	4	7
1971	2	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	30	24

Disposition--Public Agencies

1968	9	4
1969	6	5
1970	12	1
1971	4	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	31	11

Disposition--Private Agencies

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	2	0
1969	0	1
1970	0	1
1971	1	1
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	3	3

Disposition--Another Court

1968	4	0
1969	2	0
1970	0	1
1971	0	0
1972	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	6	2

Disposition--Dismissed

1968	31	14
1969	46	55
1970	26	59
1971	17	47
1972	<u>8</u>	<u>24</u>
Totals	128	199

Disposition--Other

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1968	3	1
1969	0	5
1970	5	6
1971	0	5
1972	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Totals	9	20

## APPENDIX C

### HARD CARD



SEX	RACE	ORDER OF REFERRAL						
YEAR								
Referral Date								
Interview Date								
Age								
Referral Status:								
New		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Active		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Inactive		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Referred by:								
Parents or relatives		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Police		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other Court		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
School Department		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Self		5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Social Agency		6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Other		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Child Lives With:								
Both Natural Parents		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
One Natural Parent		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Relatives		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Foster Parents		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Indep. Arrang.		5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Other		6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Basis of Referral:								
Auto Theft or DWOC		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Burglary		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other Stealing		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Malicious Mischief		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Truancy		5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Running Away/os		6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Being Ungovernable		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Sex Offense		8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Injury to Person		9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Illegal Con./Possession		10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Narcotics		11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Glue Sniff		12	12	12	12	12	12	12
OTI or Transfer		13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Forgery		14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Other		15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Disposition:								
Admin. Handling		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Counseling		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Continue Probation		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Probation		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
TYC		5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Public. Ag. Instit.		6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Private Ag. Instit.		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Another Court		8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Dismissed		9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Other		10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Method of Disposition:								
Official		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Unofficial		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Days Detained								
Date Closed or Trsf'd:								

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Father \_\_\_\_\_  
 Step Father \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mother \_\_\_\_\_  
 Step Mother \_\_\_\_\_

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 I R No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 School \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX D  
LEDGER SHEET



Vita redacted during scanning.