

**Evaluating the Impact of Juvenile Rehabilitation Programs: A Criminological Assessment  
of the Youthful Offenders Industrial School (YOIS) Karachi, Pakistan**

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**Received:** 02-07-2025

**Revised:** 04-08-2025

**Accepted:** 15-08-2025

**Published:** 29-08-2025

**ABSTRACT**

*Juvenile delinquency is major problem overall the world and the need to a policy maker to how make sure the prevention and change the legislative way to rehabilitate juvenile. This study explores how the program run in youth offender school and what is impact of rehabilitation on individual and change the delinquent behavior. This study can focus if the juvenile rehabilitate and reduce the recidivism rate or not and rehabilitation program such as, Education, Life skill development, Vocational training, counseling to create an effective role to reintegrate juvenile in society. The study conducted with 10 juvenile interviews in youth offender industrial school in Karachi. The finding of study show if any offenders that participate in any rehabilitation program that be reduce the risk of delinquent behavior and interact in positive thinking. The factor that be lead to delinquent behavior of minor such as, domestic violence, lack of moral guidance, poor educational quality, peer pressure and socioeconomic factor to contribute in delinquency. The research examines that if rehabilitation focuses in offender treatment that improving the chances of successful community reintegration. And the appreciate task of youth offender industrial school to given a certificate without any mark that show the offender get vocational training in prison. The effective role model if the offender shows the certificate in societies that easily join employment opportunities. This study suggest that implement the vocational education program and enhanced the awareness of public to cooperate juvenile if the impact show the comprehensive results for offender to prevention of recidivism.*

**Keywords:** Juvenile Delinquency, Rehabilitation Program, Prevention, Recidivism.

## INTRODUCTION

Pakistan faces a growing challenge of juvenile delinquency, particularly in Karachi, where a large percentage of young offenders are concentrated. The Youthful Offenders Industrial School (YOIS) in the city stands at the centre of efforts to rehabilitate these adolescents. YOIS was mandated by the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance (JJSO) of 2000 to deliver a balanced programme of schooling, vocational instruction, and psychological counselling. Yet, the rate at which young people return to criminal activity suggests that optimal integration remains elusive. This research examines YOIS's rehabilitative curricula to assess their effectiveness in curbing repeat offenses among Karachi's juvenile detainees. The broader social cost of persistent delinquency, which strains neighbourhood stability and police resources alike, underscores the urgency of targeted, evidence-based interventions. Program components that address dietary, psychological, substance-related, and economic factors are particularly crucial, as they tackle the root determinants of antisocial conduct and prepare youths for supervised, productive citizenship. Courts and correctional practitioners alike recognize that, by age, these adolescents are developmentally malleable; turning their behaviour around in a timely manner not only absolves institutional records but also favours social cohesion. Accordingly, the institutional blueprint laid out by the 2000 Ordinance obliges administrators to couple juridical safeguards with rehabilitative duties that remain the lens for the current evaluation. First implemented under former President Musharraf's tenure, this framework provides young offenders a chance to gain formal education, complete vocational courses, and acquire essential life competencies. Nevertheless, debates persist among stakeholders, mainly because resource allocations remain thin, detention environments are unsanitary, and personnel receive limited training. Haider and colleagues' recent inquiry (2023) underlines persistent structural weaknesses in the juvenile justice apparatus, flagging inadequate rehabilitative activity and emphasizing renewed scrutiny of the statutes and physical layouts guiding the system. Similarly, Abbas and co-authors (2022) observe that even after the country ratified numerous international norms, homes intended for boys and girls remain critically understaffed and unhygienic. A century-old governing statute, the 1898 Act, examined by Ali and Taieb (2021), misses key therapeutic safeguards, leaving residents without sufficient care. Recidivism indicators add further urgency, with a troubling 70% of young persons apprehended again within a single year of release, a pattern linked directly to the absence of systemic, sustained intervention once inside detention. Assessment and strengthening of the remaining rehabilitative offerings—if undertaken continuously and in monitored, deeper changes—could drive the opposite outcome, lower rearrest statistics, and assist these individuals in returning, rather than rejoining, their communities. This study appraises the rehabilitation programs operating in Karachi with a view to measuring their influence on conduct modification and the extent to which they deter repeat offending.

## Research Objectives

- To assess behavioral changes and recidivism rates post-rehabilitation.
- To analyze the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs implemented by the Sindh government for juvenile offenders.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Juvenile rehabilitation and justice systems studies conducted in previous research form the basis of understanding the process of offending and reformatory process. They indicate vulnerabilities in the existing evidential foundation and propose topics that are ready to be explored, discoveries which are consequential in case the programmes are to adapt to new intelligence.

### **Juvenile Justice System and Rehabilitation Programs**

The Pakistani system of juvenile justice is described by the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance of the year 2000 and its creation in the Juvenile Justice System Act of 2018 that institutionalizes the principle that the young offenders should be defended and rehabilitated. They intend to safeguard rights and to transform the cry of vengeance to of reform. Four specialist centers exist in Sindh province, the nodal centers being the Youthful Offenders Industrial Schools in Karachi, Hyderabad, Larkana and Sukkur.

Malik and colleagues (2019) argue that any meaningful rehabilitation in the Pakistani justice framework should address the factors behind delinquency, as well as encourage the holistic development of the individual. At the heart of this endeavor is the role of juvenile probation officers who lead young offenders to behavioral change and development of life skills that are imperative to them. Official programs in which the emphasis is made on education, vocational training, and education in practical living skills are viewed as the key to lifelong rehabilitation. Azam and others (2021) also affirm that these programs equip the adolescents with skills and knowledge that they cannot afford to do without in order to successfully reintegrate back to community life.

It is a proactive approach by probation officers working in collaboration with schools and vocational training providers to make sure that the formal education is received along with the process of gaining vocational competence. In this study, it is noted that vocational education, specifically targeting such youths, helps tremendously in enhancing their chances of employment, and therefore, minimizes the likelihood of re-offending (Salleh and Mohamad, 2017). By rehabilitating and reconciling, such programs ensure that the juveniles know the effects of their actions and the need to own up the effects of their actions so that they can easily re-enter the community without any harm or with assistance.

Rehabilitation programs have mental health treatment and family involvement in a comprehensive manner. The therapeutic interventions that are deliberately implemented by the probation officers in the casework do so in such a manner that the underlying psychological problems no longer form a peripheral consideration, but rather a focal point of rehabilitation. Basaran (2016) reveals that recreational programming is not only self-worth-forming but contributes also considerably to decreasing the depressive symptoms, which proves that therapeutic play is not an outer concept. Similarly, family ties that are stable have also shown a positive influence; juveniles that have the advantage of organised and loving family involvement tend to report easier integration paths and decreased later rates of offence.

### **Challenges in Juvenile Rehabilitation**

Between these positive signs, the climate in which they are forced to live in, has insurmountable obstacles. Haidar et al. (2023) assess the Pakistani system and reveal its most fundamental holes: facilities are constantly overcrowded, treatment programs are small-scale and superficial, and the very conditions in which the youth live are humane standards. Positive, rights-based change should redirect the infrastructure toward the meeting of United Nations directives claimed by youth. Abbas et al. (2022) note that there are new laws, such as the necessity to separate young and adult prisoners, on the books, but they are not translated into everyday life and thus do not allow intended protection to materialise. In the areas where supervision, staffing and funding fail, the statutory guarantees are wallpaper. Ali and Taieb (2021) argue that the statutory vestiges of colonialism, which are half centuries old, prevent the nimble use of therapeutic interventions, which further fuels an enforcement debacle. Combined with an institutional cracks image in Karachi, 70 percent recidivism rates in the first year of release, the institutional fissure forms a self-propagating crisis that would necessitate a decade of building and causal follow-up programs in systems. Despite these challenges, education-based, vocational training-based, and psychological counseling-based rehabilitation programs provide a plausible means of minimizing the recidivism levels of juveniles and their effective assimilation into the communities. Such services have the potential to alter

the life path of young offenders by targeting the primary causes of delinquency: living in abject poverty, lack of a complete education, and his/her family structures.

### **Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Justice System**

John J. (2008) conducted an extensive survey of systemic programs to improve the mental health of the youths held in rehabilitation facilities. His discussion validated the quality of vocational and therapeutic programming, but also revealed a very important gap: participants left the centers without learning life competencies. This report recommends a structured integration of life-skills training, and reports that one curriculum in coping skills and practical resources management has the potential to both enhance stability in emotions and also provide the youth with clear-cut mechanisms on how to handle daily crises.

Tanu Priya (2014) looked at the philosophical basis of discipline in the rehabilitative norm. Priya theorized that discipline should seek to reconstruct the subjects into responsible civic participants with the mutual belief that the moral and emotional fabric of the juvenile will be strengthened in the end benefiting the rest of the community. The argument is based on the fact that rehabilitative intervention strategies such as therapeutic dialogue, counselling and progressive supervision and control of deviant impulsions should be nurtured alongside the development of both the psychology and social aspects alongside the control of deviant desires.

Sanjukta Das (2016) suggested a theoretical framework of a complex intervention process in which a combination of medical treatment, cognitive-behavioral therapy, expressive outlets, emotional regulation training, and development of adaptive abilities is implemented. This model opens with the systematic group activities and proceeds through the individualized planning that meets the unique needs of each youth justice-involved person.

M.A. Piquero and A.E. Buka (2002, 2003, 2010) investigated how statutory environments steer the restorative process for adolescents, with a particular focus on courts as arenas for nurturing practical competencies. Their analysis shows that probation supervision, strategically-applied sanctions, and judicious guidance may catalyze constructive transformation. The corroborative synthesis of Sajid, Asad, and Ashiq (2020) asserts that deploying robust rehabilitative instruments alongside coordinated legislation correlates with marked drops in re-offense and with the preemptive shielding of at-risk youth.

Haque and colleagues (2020) reaffirm that adolescent misbehavior is a daunting contemporary challenge, reverberating through familial and neighborhood structures. Post hoc reviews reveal that a concerning 44% of young persistents turn to substances, while 35% to low-level theft and 12% to street robbery—behaviors that amplify long-term persistence (Rekker et al., 2015). The synthesis of Bhuiyan and co-authors (2024) identifies economic deprivation, toxic home environments, and school disengagement as persistent and interlinked engines of youth criminal trajectories.

Recidivism remains a stubborn problem among youth offenders, and Villanueva (2015) argues that only well-crafted, evidence-based interventions can sever the cycle of habitual crime. Lodewijks et al. (2008, 2010) underscore that defensive coping styles predict delinquent behaviour and call for multi-dimensional rehabilitation programs. Addressing a similar theme, Malik and Shirazi (2010) document the rehabilitation emphasis of programs in Sindh. Still, they draw attention to failing social institutions and the scant support systems for girls and boys escaping neglect or abuse.

Shujaat (2015) centres poverty and educational deprivation among the risk factors keeping recidivism rates high. Youths in the Youth Offender Identification System (YOIS) of Karachi often originate from overcrowded, financially strained homes, with scant parental or community mechanisms to support their departure from delinquency, a point reinforced by Ameen et al. (2013). Without a functioning safety net

and the benefits of a reliable support framework, their post-release struggles intensify, and the re-entry phase turns almost automatically into re-offence.

### **Research Gap**

Current archives about juvenile delinquency in Karachi are not comprehensive to allow assessment of the magnitude of the problem. Even though some rehabilitation programs exist in the city, academic research on both the short-term and long-term performance is limited. Mental health issues are prevalent in this group of people and organized counseling and psychological service is not available in the system. Strong family and community involvement will be beneficial when it comes to reintegration. Nevertheless, such networks frequently operate without the assistance of the programs and their minimal co-operation appears to add already high rates of re-offending. Program budgets also pose another barrier; a majority of interventions are costly and they lack the latest and current diagnostic and treatment technologies and can only address the underlying factors of delinquency. Collectively, this information and service gaps hamper long-range policy and practice planning. The present paper presents a systematic evaluation of the current situation with the rehabilitation field, both in the form of program design and program implementation, with a view of being able to make realistic and evidence-based recommendations, that can realistically bring the programs to a new level of preventive and rehabilitative success.

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This investigation employs qualitative methods to evaluate how rehabilitation interventions shape juvenile offending patterns in Sindh, Karachi. Data were drawn from ten in-depth interviews with adolescents serving sentences in the Youth Offender Industrial School (YOIS), enabling the study to gauge the perceived impact of the programs. The focus was to identify which elements of the curricula the young men believe most strongly alter their decision-making and so keep them from repeating offenses. The accounts yield a layered understanding of how formal and informal instructional and support activities are experienced.

### **Research Design**

The theoretical design of the study predetermines this qualitative research by the direct observation of the lived experience through the usage of the sources gathered both recently and formerly. Incarcerated youths in YOIS, Karachi, are limited to eligibility so that the connection between curricular exposure and subsequent desistance of crime can be probed intimately. The semi-structured interview where the weighted significance of the broadly open and more direct prompts was assigned was the most important tool. The respondents were both requested to draw main events of their latter life which have altered and transformed with the help of the intervention and re-formation of the attitude towards illegal behaviour. This process meant that all the partners of the conversation would produce experience-related narratives that could in turn be analytically analyzed by the investigators.

The research employs an inductive approach, whereby the trends may develop organically and give directions in formulating hypotheses relating the rehabilitation programmes to the changes in juvenile offending. The transcripts were analyzed based on the framework of analysis, and this coding frame directed the framework towards the most commonly repeated statements concerning the results of rehabilitation and their perceived strength to restrict or limit the ongoing or growing crime.

### **Data Collection**

The principal data set consisted of ten semi-structured interviews conducted with male offenders currently residing in the Youth Offender Industrial School, Karachi. Every respondent narrated autobiographical sequences, contrasting life before admission with experiences inside the corrective centre. Lengths

averaged 5 to 10 minutes, with strategically open-ended prompts that elicited rich, context-sensitive reflections on how far rehabilitation appears to forestall future infractions. Parallel data were secured from formally produced documents, circulation summaries, and peer-reviewed literature cataloged through Google Scholar, Web of Science, PubMed, and JSTOR. These supplementary materials delivered comparative frameworks, elaborating the structural determinants of juvenile crime and the documented efficacy of distinct rehabilitative approaches.

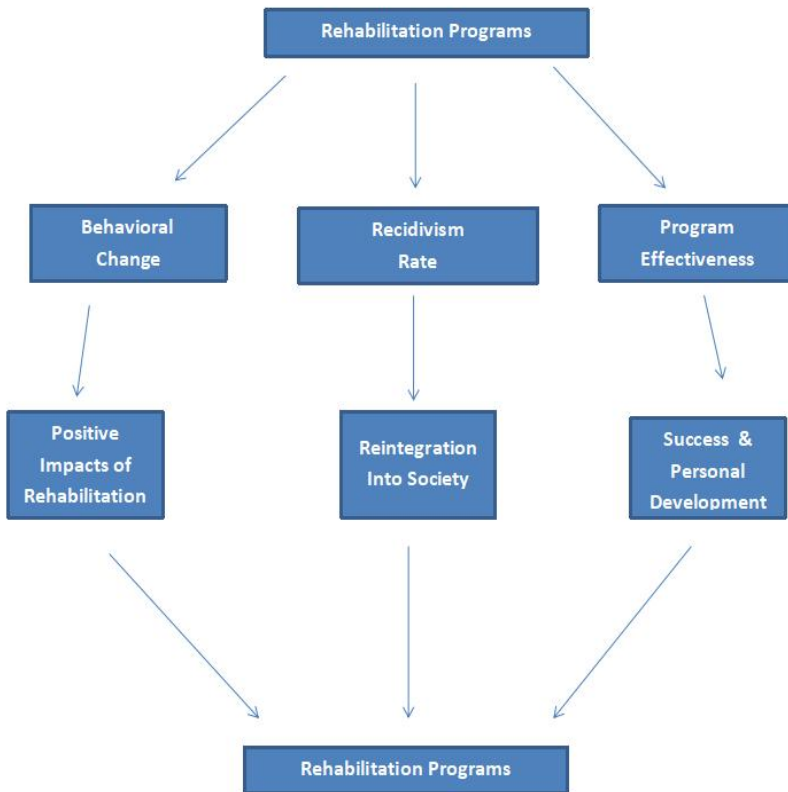
### Variables

Dependent Variables: Change in behavior, the frequency of re-offending, the success of the program

Independent Variables: Type of rehabilitation program, incidence of youth crime

### Conceptual Framework

This study's conceptual framework examines how rehabilitation programs influence juvenile crime, focusing specifically on changes in behavior and the rate of re-offending. The framework comprises three interrelated elements: the intervention programs, the youth crime population, and the resultant behavioral and recidivism indicators. The analysis highlights core rehabilitation strategies, including academic instruction, job-readiness training, psychological counselling, and essential life-skills training. Collectively, these approaches intend to cultivate more positive attitudes, enhance coping strategies, and refine decision-making capabilities. The framework hypothesizes that improvements in these areas will, in turn, lower the incidence of re-offending and support the seamless reintegration of delinquent youth into the community.



### **Justification of Models**

The conceptual model for this study connects observed behavioral changes to specific rehabilitation components, ensuring that the findings contribute to both theoretical understanding and practical improvements in juvenile justice rehabilitation strategies. This model serves as the foundation for examining the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs in reducing juvenile delinquency and recidivism.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter presents the results from qualitative research methods, including one-on-one semi-structured interviews. The findings are analyzed in relation to the research questions, focusing on the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs for juvenile offenders. The analysis is structured around two key themes:

### **Theme 1: Effectiveness of Rehabilitation Programs in Reducing Juvenile Delinquency in Karachi**

The results of the study, illustrated through graphs, indicate the success of rehabilitation programs in reducing juvenile delinquency in Karachi. The first graph shows the duration of time spent in rehabilitation programs:

- 40% of participants stayed in the program for up to one year
- 30% were enrolled for less than six months
- 30% stayed for more than a year

This evidence implies that young people who undergo medium- and long-term rehabilitation programs have higher chances of achieving positive results and this is critical in curbing recidivism. Nisar et al. (2015) point out that juvenile systems of justice should create positive results by means of rehabilitation, and emphasize long-term involvement to decrease delinquency.

### **Duration of Time Spent in Rehabilitation Programs**

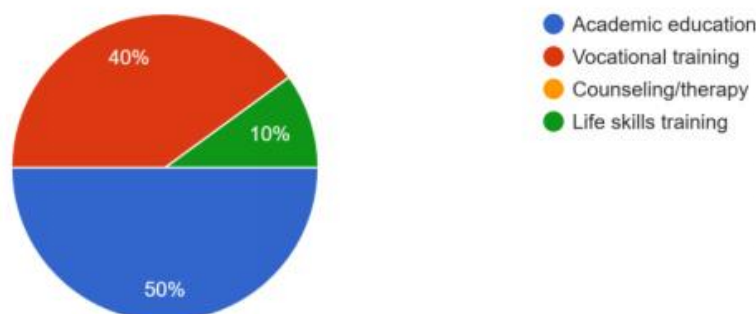
The second graph shows the types of rehabilitation programs juveniles participated in. The most common programs were:

- **Academic education: 50%**
- **Vocational training: 40%**
- **Life skills training: 10%**

Interestingly, there were no responses indicating counseling or therapy as a key component. This suggests that academic education and vocational training are the primary means through which juveniles are reintegrated into society. These structured programs are instrumental in equipping juveniles with the necessary skills for successful reintegration into the community, thereby reducing delinquency rates.

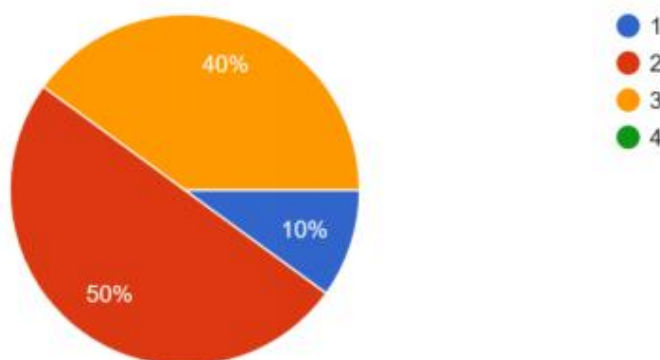
Advocate and Sajid (2013) argue that probation officers play a critical role in supporting juveniles during rehabilitation. By monitoring progress, providing adequate resources, and assisting juveniles in engaging with education and vocational training programs, probation officers contribute significantly to reducing recidivism.

*Which rehabilitation program have you participated?*



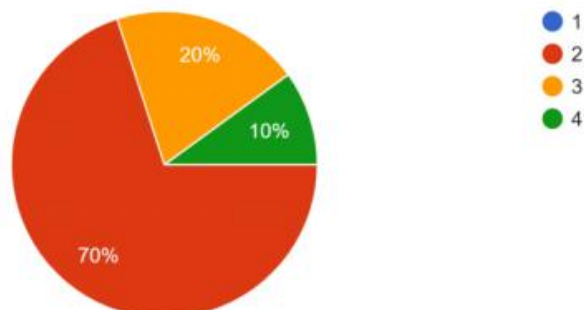
The third graph rates the degree in which these programs affected an improvement of the participant in different areas from 1 to 4. Half (50%) gave 2 as how they thought they'd improved, another 40%, again, 3, and finally, only 10%, 1. This meant that most participants had received moderate improvement from the program, showing the program's success yet revealing possible improvement in other aspects. (Azam et.al ,2021; Esa salleh, 2017) finding that the education and vocational trining are most important components of rehabilaition institution because the offender continue their formal educaiaon during sntencing and the vocational trining craete a hope for young offender that will able to employment after relise.

Rate the effectiveness of the following components on a scale of 1 (not effective) 2 (effective) 3 (partially) 4 (Highly effective):



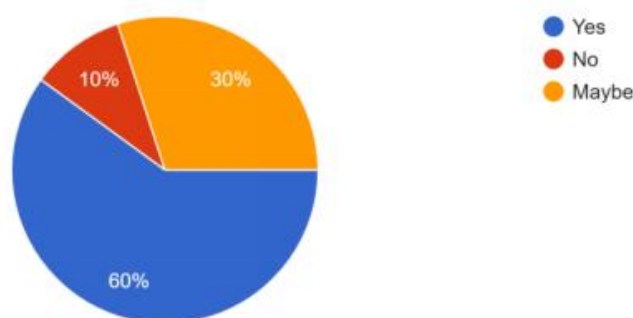
The forth chart finds the effectiveness of different components of the program that most respondents (70%) rated as 'effective,' 20% as 'partially effective,' and only 10% as 'highly effective.' This suggests that the programs have a large impact, but the programs can be better for young offenders.

*How has the program helped you improve in the following area?*



The fifth graph also supports this observation as 60-percent of the participants affirmed that their participation in delinquent activities had greatly reduced since they enrolled in the program. However, a third (30 percent) and a tenth (10 percent) of them were not aware of its impact and did not notice any difference respectively. Such conclusions can serve as an indicator that the rehabilitation program has a role to play in reforming the juvenile offenders though its outcomes vary in various individuals. These mixed responses indicate that the programs need to be enhanced by introducing individualized programs and enhanced support systems to be able to have more profound and lasting impact on the rehabilitation of juvenile delinquency in the justice system of Sindh. The rehabilitation is one of the most important needs that the offender may be presented with the possibility to reenter society as a law-abiding citizen (Phelps, 2011).

*Since joining the program have you noticed a decrease in your involvement in delinquent activities?*

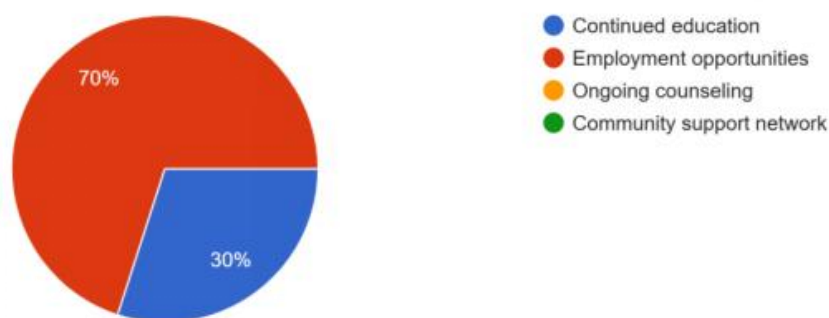


## **Theme 2: Determining the Most Suitable Rehabilitation Plan for Reducing of the Recidivism and Delinquent Behavior**

The information collected provides useful experience on how recovery programs are adequate for reducing recidivism and delinquent behavior amongst juveniles in Sindh. The collected data reveals the findings valuable insight into the effect of the rehabilitation programs in reducing the percentage of recidivism and delinquent behavior among juveniles of Sindh. The first graph shows that 70 percent of respondents expressed that employment opportunities are the most essential in preventing from re-offending, while 30 percent said that education. This leads us to believe that the practical vocational

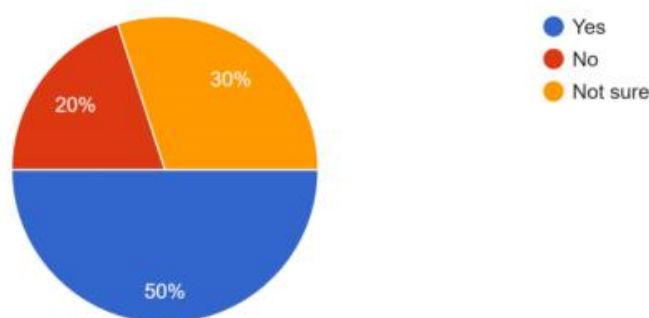
training and job placement initiated is a much more effective means of averting the juveniles from their criminal acts. (Newton et al, 2018) finding that the history of juvenile offender is unstable unemployment and lack of job skill but study suggest the unemployment promote the re-offending and recidivism. Hence if the offender participates in life skill program, vocational training that is effectiveness rehabilitation for family and society.

***What kind of support do you think would reduce the risk of re-offending?***



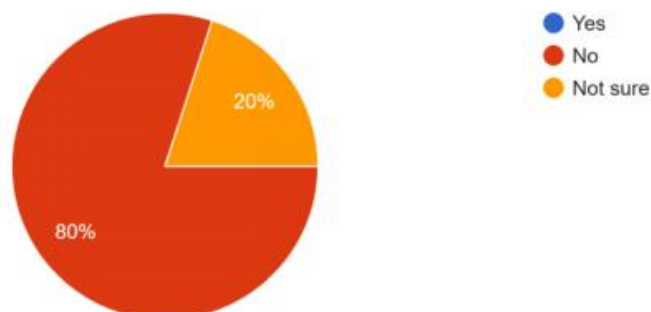
A level of confidence that juveniles will be prepared to reintegrate into society is at just 50 per cent and 30 per cent are unsure. This is apparent gap in the present rehabilitation programs that need the support of more assistance services like counseling and community rehabilitation interventions. (Newton, Ali, Salleh, 2018) many researches show that the complete reintegration of juvenile asses when the positive outcome of family, society and an offender would able to join employment or job in society then the community enhancing support for juvenile justice and focus in community trust in juvenile justice system.

***Do you feel prepared to reintegrate into society after completing the program?***



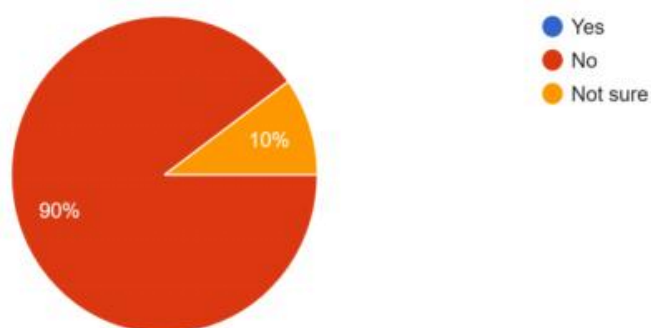
Additionally, the problems juveniles have in making use of these programs are a very worry of 80 percent who say they had difficulties. This demonstrates that there are structural or procedural problems with the programs that constrain them from being effective.

*What any challenges have you faced in benefiting from the program?*



The chart provides responses on whether recipients who have been released should be given additional resources or support to reduce recidivism. Almost all (90%) state that no additional resources on the matter are necessary, and 10% simply have no idea. Not surprisingly, none of respondents chose 'Yes', stating that they do not need additional support other than that offered. These findings imply that most respondents perceive existing programs are adequate or possibly unaware of additional resources for further improvement of a program. This might be worth delving a bit further into, as to why respondents feel this way and if some improvements could still be useful, all things considered.

*What any additional resources or support do you think the program should offer to prevent recidivism?*



## CONCLUSION

The data presented in this inquiry substantiate the premise that rehabilitative initiatives contribute to the attenuation of youth crime in Karachi. Individuals under supervision who undertook educational, vocational, and life-skills training interventions exhibited discernible shifts toward pro-social comportment. The self-report metrics disclose that 60 per cent of the cohort attribute a measurable decrement in misconduct directly to the rehabilitative coursework. A subset of respondents, however, articulated a preference for expanded curricular features to sustain the trajectory of constructive change through the transitional phase following confinement. Vocational and employment provisions emerged as the preeminent protective factors, with 70 per cent of the sample affirming that access to such training attenuated subsequent offending with a notable effect. Supporting Munir (2018), the results also underscore the mediative influence of proactive community scaffolding; integrated family and communal

oversight cultivates constructive affiliations that extend the rehabilitative envelope beyond institutional boundaries. Remarkably, the sample projected confidence in the longevity of current interventions, yet indicated a gap in institutional culture: correctional personnel often remain unconvinced of rehabilitative potency. The testimonials recommend strategic initiatives to deepen institutional literacy and foster deliberate, proactive engagement with rehabilitative missions, rather than additive programming. Enhancing staff conviction in the efficacy of constructive programming appears pivotal to consolidating the positive behavioral change already engendered by the current curricula. The overarching purpose of contemporary rehabilitation initiatives remains the cultivation of sustainable success among offenders through the seamless reintegration into civic life. Majeed et al. (2024) assert that probation officers constitute a linchpin within the juvenile rehabilitation paradigm, with their influence upon recidivism manifesting through three interrelated functions: systematic progress oversight, contextual advisory input, and sustained engagement facilitation within rehabilitative curricula. Such probationary engagement thereby cultivates the structural and relational conditions deemed requisite for productive reintegration. The analysis consequently reaffirms the value of rehabilitative architectures that are multi-layered—individually circumscribed and territoriality enshrined—so as to circumscribe recidivism with enduring efficacy.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**

The evidence mandates that legislative rehabilitation programs resources in favour of enhancement and reconfiguration of rehabilitative arrangements, with particular emphasis upon vocational pedagogy. Empirical consensus converges upon the proposition that participative employment serves as a decisive deterrent to repeat offending; vocational instruction, delivering mobility-generative competencies, elevates the post-release employ-ability of juvenile offenders to levels adjudicated as materially significant. Concurrently, the expansion of therapeutic and life-skills curricula warrants normative elevation within the reform agenda. Such quasi-clinical offerings equip cohort members with the affective calm, cognitive rigour, and judicious foresight that underwrite social reintegration. Future investigation, oriented towards the elucidation of rehabilitative ruptures and the discrimination genesis of delinquent trajectories, should therefore target contextual and individual obstacles, thereby constraining the cycle of recidivism with evidential precision. Furthermore, policymakers must intensify the systematic appraisal of rehabilitation programs, thus assuring the judicious allocation of resources in pursuit of enduring rehabilitation successes for justice-involved youth. Integration of social institutions, structured mentorship schemes, and sustained community involvement into rehabilitation frameworks will furnish comprehensive support to juveniles and attenuate the risk of re-offending. The agenda of the juvenile justice system must pivot toward the continuous refinement and expansion of rehabilitative offerings. Systematic examination of social institutions, mentorship pathways, and community participation, when coupled with heightened collaboration among law enforcement agencies, stands to secure superior trajectories for young offenders and diminish the propensity for future criminal conduct.

### **FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE STUDY**

Future studies ought to investigate the contribution of structured rehabilitation programs to the successful reintegration of juvenile offenders, with a particular emphasis on determining their efficacy in fostering persistent existence from delinquency. A subsequent data-gathering phase could encompass a comparative assessment of the rehabilitation modalities currently deployed across the Sindh province, thereby facilitating a more nuanced appraisal of their relative utility in curtailing juvenile crime. Complementary inquiry should concentrate on micro-level evaluations of intervention initiatives explicitly designed to accommodate the psycho social and cultural particularities of the juvenile offender population. By juxtaposing rehabilitation outcomes across multiple districts of Sindh in a single longitudinal framework, subsequent waves of investigation would offer a granular assessment of program

efficacy, which in turn could inform the rehabilitation of intervention design and delivery. Additional inquiry should extend to the meditation roles of familial dynamics, institutional adjustment, community involvement, and structured post-release mentorship. Empirical evidence across divergent contexts indicates that the aforementioned support networks materially attenuate recidivism rates. A holistic framework that tracks offenders from the point of release through subsequent reintegration may therefore yield salient insights regarding the durability of program impacts and the optimal sequencing of rehabilitative measures. Collectively, the pursuance of these investigative trajectories may culminate in the formulation of evidence-based, phase-responsive interventions that align operational praxis with the longitudinal patterns of observable in juvenile offender cohorts.

### **LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

Several limitations of this inquiry merit explicit recognition. First, the relatively modest sample size constrains the external validity of the results; the empirical findings may not be readily transferable to broader, unstudied populations. Because data collection relied principally on self-report measures, the validity of the accounts may be diminished by self-presentational bias, retrospective distortion, or the interpretive lenses through which young respondents recount criminal involvement and rehabilitative experiences. Second, the geographic scope is confined to juvenile offenders in Karachi, and findings derived from this urban setting may not reflect the rehabilitative trajectories of adolescents in other Pakistani cities or rural contexts, where normative, economic, and institutional conditions differ. Additionally, the absence of complementary longitudinal data on post-program outcomes—such as recidivism rates, successful vocational or educational reintegration, and the psychosocial stability of youth—renders incomplete the picture of the programs' broad impacts. Prospective examinations that enrol larger and more regionally heterogeneous populations, that integrate quantitative surveys and rigorous qualitative assessments, and that engage in multiyear cohort tracking, are thus necessary to yield empirically persuasive accounts of the durability of rehabilitative gains and their role in moderating subsequent offending.

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