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PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF INSTITUTIONALIZED AND NON-INSTITUTIONALIZED MALE DELINQUENTS

Elio D. Monachesi

The author is Professor of Sociology in the University of Minnesota. The data he presents in this article are designed to show how institutionalized delinquents differ from non-institutionalized delinquents in selected personality characteristics. The instrument employed in the study of these characteristics is the *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory*. Groups of institutionalized and non-institutionalized delinquents as well as groups of non-delinquents are compared on the basis of the mean or average scores achieved by such groups on the several scales of the *Inventory*. The degree to which the differences in average scores made on the several scales may be regarded as significant is determined by employing the critical ratio of the difference. This ratio suggests whether observed differences in mean scores may be ascribed to the operation of chance. When a critical ratio equals 2 it is roughly interpreted to mean that an observed difference in two measures would occur by chance only 5 times in 100. When a critical ratio of a difference of 3 is obtained and the number of measures is fairly large we may be reasonably confident that such a difference is not due to chance.—EDITOR.

The commitment of a juvenile delinquent to a state correctional institution is regarded by many persons as the final step in a sequence of attempts made to transform the youthful offender into a law abiding member of society. When probation has failed, when other therapeutic measures offered by public and/or private social work agencies have been found ineffective, the young offender is placed in the custody of a state school. There are exceptions; many Courts, functioning in communities lacking in probation and other social work facilities, have no choice other than commitment to a state correctional institution in disposing of many cases. In general, however, evidence in the records of many juvenile delinquents suggests that the state institution is regarded as a last resort in the treatment of young offenders. The practice places heavy responsibilities upon the state correctional institution. Unless the institution is looked upon only as a means of keeping dangerously maladjusted offenders out of circulation for a period of time, it must attempt to rehabilitate youngsters given up as hopeless by other therapeutic agencies. Further, if it can be assumed that delinquency is the overt manifestation of basic personality maladjustment² then the practice of regarding state correctional institutions as a final step in the treatment cycle should result in their populations exhibiting a greater degree of

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2. See: CAPWELL, DORA F., *Personality patterns of adolescent girls: I. Girls who show improvement in IQ*. JOUR. APPL. PSYCHOL. 29:212-228, June, 1945. *Personality patterns of adolescent girls: II. Delinquents and non-delinquents*. JOUR. APPL. PSYCHOL. 29:289-297, August, 1945. MONACHESI, ELIO D., *Some personality characteristics of delinquents and non-delinquents*. J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOL. 38:487-500. Jan.-Feb., 1948.

personality maladjustment than those on probation or those in local county home schools for delinquents. Do such populations differ in personality adjustment? It is to this and related questions that the data presented below are addressed.

To test the validity of the hypothesis that offenders committed to a state correctional institution exhibit on the average more personality maladjustment than those placed on probation and/or committed to a local county home school, four groups of young males were studied. Two groups included non-delinquents belonging to different socio-economic levels; the other two groups include delinquents on probation to the Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, Minnesota Probation Offices or confined in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties Home Schools for Boys and a group of delinquents confined in the Minnesota State Training School at Red Wing, Minnesota. The personality adjustment of the members of the four groups was measured with the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI).³ The MMPI contains scales which measure twelve variables: 1. The L scale or score consists of a series of items indicating whether the subject falsified his score by consistently choosing responses which place him in a socially approved position; 2. The F scale or score serves as an index of the validity of the entire record. High F scores may indicate that the subject was either careless in responding and/or did not comprehend the meaning of the items; 3. The K scale, a measure of the "test taking" attitudes, serves to reveal overly frank or overly defensive reactions; 4. The hypochondriasis scale, Hs, indicates, as do all of the remaining eight scales, the similarity of the subject's responses to those of clinically diagnosed patients suffering from the emotional and personality disorders suggested by the titles of the scales; 5. The depression scale, D; 6. The hysteria scale, Hy; 7. The psychopathic deviate scale, Pd; 8. The masculinity-femininity interest scale, Mf; 9. The paranoia scale, Pa; 10. The psychasthenia scale, Pt; 11. The schizophrenia scale, Sc; 12. The hypomania scale, Ma. In addition, there is a question "?" score consisting of the total number of items left unanswered.⁴

3. By HATHAWAY, STARKE R. AND MCKINLEY, J. CHARNLEY and published by the Psychological Corporation, New York, New York.

4. The abbreviations of the scales listed above will be used in the remainder of the paper. For a discussion of the construction and standardization of the scales see: HATHAWAY, S. R. and MCKINLEY, J. C., *A multiphasic personality schedule (Minnesota): I. Construction of the schedule.* THE JOUR. OF PSYCHOL., 10:249-254, 1940. *A multiphasic personality schedule (Minnesota): II. A differential study of hypochondriasis.* THE JOUR. OF PSYCHOL., 10:255-286, 1940. *A multiphasic personality schedule (Minnesota): III. The measurement of symptomatic depression.* THE JOUR. OF PSYCHOL., 14:73-84, 1942. MCKINLEY, J. C., and HATHAWAY, S. R., *A multiphasic personality schedule (Minnesota): IV. Psychasthenia.* THE JOUR. OF APPL. PSYCHOL., 26:614-624, 1942. *The Minnesota personality inventory: V. Hysteria, hypomania and psychopathic deviate.* THE JOUR. OF APPL. PSYCHOL., 28:153-174,

Early in 1946 the first group of non-delinquent males was tested. This group consisted of 85 boys having membership in Boy Scouts, Hi-Y clubs, settlement house recreational clubs and high school classes. The boys were chosen on the basis of their availability (membership in the groups listed made it possible to test a large number at one time) and their comparability in socio-economic status to a group of delinquent males. The non-delinquents belonged to clubs and organizations which functioned exclusively in neighborhoods in which the delinquents lived or had lived. A selection of this sort would, it was hoped, roughly equate non-delinquents in socio-economic status. A second group, also tested early in 1946, included 73 delinquents, 13 of whom were under the supervision of one probation officer of the Hennepin County, Minnesota Probation Office; 29 had been committed to the Hennepin County Home School; 22 were in the Ramsey County, Minnesota, Home School; and 9 were on probation and under the supervision of an officer of the Ramsey County Probation Office.

A third group of boys included 160 non-delinquents attending a denominational secondary school in Minneapolis. This group consists of the entire male student body of X Academy in attendance on November 27, 1946. The choice of this group was determined by the results produced by a previous study. Contrary to expectations, the MMPI failed to discriminate consistently and significantly between delinquent and non-delinquent males. The failure, it was assumed, could be the result of the attempt made to equate the two groups in socio-economic status. It was not unreasonable to suppose that since the non-delinquents lived in areas of high delinquency rates many of them were either predelinquents or undetected delinquents.⁵ It was, therefore, deemed desirable to test the validity of this assumption by comparing delinquents with non-delinquents who lived in areas of low delinquency and who belonged to higher socio-economic classes.

The fourth group, tested on February 1, 1947, included 123 male delinquents confined in the Minnesota State Training School. The total consists of all boys 13 years or more in age not in the disciplinary company or in the hospital on the day the test was administered.⁶

When the MMPI's had been scored, it was found that the following

1944. *The identification and measurement of psychoneuroses in medical practice*. J.A.M.A., 122:261-267, 1943, MEEHL, PAUL E., and HATHAWAY, S. R., *The K factor as a suppressor variable in the Minnesota multiphasic personality inventory*. THE JOUR. OF APPL. PSYCHOL., 30:525-564, 1946.

5. For further discussion of this point see: MONACHESI, ELIO D., *Some personality characteristics of delinquents and non-delinquents*. J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOL., 33:487-500, Jan.-Feb., 1948.

6. Boys in the disciplinary company had been assigned to a variety of routine tasks and were unavailable for testing.

numbers in each of the four groups had made a standard (T) score of 70 or more on either of the L and F scales: 29 in the non-delinquent group; 37 in the Academy group; 43 in the Red Wing group; 24 in the other delinquent group. Since standard scores of 70 or more on either the L or F scales make questionable the validity of the whole record, persons achieving such scores were eliminated. The number of persons in each group utilized in the analyses was: 56 non-delinquent males; 123 Academy males; 80 Red Wing males; 49 delinquent males.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SAMPLES

Data pertinent to the socio-economic levels represented by the four groups are presented in Table I. These data describe the occupational pursuits of the fathers of the boys classified in accordance with the 1948 revision of the *Minnesota Occupational Scale*.⁷ In general, as will be noted, the four groups studied fall into approximately four socio-economic levels. The Red Wing group is in the lowest level followed by the other delinquent group which is in turn followed by the non-delinquent group, while the Academy group occupies the top level.

A difference in age of the members of the four groups was also noted. Members of the Red Wing and the Academy groups tended to be older than the members of the delinquent and non-delinquent groups. Age medians for the four groups are: delinquent group, 15.45 years; non-delinquent group, 15.85 years; Red Wing group, 16.08 years; Academy group, 16.89 years.⁸

The mean scores and differences in mean scores made by each of the groups on the scales of the MMPI are found in Table II. Differences in mean scores preceded by a minus sign indicate that they are in an unexpected direction. A glance at the data presented in Table II reveals that the MMPI does not differentiate consistently between delinquent and non-delinquent males. These results are in sharp contrast to those produced by the MMPI for female delinquents and non-delinquents. Available data indicate that female delinquents make significantly larger mean scores than do non-delinquent females on the majority of the clinical scales of the MMPI,¹² all of which suggests that female delin-

7. NIKOLAISEN, KATHERINE, *The Minnesota Occupational Scale* (Revised, 1948). Institute of Child Welfare, University of Minnesota. For a discussion of the original scale see: GOODENOUGH, F., and ANDERSON, J. E., *Experimental Child Study*, Century Co., New York, 1931.

8. Although IQ data were available for most of the boys studied the fact that different tests had been employed to measure IQ made such data not comparable.

12. See: CAPWELL, DORA F., *Personality patterns of adolescent girls: I. Girls who show improvement in IQ*. JOUR. APPL. PSYCHOL., 29:212-228, June 1945. *Personality patterns of adolescent girls: II. Delinquents and non-delinquents*. JOUR. APPL. PSYCHOL., 29:289-297, August, 1945. MONACHESI, ELIO D., *Some personality characteristics of delinquents and non-*

TABLE I
Occupations of Fathers of Two Non-Delinquent Groups of Males and Two Delinquent Groups of Males

Type of Occupation	State Training School Group		Delinquent Group		Non-Delinquent Group		Academy Group	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
I Professional	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	3.5	30	24.3
II Semi-professional and retail business..	2	2.5	1	2.0	3	5.3	25	20.3
III Clerical, skilled trades and retail business	7	8.7	8	16.3	7	12.5	41	33.3
IV Farmers	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	2.4
V Semi-skilled occupations, minor clerical positions	31	38.7	15	30.6	14	25.0	21	17.0
VI Slightly skilled trades and other occupations requiring little training or ability	10	12.5	4	8.1	23	41.0	0	0.0
VII Day laborers of all classes.....	15	18.7	18	36.7	4	7.1	0	0.0
Father dead and/or occupation unknown...	14	17.5	3	6.1	3	5.3	3	2.4

TABLE II
 Mean Scores and Differences in Mean Scores and Corrected (K) Scores Made by Two Groups of Delinquent Males and Two Groups of Non-Delinquent Males on the *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory*

Scales	Mean Scores				Difference in Mean Scores					
	Delinquent Group	State Training School Group	Non-Delinquent Group	Academy Group	Delinquent State Training School Group	Delinquent and Non-Delinquent Group	Delinquent Group and Academy Group	State Training School Group and Non-Delinquent Group	State Training School Group and Academy Group	Non-Delinquent Group and Academy Group
K	55.26	52.50	51.17	53.35	-2.769	4.09	1.91	1.33	-3511	-21811
L	55.97	54.44	53.57	55.02	-1.53	2.40	.95	.87	-58	-1.45
F	59.75	60.50	59.65	58.23	.75	.10	1.52	.85	2.27	1.42
Hs	56.18	53.50	53.30	53.56	-2.68	2.88	2.62	.20	-06	-26
D	56.68	54.56	51.70	51.24	-2.12	4.98	5.44	2.86	3.32	.46
Hv	56.79	54.06	53.21	53.60	-2.73	3.58	3.19	.85	.46	-39
Pd	68.21	72.50	60.54	59.41	4.29	7.67	8.80	11.96	13.09	1.13
Mf	53.01	53.19	53.75	53.80	.18	-7410	-7910	-5610	-61	-05
Pa	58.01	59.75	55.81	53.03	1.74	2.20	4.98	3.94	6.72	2.78
Pt	56.48	60.69	58.93	57.30	4.21	-2.45	-82	1.76	3.39	1.63
Sc	62.81	64.81	62.32	59.70	2.00	.49	3.11	2.49	5.11	2.62
Ma	57.70	62.19	61.07	58.76	4.49	-3.37	-1.06	1.12	3.43	2.31

9. Differences preceded by a minus sign (—) indicate that the State Training School Group made lower average scores.
 10. Differences preceded by a minus sign (—) indicate that the Non-Delinquent Group made higher average scores.
 11. Differences preceded by a minus sign (—) indicate that the Academy Group made higher average scores.

quents resemble more closely diagnosed abnormals in their response to the MMPI than do female non-delinquents. Delinquent males, however, seem to possess personality patterns that do not differ in many essentials from those of non-delinquent males. Nor do they resemble abnormals in their response to many of the scales of the MMPI. In fact in many instances they make lower mean scores than do non-delinquents.

DISCUSSION

The assumption or belief that boys committed to the State Training School are afflicted on the average with a greater degree of personality maladjustment than are boys placed on probation or committed to the County Home Schools becomes questionable in the face of the data presented in Table II. The fact that the Red Wing group makes lower mean scores on the K, L, Hs, D and Hy scales than do the other group of delinquents indicates that on some of the clinical variables the State Training School group is less like diagnosed abnormals than are other delinquents.

Measures of the significance of the differences in mean scores made by the four groups are found in Table III. The critical ratios of the differences in mean scores again demonstrate the MMPI's failure to differentiate between delinquents and non-delinquent males consistently. Further, the Red Wing group does not achieve significantly larger mean scores than does the other delinquent group on nine of the MMPI's scales. Despite inconsistencies found in Table III, some significant differences of theoretical importance between delinquents and non-delinquents are produced by several scales. Noteworthy is the way in which the Pd scale significantly and uniformly differentiates between delinquents and non-delinquents. Further, the mean score made by the Red Wing group on the Pd scale is significantly (5 per cent level) higher than that made by the other delinquent group. The same is true of the Pt and Ma scales.

The critical ratios of the differences in mean scores made by non-delinquents residing in areas of high delinquency and those made by members of the two delinquent groups would tend to confirm the hypothesis that non-delinquents living in such areas are not significantly different from delinquents in many personality characteristics. The evidence suggests that the role of environmental conditions within areas of high delinquency rather than a variety of basic personality maladjustments is

delinquent. J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOL., 38:487-500. Jan-Feb. 1948. *Personality characteristics and socio-economic status of delinquents and non-delinquents.* J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOL., 40:570-583. Jan.-Feb., 1950.

of primary significance in the development of delinquency. Such seems to be the case if it can be demonstrated that the non-delinquent group composed of boys living in such areas did not contain a great number of undetected delinquents. Unfortunately the data make such a test impossible. In any case, non-delinquents residing in areas of high delinquency make significantly lower mean scores than do delinquents on only three of the clinical scales (D, Hy, Pd), and on only two clinical scales (Pd, Pa) do they achieve lower mean scores than do the delinquents in the Red Wing group.

Another trend revealed by the data in Table III concerns the rather close similarity in the responses of the non-delinquent group and the Academy group to the MMPI. The critical ratios, with only one exception (L), are of a magnitude indicating that differences in mean scores made by the two groups are chance differences. It is true that on seven of the scales Academy males make lower mean scores than do non-delinquents residing in high delinquency areas, suggesting the existence of a trend toward a lesser degree of personality maladjustment for the Academy males; the evidence, however, in support of such a trend is not impressive. It would seem that non-delinquents belonging to different socio-economic levels are not significantly different in their response to many of the scales contained in the MMPI. If, however, attention is shifted to comparison of each of the non-delinquent groups with each of the delinquent groups, several significant differentiations become apparent. In three instances (D, Pd and Pa scales) the critical ratio of the difference in mean scores made by Academy males and delinquent males are of a magnitude indicating probability beyond the five per cent level. Only one difference in mean score (Pd) made by delinquents and non-delinquents of lower socio-economic status attains that level of significance. Even more striking are the differences observed between the non-delinquent groups and the Red Wing group. Three of the differences in mean scores made on clinical scales, Pd, Pa and Sc, by the Academy group and the Red Wing group are significant beyond the five per cent level, whereas a difference in mean score of this significance is found for the non-delinquent and the Red Wing groups in only one instance (Pd). Further, the Academy males and the Red Wing males are differentiated at the five per cent level of probability on the D, Pt and Ma scales, while the non-delinquent group is differentiated from the Red Wing group at this level of significance on the Pa scale. Thus it would seem that several clinical scales of the MMPI produce significant differences between delinquent and non-delinquent males in accordance with the socio-economic status of the non-delinquent males with whom

TABLE III
Significance of Differences in Mean Scores Made by Two Groups of Delinquents and Two Groups of Non-Delinquents on
the *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory*

Scales	CRITICAL RATIOS ¹³							
	Delinquent & State Train- ing School Groups	Delinquent and Non-Delinquent Groups	Delinquent and Academy Groups	State Training School and Non-Delinquent Groups	State Training School and Academy Groups	Non-Delinquent and Academy Groups		
K	-1.79	2.48	1.32	.91	-.69	-1.51		
L	-1.74	2.57	1.15	1.56	-1.07	-3.10		
F	.77	.89	1.70	.84	3.05	1.53		
Hs	-1.30	1.40	1.43	.11	-.04	-.16		
D	-1.10	2.47	3.12	1.61	2.31	.29		
Hy	-1.80	2.19	2.37	.55	.37	-.28		
Pd	2.18	3.98	5.32	6.24	8.13	.75		
Mf	.11	-.43	-.53	-.35	-.46	-.03		
Pa	1.06	1.19	3.28	2.37	5.27	1.81		
Pt	2.22	-1.26	-.47	1.04	2.35	1.09		
Sc	.95	.20	1.51	1.21	3.26	1.31		
Ma	2.22	-1.58	-.56	.63	2.29	1.40		

13. Critical ratios preceded by a minus sign are in an unexpected direction.

delinquent males are compared. The higher the socio-economic status of the non-delinquents the greater the number of scales that differentiate significantly between delinquent and non-delinquent males.

The data presented in Table III indicate that, contrary to expectation, Red Wing delinquents are not too unlike males placed on probation or committed to the County Home Schools. The critical ratios of the differences in mean scores made by these two groups of delinquents indicate that the Red Wing boys are significantly like diagnosed abnormals on the Pd, Pt and Ma scales. They make lower average scores—not significantly lower—on the K, L, Hs, D and Hy scales. In view of these results it would seem that Juvenile Courts do not utilize the State Training School to care for their more maladjusted male delinquents except when maladjustment is expressed in psychopathy, psychasthenia and hypomania. However, there is little reason to believe that Courts consciously select male delinquents afflicted with such disturbances for commitment.

The unexpected results produced when Red Wing delinquents and other delinquents are compared may stem from the nature of the sample selected for comparison with the Red Wing group. As already noted, a number of the delinquents tested had been committed to the Hennepin and Ramsey Counties Home School for Boys. The Courts in making such commitment may have considered the youth unfit for probation or other forms of extra-mural treatment because of serious personality maladjustment. If such a selection had actually occurred, it would render unlikely the existence of significant differences between the Red Wing group and the other delinquent group. There is reason, however, to believe that boys committed to the County Home Schools are not afflicted with serious personality disturbances. Schuldt, who has made the most comprehensive study of the Hennepin and Ramsey Counties Home Schools, has found that the Courts have tended to reserve commitment to the Schools for the less serious offender whose home and neighborhood conditions make necessary his removal.¹⁴ Chronic truants have also been committed to the Schools in order that they may be afforded the opportunity of making progress in school work under a controlled environment. The examination of records of male delinquents appearing before the Courts of these two counties as well as knowledge of the policies followed by the Courts, suggest that those males committed to the Home Schools stand between males placed on probation and males committed to the State Training School on a continuum of

14. SCHULDT, LOUIS, *Histories and Present Programs of Home Schools for Boys in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties (Minnesota) 1941-1942*. M. A. Thesis, University of Minnesota, 1942.

rehabilitative possibilities. That such practices have little relation to the boy's personality adjustment, however, is indicated by the fact that in testing for the significance of differences in mean scores made by boys placed on probation and boys committed to the Home Schools all of the *t*s fell between .50 and .10 levels of significance. These probability values indicate that Courts are utilizing other factors in determining to place a male delinquent on probation or to commit him to the County Home School.

The fact that 45 per cent of the State Training School delinquents studied had been committed by Courts outside of the major urban areas (Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth) of Minnesota may account for the unexpected results brought forth by the comparison of the two delinquent groups. Courts in rural areas seldom enjoy the treatment facilities provided for urban Courts. A lack in varied treatment possibilities may often result in the commitment of a delinquent to the State Training School who would have been given another type of treatment had such been possible. It seems reasonable to assume that rural-urban differences in therapeutic programs may end in the commitment of a lot of boys to Red Wing who may not be seriously maladjusted. If this assumption is valid, then the indifferent results produced by the MMPI merely reflect a difference in practice of rural and urban Courts. In short, we may be comparing boys who are alike in personality characteristics, some of whom would have received the same extra-mural treatment had such been available in their home communities. Is such an assumption valid?

In Table IV are presented the differences in mean scores, as well as the critical ratios of these differences, made by delinquents committed to the State Training School by the Courts of Hennepin (Minneapolis), Ramsey (St. Paul), and St. Louis (Duluth) Counties and by other Courts in the State of Minnesota. Boys committed by Courts of Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis Counties comprise what is called the metropolitan group. Forty-four boys (55 per cent) were in the metropolitan group and 36 boys (45 per cent) were in the non-metropolitan group. As indicated in Table IV, the metropolitan group made larger mean scores on all but two (K and L) of the scales of the MMPI. The critical ratios of differences in mean scores made by the two groups seem to convey the impression that non-metropolitan courts commit delinquents to the State Training School who present a lesser degree of personality maladjustment. It is true that only two of the critical ratios (Hs and Hy) are of significance; however, the general pattern described by the data seems to indicate that many boys are committed to the State

Training School who are no more seriously maladjusted than boys placed on probation or committed to the County Home School. To what extent this practice, which is probably a result of differences in rural and urban treatment facilities, will be modified by the Minnesota Youth Conservation Commission created in 1947 remains to be seen. The legislation which created the Commission provides that with few exceptions persons under 21 years of age convicted of a felony or a gross misdemeanor must be committed to the Commission, thus stripping the Courts of the power to commit boys to the State Training School. The Act, in addition, contemplates the extension of probation and diagnostic services to the Courts of the entire State. If enough funds are appropriated and if trained and competent personnel can be found, the provisions of the Youth Conservation Act should erase the differences in diagnostic and treatment services for delinquents provided for urban and rural courts. It shall, therefore, be of interest to observe whether modifications will occur in the personality characteristics of rural and urban boys committed to Red Wing after the Youth Conservation Commission has functioned for a period of time.

TABLE IV

Mean Scores, Corrected (K) Mean Scores, Difference in Mean Scores, Significance of Difference in Mean Scores Made by Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Male Delinquents on the *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory*

Scales	Mean Score		Difference in Mean Score	Critical Ratio
	Metropolitan Group N = 44	Non-Metropolitan Group N = 36		
K	52.39	52.64	— .25 ¹⁵	— .14 ¹⁵
L	54.30	54.60	— .30	— .36
F	60.80	60.15	.65	.55
Hs	55.91	50.70	5.21	2.33
D	55.91	52.90	3.01	1.29
Hy	56.48	51.11	5.37	2.89
Pd	73.98	69.59	4.39	1.73
Mf	53.30	51.95	1.35	.68
Pa	60.00	59.17	.83	.41
Pt	62.16	58.89	3.27	1.16
Sc	66.37	62.92	3.45	1.63
Ma	63.53	60.56	2.97	1.29

15. A minus sign before the difference in means or critical ratios indicates that they are in an unexpected direction.

The persistence of the Pd scale in sharply differentiating between delinquents and non-delinquents as well as between the two delinquent groups is of special significance. The data presented in Table III for the Pd scale disclose that delinquents committed to the State Training School are marked by a greater degree of psychopathy than are delinquents placed on probation or committed to the County Home School. Further, the results suggest that psychopathy, as measured by the Pd scale, is associated with the socio-economic status of the non-delinquents with whom the delinquents are compared. As noted, the higher the socio-economic status of non-delinquents the greater the difference in mean scores made on the Pd scale by delinquents and non-delinquents. In view of the disappointing results produced by therapy for psychopathic deviates, these findings have far-reaching implications. Every effort should be made to create techniques that will detect trends toward psychopathy in children early in life in order that they may receive treatment long before such trends have rendered the outcomes of therapy extremely doubtful.

Persons afflicted with psychopathy seem unable, or have had little opportunity, to develop an ability to profit from experiences, and as Gough has suggested, they are insensitive to the demands of society and deficient in role-playing capacities.¹⁶ The psychopathic deviate has little or no regard for the rights and feelings of others and seems incapable of being remorseful. If, as the data disclose, male delinquents sent to the State Training School are more apt to exhibit a greater degree of psychopathy than do other delinquents, the School is faced with an extremely difficult task. It must provide facilities conducive to the development in such delinquents of role-playing skills. It must implement therapeutic processes designed to assure the growth in the psychopath of an appreciation of the individual and social consequences of behavior. In short, it must attempt to inculcate a "conscience within the individual." The development and maintenance of such programs for delinquent psychopaths in the State Training School are dependent upon the availability of adequate funds and of highly trained and competent personnel. It is needless to say that if it is found impossible to convince the general public of the desirability of spending to conserve human resources, effective therapeutic programs for the prevention and treatment of delinquency cannot exist.

16. GOUGH, HARRISON G., *A sociological theory of psychopathy*. AMER. J. OF SOCIOLOGY, 53:359-366. March, 1948.