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DELINQUENCY RATES AND PERSONALITY*

STARKE R. HATHAWAY, ELIO D. MONACHESI AND LAWRENCE A. YOUNG

This article presents results of another phase of a longitudinal study of the development of social adjustment which was begun in 1947. It is a part of a project supported by a grant from the Graduate School of the University of Minnesota and by a mental health grant, No. M724, from the National Institute of Mental Health, U. S. Public Health Service. For an earlier contribution by Dr. Hathaway and Professor Monachesi, see this JOURNAL, 48, No. 2, July-August, 1957—"The Personalities of Predelinquent Boys."

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Lawrence A. Young has been associated with the Hathaway-Monachesi research project since 1955 as Research Fellow in Sociology and Psychiatry in the University of Minnesota. Before then he held a position of Senior Statistician with the Youth Conservation Commission of the State of Minnesota.

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In a series of recent publications information was presented which indicated that the clinical and validity scales of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) are related to delinquency-proneness in adolescent boys^{1, 2, 3}. This information was based upon the study of 1,958 ninth grade boys from the total of 4,000 boys and girls tested with the MMPI who were attending Minneapolis public schools during the 1947-48 school year.

The first of the earlier reports dealing with

* Digits in parentheses refer to scales in the composition of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory; supra-numerals refer to footnotes. The scales are published in the preceding number of this JOURNAL at page 156.

¹ HATHAWAY, S. R. AND MONACHESI, E. D. ANALYZING AND PREDICTING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY WITH THE MMPI. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1953.

² HATHAWAY, S. R. AND MONACHESI, E. D. *The Personalities of Predelinquent Boys*. J. CRIM. LAW, CRIM. & POL. SCI. 48: 149-163, No. 2, July-August, 1957.

³ WIRT, R. D. AND BRIGGS, P. F. PERSONALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DELINQUENCY. Psychological Monographs, 1959. In press.

Minneapolis boys was based upon a follow-up investigation made two years after the time of the ninth grade MMPI testing¹. At that time each student was checked against public and private agency records for evidence of delinquent behavior and was given a delinquency rating on the basis of these findings. This information was then related to earlier MMPI performance. The analysis of the data involved the use of an MMPI coding technique. These analyses revealed that boys scoring high on certain combinations of MMPI scales—Psychopathic deviate (4), Schizophrenia (8), and Hypomania (9)—tend to become delinquent with greater frequency than the over-all delinquency rate established by this study for Minneapolis boys. By contrast, boys scoring high on scales for Social introversion (0), Depression (2), and Masculinity-femininity (5), had delinquency rates below the over-all rate. The first set of MMPI scales (4, 8, and 9), therefore, were termed delinquency excitatory scales, while the latter set (0, 2, and 5) were termed delinquency inhibitory scales. The remainder of the ten clinical scales—Hypochondriasis (1), Hysteria (3), Paranoia

(6), and Psychasthenia (7)—were termed delinquency variable scales because the delinquency rate associated with profile codes in which variable scales were dominant was approximately equivalent to the over-all delinquency rate. One of the most interesting aspects of this analysis was the finding that among these three sets of scales the inhibitory appeared to be the most powerful, for when one of the inhibitory scales was paired with one of the variable scales, or even with one of the excitatory scales to comprise the two most deviant scales in the same profile, the delinquency rate for the combination tended to be below the rate for all Minneapolis boys.

Four years after the initial personality testing, a second and more intensive follow-up study was made of the Minneapolis sample. In addition to a recheck of police and court records for evidence of delinquency, field workers interviewed the subject, his parents, or some other person well acquainted with him, to obtain information regarding his adjustment. Delinquency ratings were again made for each individual to cover the period between the first and second follow-up studies; these were combined with the first delinquency ratings to yield new ratings. These combined ratings were again related to earlier ninth grade MMPI performance. Much of the information pertaining to delinquency among boys as determined in the second follow-up study has been published² in a report which had as its primary focus the profile analysis of only those boys who became delinquent after the time of the ninth grade testing, i.e., the sample was purged of all post-diction error. The evidence in this later report showed that the previously observed relationships between delinquency and the MMPI excitatory, inhibitory, and variable scales held for these "pure prediction" cases despite the change in delinquency rates occurring over this longer period of time.

Wirt and Briggs³ conducted a third and even more intensive follow-up study of a portion of this group during 1956-57 when these boys were 23 years of age. They selected for special study samples of boys from the original Minneapolis group having inhibitory and excitatory profile code type. They found that the use of the MMPI code information, with certain additional objective factors such as family social agency contacts, yielded measures that increased their power to discriminate between delinquency-prone and non-delinquent boys.

THE PRESENT PROJECT

Encouraged by the findings of the Minneapolis studies, the research program was extended to include an additional 11,329 ninth graders who were given the MMPI during the 1953-54 school year. The schools attended by these children were located in 86 communities in 47 of Minnesota's 87 counties. This sample, believed to be representative of Minnesota's population, constituted 28 per cent of all ninth grade public school children for the 1953-54 school year. The group included 5,701 boys and 5,628 girls. Approximately 10 per cent of these children resided in the city of Duluth, 17 per cent in suburban communities of the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, 45 per cent in towns and villages, and 28 per cent on farms.

The larger study followed the same basic plan for collection, analysis, and interpretation of data as that employed in the Minneapolis studies. Three years after administration of the MMPI, a follow-up study was made of this entire sample. The survey included checks of police and court records for evidence of delinquency. In communities where these agencies did not keep systematic records, agency officials were interviewed to obtain data on the youngsters in their community.

This paper presents some data from the more diverse state-wide population. As is apparent, the study partly replicates the earlier studies and extends the findings with information on delin-

TABLE 1
CUMULATIVE DELINQUENCY RATINGS FOR 11,329
MINNESOTA 17-YEAR-OLDS

Delinquency Rating	Male		Female	
	f	%	f	%
0	3665	64.3	4945	87.9
1	591	10.4	232	4.1
2	857	15.0	232	4.1
3	352	6.2	74	1.3
4	136	2.4	37	0.7
No information	100	1.8	108	1.9
Total . . .	5701	100.1	5628	100.0
Over-all Delinquency Rate:				
Boys			1936/5601 = 34.6	
Girls			575/5520 = 10.4	

quency among adolescent girls. The data suggest applications of the findings to delinquency prevention and the treatment of the adolescent offender.

In all our studies an attempt was made to rate delinquency as objectively as possible, mainly relative to the significance of the behavior to the society rather than relative to the psychology of the delinquent or even the usual classes of offense. All such ratings are arbitrary and rough. More detail about the rating is given in *Analyzing and Predicting Juvenile Delinquency with the MMPI*.¹ Briefly, the rating begins with zero, which signifies that no public offenses were discovered. A rating of four is used for unmistakably severe cases. Most would agree that the levels two and three, although milder, still signify a definite problem. Level one is borderline. The minimum offense for these cases is at least one minor difficulty such as traffic contact. We use the term of delinquency for these cases only because the names are in public records and the offenses, though often minor, were reportable and consumed police time or resulted in property damage.

The data on delinquency ratings for the Minnesota statewide sample are in Table I. The table shows the frequency and proportion of the total group placed in each of five delinquency classifications. The ratings are based on the information gathered during the follow-up survey. Most of the children were attending the twelfth grade when the survey was conducted. Their average age was then 17.5 years. Each individual was rated on the basis of his total delinquency record at the time of the survey.

Some comparisons can be made from Table I with the information obtained earlier for Minneapolis adolescents. There were two surveys of the total Minneapolis sample; the first occurred when most of the members of the group were in the eleventh grade (average age 16.5 years); the second survey was made the year following high school graduation (average age 18.5 years). The survey for Table I occurred while that group was in the twelfth grade (average age 17.5 years), at a point approximately between the ages for the surveys of the Minneapolis group. By interpolation, estimation of the delinquency rate for Minneapolis adolescents equated to the age of the statewide group may be derived for comparison. Table II gives the data.

The rates for the two samples are remarkably similar. By the time they had reached 17.5 years

TABLE II
COMPARATIVE CUMULATIVE DELINQUENCY RATES FOR
MINNEAPOLIS AND MINNESOTA STATEWIDE
ADOLESCENTS

Av. Age	Boys Delinquency Rate		Girls Delinquency Rate	
	Mpls	Statewide	Mpls	Statewide
16.5	29.9	—	9.1	—
17.5	35.4*	34.0	10.5*	10.2
18.5	40.9	—	11.9	—
N =	1958	5701	2013	5628

* Delinquency rate for Minneapolis boys and girls at age 17.5 years is an estimate which assumes a constant delinquency rate during the two-year interval between the first and second follow-up surveys.

of age, approximately 35 per cent of the 1958 Minneapolis boys had been in sufficient trouble to have had their names recorded by either the police or the courts, while 34 per cent of the 5,701 boys in the statewide sample were similarly identified. The corresponding delinquency rates for girls at 17.5 years of age were 10.5 per cent for the 2,013 Minneapolis girls and 10.2 per cent for the 5,628 state-wide girls. The similarity of these rates is somewhat surprising, for the Minneapolis sample represents a purely urban population and the Minnesota statewide sample has a heavy rural weighting, with 28 per cent living on farms and 45 per cent living in smaller towns and villages throughout the state. There is also a seven year difference in time.

The reader should keep in mind that the delinquency rates reported here include minor offenses, but rates for both the Minneapolis and the statewide samples surely underestimate the extent of actual delinquency and the amount of delinquency among these groups. Some of the reasons why this seems true are:

1) In both the maintaining and the checking of records, it is more likely that a delinquent will be overlooked or lost in some manner than that a non-delinquent will be improperly identified as a delinquent.

2) Except in rare instances, individuals were checked only against the law enforcement records in the community of residence at the time of the ninth grade testing. Consequently, since no centralized set of delinquency records was available, some offenses committed in a neighboring community would be missed, as would those

committed by individuals who had moved from the community at some time after the testing program.

3) Record systems and law enforcement policies vary. In a few communities where records for juvenile offenders were not maintained, it was necessary to depend entirely on the memory of local police officers for delinquency information.

4) In computing the delinquency rates presented above, no adjustment has been made for attrition in sample size. This undoubtedly contributes more than any other factor to undervaluing the incidence of recorded delinquency in these samples. The greatest losses can be attributed to mobility. The data we have on mobility indicate that we are dealing with a fairly stable population. Approximately 73 per cent of the boys and 77 per cent of the girls continued school in the same community where they were tested as ninth graders. However, school records do indicate that approximately 8 per cent of all youngsters transferred to a school in another community between the testing and the follow-up, and that 18 per cent of the boys and 15 per cent of the girls dropped out of school during the same period. Many of the youngsters who dropped out of school remained in the community; these would usually be included in the follow-up data. Part of the 8 per cent that left

the community escaped the net of the follow-up survey. Only about 1 or 2 per cent of all the cases were completely lost, but it is reasonable to suppose that delinquency records for those who left the community underrate the facts since, although reported in the follow-up, the reports were second-hand and sketchy. We have clear evidence that boys who drop out of school are more likely to have delinquency records than are those who stay in school. It should be noted that the limitations on incidence rates also apply to the ratings for severity of delinquency.

ITEM DIFFERENCES

Some of the 550 MMPI items have a face relationship to delinquent behavior. Table III lists seven of these. Admission of misconduct seems to be signified in every positive answer and a denial of misconduct is suggested by a negative answer. All of these items reliably differentiate delinquent from non-delinquent groups of boys. They appear with other items on the delinquency scale reported earlier.² Since the Minneapolis juvenile police records were usually dated, it was possible to classify the delinquent boys in this sample relative to the time of their first record. Table III gives the frequencies of positive delin-

TABLE III
MMPI ITEMS RELATED TO ADMISSIONS OF MISCONDUCT AND DELINQUENCY

Item No.		Del. Response	(a) %	(b) %	(c) %	(d) %
37	I have never been in trouble because of my sex behavior.	F	27	29	14	17
38	During one period when I was a youngster I engaged in petty thievery.	T	60	39	27	34
56	As a youngster I was suspended from school one or more times for cutting up.	T	21	16	5	11
118	In school I was sometimes sent to the principal for cutting up.	T	49	46	29	36
294	I have never been in trouble with the law.	F	80	61	33	49
419	I played hooky from school quite often as a youngster.	T	25	15	9	14
471	In school my marks in deportment were quite regularly bad.	T	29	24	12	25
	N =		135	140	300	100

Samples:

- (a) N = 135 Minneapolis boys with police record before time of ninth grade testing.
- (b) N = 140 Minneapolis boys with police record after time of testing but not before.
- (c) N = 300 Minneapolis boys selected at random from non-delinquent group, i.e., no delinquency record in any of subsequent police checks.
- (d) N = 100 Minneapolis boys random sample.

quent response as they occur in several groups of boys.

The four items of the table that refer to school behavior would rarely, if ever, result in police action. Item 37, referring to sexual misconduct, also does not necessarily suggest legal difficulties.

Although other interpretations can be made, item 294 admits an actual police or court record. Among the random sample, 49 per cent admit in item 294 to having been in trouble with the law by age 14 when they were tested. Even as late as age 18.5 the observed delinquency rate was only 41 per cent. It must have been considerably below 49 per cent at age 14.

One seems pushed toward the conclusion that random samples of boys claim a greater frequency of trouble with the law than such follow-up work as we have done is able to discover. The boys of column (b) who were not in the police records before the time of answering the item, but who

were there later, showed a 61 per cent positive response. Here again there is apparently more difficulty than the actual data showed. One could interpret these data to say that these boys exaggerated the extent of their delinquency. The foregoing evidence from responses to item 294 contrasts with the evidence from the boys with known delinquency. Although the boys of the delinquent group in column (a) had police records, only 80 per cent answered the item positively. Here it appears that there is an underrating of frequency of trouble. One assumes that some of the delinquent boys simply lied in answering, for the item gives an underestimation of the true rate. But one in three of the boys in column (c) who were never delinquent gives a positive answer. Here we might badly overestimate the rate of delinquency. One assumes that it is not likely that these boys lie in order to appear worse than they are. Perhaps they merely exaggerate small inci-

TABLE IV
MMPI CODE TYPE RELATED TO DELINQUENCY—BOYS

	No. of Code Types	Minneapolis				Statewide			
		Total Codes		Primed Codes		Total Codes		Primed Codes	
		f	% Del.	f	% Del.	f	% Del.	f	% Del.
(a) Excitatory scale codes.....	6	553.5	49.3	320.0	54.8	1311.0	41.9	811.5	43.0
(b) Inhibitory scale codes.....	51	512.0	28.1	156.0	25.6	1398.5	27.1	459.0	29.6
(c) Variable scale codes.....	43	593.5	40.3	274.0	44.0	1835.5	34.3	904.5	36.6
(d) Indeterminate codes.....	1	106.0	41.5	15.0	46.7	303.0	31.0	39.0	41.0
(e) No high points.....	1	45.0	31.1	—	—	85.0	28.2	—	—
Sub-total—valids.....	102	1810.0	39.4	765.0	44.8	4933.0	34.3	2214.0	37.6
(f) Invalids.....		148.0	58.1			668.0	39.1		
Total.....		1958.0	40.9			5601.0*	34.6		

* 100 cases unknown as to delinquency rating

(a) *Delinquency Excitatory Codes:* This class contains only six MMPI profile code type pairs, the permutations of the three delinquency excitatory scales (4—Psychopathic deviate, 8—Schizophrenia, and 9—Hypomania) taken two at a time: 48, 84, 49, 94, 89, and 98. Thirty-one per cent of the Minneapolis boys and 27% of the statewide sample of boys with valid profiles had profiles of this type.

(b) *Delinquency Inhibitory Codes:* The three delinquency inhibitory scales are 0—Social introversion, 2—Depression, and 5—Masculinity-femininity. The class of delinquency inhibitory codes is comprised of all MMPI profiles in which one of these three scales appears as one of the two highest scales on the profile, i.e., 0, 2, and 5 may be paired with each other or any of the other seven clinical scales. There are 51 code types in this class and they account for approximately 28% of all profiles in both male samples.

(c) *Delinquency Variable Codes:* The delinquency variable scales are 1—Hypochondriasis, 3—Hysteria, 6—Paranoia, and 7—Psychasthenia. There are 43 high point code types in this category. Primarily these are the permutations of pairs of these four scales. Thirty-three per cent of the Minneapolis boys and 37 per cent of the statewide boys fall into this profile class.

Profile code categories (d) indeterminate and (e) no high point round out the table. Only about 8% of all valid profiles are in one of these two categories. Finally, boys having profiles of questionable validity on the basis of their scores on validity scales *P*, *L*, and *F* are treated as a separate class.

dents and so seem like the real delinquents. Yet the boys in column (b) have twice the rate of column (c), although records to the time of testing show no delinquency in either group. It might be that the boys of column (b) who later were known delinquents had unknown records earlier to which they confessed in answering the item. This seems to make these boys overly honest in contrast to the 20 per cent of delinquent boys in column (a) who denied the trouble. Other items in Table III illustrate the same complexities. We do not know what these data really mean. We provide them to emphasize the complexity of the relationship between delinquent behavior and those psychological attributes exemplifying personality. Clearly the individual motivations and interpretations behind these item response frequencies can not be summed up as simple error or lying; they will require much investigation.

DELINQUENCY AND PERSONALITY IN MMPI CODES

Some of the relationships between personality and delinquency rates are shown in Tables IV

and V. These tables, related to data we have previously published in this JOURNAL², are derived from the codes of MMPI profiles. The processes of coding and the general methodology have been repeatedly published^{1, 2, 3}. Although knowledge of these technicalities will make the tables much more meaningful, the following discussion is intended to interpret the data without much complication.

Earlier in this paper we briefly reviewed the data on the relationship between personality variables and delinquency rates. We identified certain MMPI scales as excitatory because those traits they measured were associated with higher rates; other scales were designated as inhibitory because they were associated with lower rates. Tables IV and V provide comparative data for the Minneapolis and the statewide samples.

Interpretation of these tables may begin with the Total rows. Here the base delinquency rates are given; the other rates can be referred to these. The rates are not directly comparable since they do not compensate for the difference in lapsed time before follow-up (see Table II). The interest in the

TABLE V
MMPI CODE TYPE RELATED TO DELINQUENCY—GIRLS

	No. of Code Types	Minneapolis				Statewide			
		Total Codes		Primed Codes		Total Codes		Primed Codes	
		f	% Del.	f	% Del.	f	% Del.	f	% Del.
(a) Excitatory scale codes.....	6	368.5	18.2	206.5	23.5	987.0	15.3	567.0	19.8
(b) Inhibitory scale codes.....	34	376.5	10.1	88.0	11.4	1075.5	6.0	303.5	6.8
(c) Variable scale codes.....	60	1002.0	10.4	316.5	14.7	2665.5	10.0	996.5	13.0
(d) Indeterminate codes.....	1	125.0	6.1	12.0	33.3	359.0	7.8	41.0	4.9
(e) No high points.....	1	41.0	—	—	—	84.0	2.4	—	—
Sub-total—valids.....	102	1913.0	11.6	623.0	17.5	5171.0	9.9	1908.0	13.9
(f) Invalids.....		100.0	19.0			349.0	12.3		
Total.....		2013.0	11.9			5552.0*	10.2		

* 108 cases unknown as to delinquency rating

(a) *Delinquency Excitatory Codes*: The six delinquency excitatory codes used here are the same as those given in Table IV. This category accounts for 19.3 per cent and 19.1 per cent of the Minneapolis and statewide samples, respectively.

(b) *Delinquency Inhibitory Codes*: For girls, only two scales—Social introversion (0) and Depression (2)—operate as delinquency inhibitors. The class of delinquency inhibitory codes is comprised of all MMPI profiles in which an inhibitory scale appears as one of the two highest scales of the profile. The permutations of these two scales paired with each other or with any of the other clinical scales, plus the occurrence of these two scales as single high points, make up the 34 delinquency inhibitory profile code types for girls.

(c) *Delinquency Variable Codes*: There are 60 MMPI profile codes of the delinquency variable type. This class is comprised of all profile codes not classifiable as either delinquency excitatory or delinquency inhibitory code types. These variable codes account for 52.4 per cent of the Minneapolis sample and 52.4 per cent of the statewide sample of female profile types.

All other code categories given in Table V are the same as those presented for boys in Table IV.

tables mainly concerns the relative rates rather than the comparative rates.

The Primed Codes columns signify the rates among those children whose MMPI profiles were more extremely deviant. Total Codes columns include both the deviant primed and the codes of the less extreme profiles. One would expect, therefore, that a tendency for rate variation appearing in the Total Codes column will be more pronounced when only the Primed Codes are counted.

Among the code types, the Variable and Indeterminate may be disregarded in a simplified explanation. The No high point codes suggest the most clearly normal personalities, since these had no really deviant score. Invalid profiles include, among others, those profiles of children who did not or could not cooperate well in taking the test.

In Table IV, the delinquency rates of 40.9 and 34.6 are the totals for all boys of each sample. In both cases, the boys who obtained codes with deviant excitatory scales (a) have a delinquency rate 20 per cent larger than the general rate. Contrastingly, the boys with inhibitory codes (b) have delinquency rates that are only 6 to 8 tenths of the general rate. Those boys with no deviant score on their profiles also show a lower rate. Finally, in both cases, boys who had invalid profiles (f) have an elevation of rate.

All these trends are even more marked among the girls, in Table V. Here the personality test data so closely relate to the delinquency rate that the rate among girls with excitatory code profiles (a) is up to twice the general rate, and the rates for the most normal profiles (e) are zero for the 41 Minneapolis girls and only 2.4 per cent among the 84 girls in the statewide sample.

DISCUSSION

We do not find these figures to be startling or highly explanatory of the personality factors in delinquency. We do feel that they convey solid information which may provide a modest base upon which a scientific knowledge of the inter-relationship of personality and delinquent behavior can be founded. The data on the items show that the response to the item is neither simple statement of obvious facts nor simply lying nor random answering. The MMPI variables that are sketchily represented in Tables IV and V were derived from adult behavior disorders. These boys and girls appear, among other possibilities, to be malad-

justed in some part similarly to adults, and an occasional symptom of this maladjustment is an increased or decreased propensity to be delinquent. We want to express particularly that non-delinquency seems to be at times a symptom as well as an outcome of normal personality. In fact, we note that these tables show, as we have earlier stated, that it seems easier to relate measured personality traits to the non-delinquent than to relate such traits to the occurrence of delinquency.

We have recovered some from our earlier disappointment that we seem to discover such relatively weak predictors and analysers of the personalities of delinquents. At any rate, these factors, partly described here, are much less powerful and apply to fewer cases among the total samples than would be expected if one reads the literature on the subject. We feel that our difficulty lies in the objectivity, broad sampling, and longitudinal method of study. It may be that these more rigorous methods will discourage work in the field where we need the high morale that comes with ideas or less controlled data with which delinquency seems simply explained and more surely predicted.

Surely we cannot say that these data put us far ahead either in prediction or understanding. But they are merely a first analysis, possibly far from an optimal one, of our extensive material. We are hoping to find new relationships and new analytical approaches that will sharply increase and extend the validity of the findings. Although the 550 items of the MMPI are probably adequate to explore the maximum relationships between the personality the children put into the patterns of their answers and their behavior, it is not likely that the scales of the MMPI, as now used, are developing the maximum relationship. In spite of the great amount known about delinquency, we have no way available to sharpen the test tool. We have much available in general terms that purports to describe the personality of the delinquent, but there are no experimentally derived scales or systematically established types that have experimentally survived to be the foundation for more satisfactory analyses and prediction.

SUMMARY

Data have been presented here from a greatly expanded sample of adolescents who have been studied by methods we have reported earlier.¹

Ninth grade public school children were tested with the MMPI as a representative objective test of personality. The careers of the children were followed to discover significant behavior. Among the most interesting and easily tabulated of the data from the follow-up was the occurrence of delinquency. The data given here sketchily relate some of the apparent relationships between delinquency and personality as measured by the MMPI.

The extended sample increased the total study population to nearly fifteen thousand children. The new data extend the sample over the whole state of Minnesota. For the most part, the state-wide results closely replicate those of the Minneapolis sample reported earlier. There are the same general evidences for a moderate relationship between certain measured personality traits and both the occurrence and non-occurrence of delinquency. The data are grossly similar for boys and girls, although the rate with girls is so low that it required this large sample to properly develop the evidence.

We have discussed briefly the significance of the findings. The facts suggested by the data are

not pretentious. They do seem to provide a foundation for the continuing analysis.

The method permits objective identification of some boys and girls whose personality traits, whatever may be their origin, seem to presage delinquent behavior. Even more clearly, some boys and girls have measurable traits seemingly inimical to the occurrence of delinquency. Data not presented here show that these various personality traits have environmental correlates, such as with the broken home, but it is a significant finding that the personalities also are partly independent of obvious environmental influence. Sociology has been rightly concerned with the environmental conditions in which the personality of the adolescent develops. We suggest that the adolescent himself is a contributing factor both to his environment and to his behavior. These data emphasize the complexity of adolescent motivation. For example, it seems that some personality deviations in the children have desirable symptomatic expression in the restricted sense of an inhibitory effect on delinquent behavior, even though the same deviations may dispose to undesirable behavior in other ways.