

Attitudes About Delinquents Inventory

Please circle the response that most closely approximates your point of view:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Delinquency is a symptom of underlying psychological disturbance	4	3	2	1
2. Delinquency is motivated by evil impulses or lack of restraint due to permissiveness or absence of punishment	4	3	2	1
3. Delinquents are capable of productive contributions	4	3	2	1
4. Delinquents are fundamentally different from other adolescents in psychological and emotional makeup in terms of mental deficiencies or problems	4	3	2	1
5. Some offenders need individual treatment; others may be unnecessarily stigmatized or harmed by therapeutic interventions	4	3	2	1
6. Treatment and services may be inappropriate and ineffective in the absence of punishment	4	3	2	1
7. Delinquents are similar to other adolescents	4	3	2	1
8. Delinquency is a relatively normal response to the need for status and belonging	4	3	2	1
9. Delinquents are fundamentally different from other adolescents in motivation and impulse for deviant behavior	4	3	2	1
10. Most offenders need individual treatment and benefit from therapeutic interventions	4	3	2	1
11. Delinquents are incapable of productive, rational action without therapeutic intervention	4	3	2	1
12. Delinquents are incapable of conventional behavior without threat of punishment and strict discipline	4	3	2	1
13. The chief causes of delinquency are poor parenting, psychological problems, and a high level of vulnerability to environmental risks	4	3	2	1
14. Delinquents want to improve their behavior and are capable of doing so with appropriate guidance and support	4	3	2	1
15. The chief causes of delinquency are poor choices, lack of opportunity to participate meaningfully in the community, and lack of systems knowledge of how to access and mobilize the energy of youth in positive ways	4	3	2	1
16. The chief causes of delinquency are youth who have predatory personalities, greed, and lack of bonding to the institutions of society	4	3	2	1
17. Delinquents' desire to change is based on sustained therapeutic interventions and resolution of deep psychological damage	4	3	2	1
18. Delinquents don't want to change their behavior, but with careful sanctioning, can be controlled	4	3	2	1

Attitudes About Delinquents Inventory (Continued)

Scoring:

Category 1: Add numbers 1, 4, 10, 11, 13, and 17. This score reflects the extent to which you view youth in the juvenile justice system as victims.	
Category 2: Add numbers 2, 6, 9, 12, 16, and 18. This score reflects the extent to which you view youth in the juvenile justice system as villains.	
Category 3: Add numbers 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, and 15. This score reflects the extent to which you view youth in the juvenile justice system as resources.	

Developed by L. Nissen, 2-98, Based on Bazemore, G., and Terry, W.C. (1997). Developing delinquent youths: A reintegrative model for rehabilitation and a new role for the juvenile justice system. *Child Welfare*, 76(5), 665-716.