



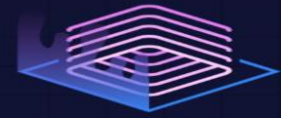
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan

Nayab Nelofer¹ Uzma Shahid² Saria Ali³

^{1,2,3}Ms Scholar at Department of Psychology at University Peshawar

nelofarnabi999@gmail.com

Abstract:

When compared to male offenders, the percentage of female offenders doing time in prison in South Africa is statistically low. As a result, studies focusing on female criminality in Africa, particularly Southern Africa, have been mostly underfunded. Although female criminal activity is statistically tiny compared to that of males, the number of women incarcerated has climbed in recent years in South Africa, as it has everywhere throughout the world. The convicts of two Gauteng, South African, prisons were randomly selected for this study, and their criminal backgrounds and personality traits were analyzed. The majority of South Africa's female convicts are housed in Gauteng, the country's most populous and economically significant region.

Keywords: Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan



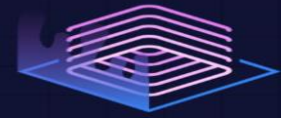
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



Introduction

Throughout history, women have been perceived more as victims of crime than as perpetrators, which has made it challenging for them to identify their own role and participation to criminal activity (Dastile, 2010: 95). Even in the countries of Europe, there is a lack of understanding regarding crimes committed by women and the specific contextual circumstances involved in each case. It is critical to conduct research into the gender inequalities that exist in this area so that the focus may be narrowed and direct intervention techniques can be developed (see Visseaux and Bornstein, 2012: 1).

Dastile (2010: 95-97) claims that very little is known about the characteristics, nature, and contributing factors of female criminals who are detained in South African correctional institutions, despite the fact that the number of women incarcerated in South African prisons has increased by 68% over the previous decade. This is despite the fact that the number of female criminals incarcerated in South African correctional facilities has increased. In addition, she argued that the phenomenon as well as the research topic had been ignored by previous researchers.

An examination into a convenience sample of female prisoners' demographics and criminal participation is centered on two correctional facilities in the province of Gauteng in South Africa. These facilities house the majority of the country's convicted female criminals and are the subject of the investigation.

Drug-related offenses accounted for the incarceration of 11% of women. In addition, this is the only category in which there are a greater number of female offenders than male criminals. 1.7% of all violent crimes and 4.7% of all adult female convicts were for economic crimes. Economic crimes also accounted for 1.7% of all adult male offenders. The demographic breakdown of female convicts, broken down by offense category, is presented in Table 1. According to the data, 45 percent of the population was convicted of economic crimes, 38 percent of the population was convicted of violent crimes, 0.6 percent of the population was convicted of sexual offenses, 10.3 percent of the population was convicted of drug-related offenses, and 6.1 percent of the population was convicted of "other" crimes. The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) did not comply with the numerous demands made to provide additional particular information as well as an explanation of what "other" violations involved.

It is only logical to assume that the geographical conditions will vary greatly from place to place. (Office of the Secretary of the Department of Correctional Services, 2013) The biggest number of convicted criminals were found in the province of Gauteng, which accounted for 23.2% of the



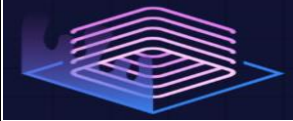
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



total. Because it is the smallest but most densely populated province, the authors came to the conclusion that Gauteng, which is known as South Africa's "economic hub," would be the most suitable location to carry out this kind of research (South Africa Info, 2013). The researchers recruited a representative sample of 77 female criminals who were detained in two Gauteng prisons as part of an exploratory study on female criminality. These women accounted for 7 percent of all female convicts in the province.

According to Kimonis, Skeem, Edens, Douglas, Lilienfeld, and Poythress (2010): 581, in the year 2004, 7.0% of all jailed criminals were females. South Africa can look to Kenya and Malaysia as illustrative countries of excellence. Compared to Malaysia, where the number of female inmates at Eldoret G. K. Prison was closer to 7%-10% (Teh, 2006: 46), the proportion of female inmates in Kenya's Eldoret G. K. Prison was 9.4% female (Kinyanjui & Atwoli, 2013: 1).

In both established and developing nations, the number of female offenders who have been sentenced to incarceration remains statistically insignificant in compared to the number of male criminals who have been sentenced. According to Zimudzi (Dastile, 2010: 97), the fact that the incidence of female offenses is lower than the rate of male offenses is one of the key reasons why female criminality in Africa, particularly in southern Africa, has not received as much attention as it deserves. This is particularly true in countries like South Africa.

An examination into a convenience sample of female prisoners' demographics and criminal participation is centered on two correctional facilities in the province of Gauteng in South Africa. These facilities house the majority of the country's convicted female criminals and are the subject of the investigation.

Drug-related offenses accounted for the incarceration of 11% of women. In addition, this is the only category in which there are a greater number of female offenders than male criminals. 1.7% of all violent crimes and 4.7% of all adult female convicts were for economic crimes. Economic crimes also accounted for 1.7% of all adult male offenders. The demographic breakdown of female convicts, broken down by offense category, is presented in Table 1. According to the data, 45 percent of the population was convicted of economic crimes, 38 percent of the population was convicted of violent crimes, 0.6 percent of the population was convicted of sexual offenses, 10.3 percent of the population was convicted of drug-related offenses, and 6.1 percent of the population was convicted of "other" crimes. The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) did not comply with the numerous demands made to provide additional particular information as well as an explanation of what "other" violations involved. It is only logical to assume that the geographical conditions will vary greatly from place to place. (Office of the Secretary of the Department of



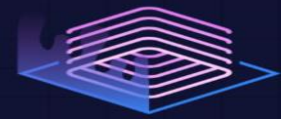
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



Correctional Services, 2013) The biggest number of convicted criminals were found in the province of Gauteng, which accounted for 23.2% of the total. Because it is the smallest but most densely populated province, the authors came to the conclusion that Gauteng, which is known as South Africa's "economic hub," would be the most suitable location to carry out this kind of research (South Africa Info, 2013). The researchers recruited a representative sample of 77 female criminals who were detained in two Gauteng prisons as part of an exploratory study on female criminality. These women accounted for 7 percent of all female convicts in the province.

Dastile (2010: 95-97) claims that very little is known about the characteristics, nature, and contributing factors of female criminals who are detained in South African correctional institutions, despite the fact that the number of women incarcerated in South African prisons has increased by 68% over the previous decade. This is despite the fact that the number of female criminals incarcerated in South African correctional facilities has increased. In addition, she argued that the phenomenon as well as the research topic had been ignored by previous researchers.

According to Kimonis, Skeem, Edens, Douglas, Lilienfeld, and Poythress (2010): 581, in the year 2004, 7.0% of all jailed criminals were females. South Africa can look to Kenya and Malaysia as illustrative countries of excellence. Compared to Malaysia, where the number of female inmates at Eldoret G. K. Prison was closer to 7%-10% (Teh, 2006: 46), the proportion of female inmates in Kenya's Eldoret G. K. Prison was 9.4% female (Kinyanjui & Atwoli, 2013: 1).

An examination into a convenience sample of female prisoners' demographics and criminal participation is centered on two correctional facilities in the province of Gauteng in South Africa. These facilities house the majority of the country's convicted female criminals and are the subject of the investigation.

Drug-related offenses accounted for the incarceration of 11% of women. In addition, this is the only category in which there are a greater number of female offenders than male criminals. 1.7% of all violent crimes and 4.7% of all adult female convicts were for economic crimes. Economic crimes also accounted for 1.7% of all adult male offenders. The demographic breakdown of female convicts, broken down by offense category, is presented in Table 1. According to the data, 45 percent of the population was convicted of economic crimes, 38 percent of the population was convicted of violent crimes, 0.6 percent of the population was convicted of sexual offenses, 10.3 percent of the population was convicted of drug-related offenses, and 6.1 percent of the population was convicted of "other" crimes. The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) did not comply with the numerous demands made to provide additional particular information as well as an explanation of what "other" violations involved. It is only logical to assume that the geographical



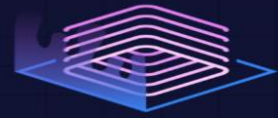
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



conditions will vary greatly from place to place. (Office of the Secretary of the Department of Correctional Services, 2013) The biggest number of convicted criminals were found in the province of Gauteng, which accounted for 23.2% of the total. Because it is the smallest but most densely populated province, the authors came to the conclusion that Gauteng, which is known as South Africa's "economic hub," would be the most suitable location to carry out this kind of research (South Africa Info, 2013). The researchers recruited a representative sample of 77 female criminals who were detained in two Gauteng prisons as part of an exploratory study on female criminality. These women accounted for 7 percent of all female convicts in the province.

In the following, you will find the findings of an inductive inquiry into the criminal histories and profiles of a convenience sample of female convicts in the correctional facilities located in Gauteng, South Africa.

Methodology

This study's purpose was to investigate a scenario or environment in which the research problem was not well-defined, hence demanding an inductive and exploratory method (Wagner, Kawulich, & Garner, 2012: 270). In other words, the researchers wanted to see how an inductive and exploratory strategy would work.

Using the guidelines of informed permission, confidentiality, and the participants' desire to take part in the study, a sample was taken from two different correctional facilities in the province of Gauteng. Participants were given the assurance that their anonymity would be protected, and they were advised that it was entirely up to them whether or not they wanted to take part in the study. Participants were advised that their participation in the study would not result in any measurable benefits, nor would they be eligible for any prizes of any kind. As was mentioned before, 77 female inmates who were serving time in Gauteng prisons chose to take part in the study. This number represents around 7% of the total number of female criminals serving time in the province.

Conclusion

The findings of the study suggest that the involvement of the research group in violent crimes was surprising and defied prevalent views about women and crime, particularly in comparison to economic crimes. The outcomes of the study were presented in the form of a table. The female criminals serving time in South African prisons appear to have engaged in substantially more forceful and aggressive behavior during the commission of their crimes than, for example, their counterparts serving time in Malaysian prisons, and they also appear to have committed more



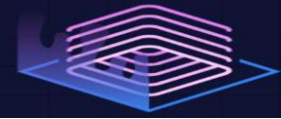
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



serious offenses. The possibility of participants in study having linkages to international organized criminal networks is increased when those participants take part in drug distribution.

The results of the study should be regarded with caution, and further research with a representative sample of female inmates from around the country ought to be carried out in order to validate these findings. In addition to that, this study ought to take into account the sociodemographic aspects of the area. In this particular investigation, quantitative methods should be supplemented with qualitative methods so that a more complete understanding of the dynamics and idiographic circumstances of the criminal behavior of offenders may be achieved.

References

- Dastile, N.P. (2010). Black female offending in post-apartheid South Africa. *Acta Criminologica: Southern African Journal of Criminology*, Special edition No. 1/2010): 95-106.
- Department of Correctional Services. (2011). Statistical information. Available at: <http://www.dcs.gov.za/AboutUs/StatisticalInformation.aspx>. Department of Correctional Services.
- Department of Correctional Services. Media Statement 4 June 2013. Rehabilitation and reintegration is central to imprisonment. Available at: <http://www.dcs.gov.za/UploadedFiles/Rehabilitation%20and%20reintegration%20is%20central%20to%20imprisonment.pdf>.
- Hinton, P.R., Brownlow, C., McMurray, I. & Cozens, B. (2004). *SPSS explained*. London, UK: Routledge.
- Kimonis, E.R., Skeem, J.L., Edens, J.F., Douglas, K.S., Lilienfeld, S.O. & Poythress, N.G. (2010). Suicidal and criminal behaviour among female offenders: the role of abuse and psychopathology. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 24(5), 581-609.
- Kinyanjui, D.W.C. & Atwoli, L. (2013). Substance use among inmates at the Eldoret prison in Western Kenya. *BMC Psychiatry*, 13(1): 1-8.
- South Africa Info. (2013). Available at: <http://www.southafrica.info/about/people/population.htm>.
- Terblanche, S.S. (2007). *A guide to sentencing in South Africa*. Durban: LexisNexis.
- Teh, Y.K. (2006). Female prisoners in Malaysia. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 43(1): 45-64.



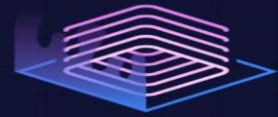
Citation

Nayab Nelofer, Uzma Shahid, Saria Ali. Qualitative Study of Trends in Female Crime in Gauteng in Pakistan. *Advance Social Science Archive Journal*. Retrieved from <http://assajournal.com/index.php/36/article/view/31>

Advance social science archive journal

E(ISSN) [3006-2500](#)

P(ISSN) [3006-2497](#)



- Visseaux, J-F. & Bornstein, S. (2012). Gender specificities in women's criminality in France, a penal psychiatric expert opinion support. *Annales Me'dico-Psychologiques*, 170: 686–691. Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amp.2012.04.005>.
- Wagner, C., Kawulich, B. & Garner, M. (Eds). (2012). *Doing social research. A global context*. London: McGraw-Hill.