

# FACTORS RELATED TO CRIME INCIDENCE IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS. IMPLICATIONS TO LAW ENFORCERS AND SCHOOL MANAGERS

Erly M. Martir

Guimaras Province, Philippines

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**Abstract:** This descriptive documentary research is a critical analysis of crime incidence in the Province Guimaras, from 2007-2009. The factors that tend to the commission of these crimes and the implications of these findings to law enforcers and school managers were the focus of this investigation. The statistical tools used were the frequency count, percentage, ranking and the mean. The respondents were classified according to personal attributes and personal life. The most prevalent crimes committed were crimes against person followed by crimes against public order and crimes against moral and personal property. The factors that most influenced the commission of crimes were alcoholism, followed by media-exposure-violent crimes and peer influence. There were no significant differences in the factors influencing the commission of crimes when classified according to variables. Findings implied that police personnel need peace education which encourages values of compassion, caring and cooperation with their fellow citizens. Some of the preventive measures that should be exercised by the police force would have to possess the right values and attitudes in dealing with their constituents, so that they could get their respect. Examining the home and family life could be a solution. Findings also implied the need to curb

**Keywords:** Crime Incidence, Law Enforcement, School Managers.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### Background of the Study

Rampant criminal incidence is an indication of an unhealthy society. This could be attributed to several reasons such as poverty, laxity of the enforcement of the law, and the like. Knowing the status of the crime incidence in the locality and understanding the factors that caused these had recently been the focus of attention among policy makers, administrators, law enforcers and even school managers in coming up with workable and effective plans so that a well-balanced economic, political and social life could be provided to the citizenry.

Richard Quinney (2007) described “crime as a definition of human conduct created by authorized agents in a politically organized society. It describes behaviors that conflict with the interests of the segment of society that have the power to shape public policy.”

Roshier (2009) defined crime “as only identifiable by the discouraging response it works.” Crime can serve as an indicator of a society’s health: the more there is, the sicker the society.

All criminal events include an offender, a victim and a setting.

The chief cause of criminal behavior is a host of other factors. Some factors related to crime are the following: high population density, economic conditions, climate, and distressed neighborhoods which cause impact on crime rates (FBI Report, 2006).

There are 13 categories of crimes classified by the Revised Penal Code of the Philippines (2008). These are crimes against: national security, fundamental law of the state, public order, public interest, public morals, persons, personal liberty, personal property, chastity, honor, civil status of persons, crimes related to prohibited drugs and crimes committed by public officers.

Being the provincial sheriff of the Regional Trial Court in the province of Guimaras for 15 years, these seemingly alarming situations had prodded the researcher to delve more deeply into the reasons attributed to the commission of these crimes. Knowing the factors that had caused these, one could draw implications why these crimes were committed and perhaps solutions to answer these rising gaps in society may be addressed, hence this study.

### **Statement of the Problem**

This descriptive documentary research is a critical analysis of crime incidence in the province of Guimaras, for a period of three (3) years, from 2007-2009. The factors that tend to the commission of these crimes and the implications of these findings to law enforcers and school managers were the focus of this investigation.

More, specifically, this study attempted to answer the following questions:

1. What is the profile of the offenders when classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life?
2. What are the most prevalent crimes committed by the offenders in the province of Guimaras as a whole and when they are classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life?
3. Is there a significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they are classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life?
4. Is there a significant relationship between the crimes committed by the offenders and their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic and social life?
5. What are the factors influencing the offenders' commission of crimes?
6. Is there a significance difference in the factors influencing the offenders' commission of crimes when they are classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life?
7. Is there a significant relationship between the factors committing crimes and the offenders' personal attributes as to their age, gender, civil status and educational attainment and their personal life as to family life, religion, economic life and social life?
8. What are the implication of the crime incidence to the law enforcers as to: preventative measures, peace and order (maintenance capacity); and work or unit force?
9. What are the implications of this study to the school managers as to: preventive measures and proposed curriculum guidelines?

### **Hypotheses**

To answer the foregoing questions, the following null hypotheses were addressed:

1. There is no significant difference in the most prevalent crimes committed by the offenders when they are classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life.
2. There is no significant relationship between the crimes committed by the offenders and their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic and social life.

3. There is no significant difference in the factors influencing the offenders' commission of crimes when they are classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life.

4. There is no significant relationship between the factors for committing crimes and the offenders' personal attributes as to their age, gender, civil status, and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic and social life.

### Significance of the Study

The finding of this study will benefit the following:

**Offenders.** Results of this study would serve as a wake-up call for "offenders" and "would be offenders" of the fact that crime does not pay and no matter what bad experiences they may have in life, these could be reversed by the values of industriousness, honesty and integrity.

**Law Enforcer.** This sector will greatly benefit from the results of this study for it could give them deeper insight on the preventive aspects of crime commission, on the maintenance of peace and order and the required work force that is needed to sustain a peaceful community.

**School Managers.** In this respect, school managers and teachers play a great role in crime prevention as they are constantly in contact with children in the early stages of their development, when preventive measures are mostly programs. These services will help in reducing the alienation of violators in the community at the same time increase their confidence towards the justice system.

**All sectors of society.** This study could provide all sectors of the society to have an intelligent understanding of crime and criminals and their individual participation in public life.

Crime, Criminals and laws are supposedly everybody's concern and interest. Crimes are transgressions of the laws which are formulated by the people or citizen through their chosen leaders. While lawyers and judges determine the law, they judge their transgressors and the police officers execute the law. The jail warden and their staff maintain custody and to some extent, to rehabilitate convicted criminals. The psychiatrists, psychologists and sociologists carry on research to unravel the network of causes of criminal behavior with the assistance of the social workers' experiment conducted and some preventive and remedial measures to rehabilitate the transgressors.

**The researcher.** Output of this study would provide the researcher with a rich background and in-depth understanding on how crimes could be minimized, if not totally eliminated. As a member of the Supreme Court, output of this study could be incorporated and adopted as an approach or strategy in his job, specifically in seeking to improve the basic service delivery of the department to its clientele.

**Future researcher.** For those in the field of research, this study will be valuable guide in their future research endeavors. They could make the study either as a reference material or as a useful citation, as a related literature, in the concept of crimes, and as a basis for the future formulation of appropriate prevention programs for offenders, and would be offenders.

### Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study was conducted in the Province of Guimaras. It only focused on crimes that had been filed at the Regional Trial Court from 2007 to 2009. This covered the municipalities of Jordan, Buenavista, Nueva Valencia, San Lorenzo, Sibunag. The researcher believes that records in the abovementioned branches are sufficient for the investigation to form valid conclusions of the existing records.

Data gathered were used solely for scholarly analysis and did not necessarily reveal the identity of offenders to protect them. The descriptive statistical tools used were the frequency count, percentage, ranking and the mean. The inferential statistical tools were the t-test and the chi-square.

Finally, it is the intent of this study that results of the investigation could be used in the formulation of a preventive program of the policy makers in the justice system, the law enforcement and the school system.

### **Definition of Terms**

To facilitate understanding, the key terms used in this study were conceptually and operationally defined as follows:

**Factor.** Factors is one that actively contributes to an accomplishment or process (Wildeman, 2006).

In this study, the term to something that contributes to the commission of crime punishable under existing Philippine laws in the province of Guimaras from 2007 to 2009. These factors include the offenders personal attributes such as age, gender, civil status and educational attainment and personal life as family life, religious practice, economic life and social life.

**Crime.** Crime refers to the breach of rules or laws for which some governing authority can prescribe a conviction. Modern societies regard crime as offense against the public or state (Richard Quinney, 2005).

In this study, the term refers to crimes enumerated under the Revised Penal Code of the Philippines and committed in the province of Guimaras from 2007-2009.

**Incidence.** Incidence is the occurrence of new cases of a condition (ALS Forum 5, 2009).

In this study, the term refers to something that happened in violation to existing laws in the province of Guimaras from year 2007 to year 2009.

**Implication.** Implication meant a suggestion, an implied meaning or implicit significant or an inference (Farlex, 2010).

In this study, the term refers to the analysis of facts that will derive a suggestion or recommendation to law enforcers and school managers.

**Law enforcers.** The term refers to all commissioned officers, enlisted personnel who are in the active service of the Philippine National Police. They are the provider of social order and contender of social unrest (ALS Forum 5, 2009).

In this study, the term refers to the commissioned officers, enlisted personnel of the PNP who are in active service in the province of Guimaras.

**Province of Guimaras.** Which was formerly known as Him-al-us and was named after the impetuous but ill-fated lover, Princess Guima and the slave Aras, was defied tradition for their romance. Rejecting the betrothal by her father to another noble son, they escaped by a small raft but they disappeared in the raging sea. From then on, whenever strong winds, churned the seas, people seemed to hear the lovers names shouted by her repentant father, thus, the name Guimaras.

In this study, the term refers to the province located in Western Visayas comprising of five (5) municipalities: Jordan, Buenavista, Nueva Valencia, Sibunag and San Lorenzo.

**Related.** The term refers to being connected or associated (Webster, 2005).

In this study, the term refers to the causes or factors which are associated with the commission of crimes in the province of Guimaras.

**School Managers.** These are the persons occupying policy implementing positions having to do with the functions of the school in all levels (Webster, 2005).

In this study, the term refers to head teachers, school-in-charge, assistant school principals, school principals, supervisors, district supervisors, vocational school superintendents, assistant school superintendents, school division superintendents, professors, and presidents of state colleges in the province of Guimaras.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

This chapter presents the literature of the studies related to the present study. This is divided into two parts, namely, the conceptual literature and the related studies.

### **Crime**

According to French sociologist, Emile Durkheim (2007), crime is not only normal but is also necessary to hold society together.

First, crime serves to establish and clarify the moral boundaries of a society together.

Second, crime enhances solidarity by giving the law-abiding members of a society a common enemy source of resistance. Crime provides the opportunity to maintain the rules of society by offering occasions “to arouse and reaffirm public support and recognition of the moral boundaries of society.

Third, deviations from social norms promote innovative social change allowing social rules to be modified.

According to Durkheim, “crime implies not only that the way remains open to necessary changes but that in certain cases it directly prepares for these changes. He further stated that an act is criminal when it offends the strong, well-defined states of the collective consciousness.”

Michael and Adler (2006), stressed that the “character of the behavior content of criminal law will be determined by the capacity of behavior to arouse our indignation,” expressed a similar sentiment.

Burgess (2007) argued that a lack of public outrage, stigma, and official punishment, attached to social action indicates that such action is not a violation of society’s rules, independent of whether it is legally punishable.

Roshier (2008) defined crime a “only identifiable by the discouraging response it evokes.”

The Revised Penal Code of the Philippines (2008) classified thirteen crimes and penalties. They are the following: (1) crimes against national security and the law of nations such as treason and espionage, disloyalty, piracy and mutiny; (2) crime against the fundamental law the state such as detention or expulsion, violation of dwelling, prohibition, interruption, dissolution of peaceful meeting, and crimes against religious worship; (3) crimes against public order such as rebellion, coup d’ état, sedition, and disloyalty, crimes against legislative bodies, violation of parliamentary immunity, illegal assemblies and associations, disobedience to persons in authority, public disorders and evasion of service of sentence; (4) crimes against public interest such as forgeries, falsities and frauds; (5) crimes relative to prohibited drugs; (6) crimes against public morals such as gambling and betting, against decency and good customs; (7) crimes committed by public officers such as malfeasance, bribery, illegal transactions, malversation of public funds or property, infidelity of public officers, and disobedience; (8) crimes against persons such as destruction of life (parricide, murder, homicide, abortion, duel), physical injuries, and rape; (9) crimes against personal liberty and security such as liberty (illegal detention, kidnapping, slavery), crimes against security (abandonment of helpless people, trespass to dwelling, threats and coercion, and discovery and revelation of secrets; (10) crimes against property such as robbery, brigandage, theft, usurpation, culpable insolvency, swindling, chattel mortgage, arson, malicious mischief, and exemption from criminal liability in crimes against property; (11) crimes against chastity such as adultery, rape, seduction, corruption of minors, and abductions; and, (12) crimes against the civil status of persons such as simulation of births and illegal marriages; (13) crimes against honor such as libel, and incriminatory machinations.

“Modern society certainly looks crime as a challenge: how should it be handled, controlled and prevented” (Catedral, July 2005).

### **Factors Related to Crime Incidence**

The chief cause of criminal behavior is a host of other factors. The factors related to crime are the following: high population density, which according to FBI report (2006), areas with higher or dense population often have a higher rate of crime; commercial/business districts where areas with high commercial populations usually have more crime, economic conditions, which according to Bruce Weimburg (2005) study, a poor economy has an immense impact on crime rates; climate, which according to John Rotton (2008), hot and dry weather was a significant factor in predicting crime as economic factors or population density; distressed neighborhoods, which according to George Kelling and James Wilson’s theory, neighborhoods that are run-down graffiti- covered and in a state of disorder tend to have more crimes than orderly neighborhoods.

### **On Some Factors Affecting the Commission of Crime**

Man’s nature is greatly influenced by so many factors. For instance, the most important of all social groups and societies to which a person belongs is the family. People normally spend the most important years of their lives within this circle. The defects and propensities to evil which a child may inherit will be largely eliminated, and his good qualities will be developed if he/she is raised in an atmosphere of love and kindness, with a normal healthy development of all social qualities with his parents, brothers and sisters, and companions.

The neighborhood is the person's next social environment. It offers a place for the person to seek for companions. With good companions, an individual develops not only his body but also his mind.

Good environment influences an individual's self-reliance, self-control, fidelity to ideas and a respect for law.

The school is also an institution which offers a vital part of a man's social environment. In it, the majority of people spend money, hours for a good number of years of their lives. The school teaches youth to be self-reliant, self-controlled, and formulate high ideals and respect for laws and imparts socialized knowledge enabling students to be good citizens and become productive members of society. School furthers the development of children by providing spiritual training, sound education influenced by teachers with high ideals, moral integrity, and God-fearing.

Basically, criminal acts arise out of the adjustment efforts of people within the mold of specific social and cultural situation. In essence, many factors then could lead to a man's commission of crime from personal to non-persona ranging from small to big reasons.

It could be said that crime is usually the end result of a group of interrelated factors. It could be said that crime is usually the end result of a group of interrelated factors.

### **Law Enforcement**

Law enforcement is the activity of any law enforcement agency, which is any organization that enforces the laws of one or more governing bodies, on an organization that actively and directly assists in the enforcement of laws (Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., September 27, 2009).

In doing so, law enforcement agencies assist in maintaining the peace between and safety of their subjects. A person authorized to enforce the law is sometimes generally referred to as a law enforcement officer, and they can also be referred to as agents.

When the law enforcement officer is also responsible for public safety and social order, the person is typically called a police officer and constable.

The essences of law enforcement are the following: law enforcement agencies which consist of the police department; military police, secret police; law enforcement officers consisting of the constable, marshal, peace officer, police officer, ranger, sheriff, special agent and trooper.

### **Law Enforcement in the Philippines**

Law enforcement in the Philippines is usually handled by two primary agencies, either by the Philippine National Police (PNP) or by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI). Neighborhood policing is done by the local community police, or barangay police. Some areas frequented by foreigners have tourism police officers.

### **Factors of Crime Incidence**

Ladrado's study (2008) on the factors of crime incidence in the province of Iloilo and Passi City, utilized the descriptive research design, using the content analysis method. It aimed to present the critical analysis of juvenile crimes or offenses or acts of malicious mischief, theft, sexual assault, physical injuries, and violation of R.A. 9165 that had been filed between the years 1999 and 2003 conducted within the jurisdiction of RTC Branch 68.

The subjects of this study were 88 youthful offenders who had committed or alleged to have committed violation of law, such as, malicious mischief, theft, sexual assault, physical injuries, and violation of R.A. 9165, and were the subjects of complaints or information filed by the private complainant, state prosecutors, and were on trial or had been decided upon by the Regional Trial Court, Branch 68.

The gathered data were analyzed and interpreted using the frequency count, the percentages and the ranking.

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

In the five-year scope of this study, it was found out that majority of the juvenile offenders were males, of elementary or high school level of education and were children of unemployed or partly-employed parents.



Males of elementary or high school level of education whose parents were either unemployed or partly-employed were more likely to commit malicious mischief, theft, physical injuries, and violations of R.A. 9165.

All sexual assault cases were committed by males of high school or elementary level of education whose parents were unemployed or partly-employed.

The world-wide economic slump made 2001 the year with the most number of cases reported or filed.

As to incidence of crime by municipalities, Barotac Nuevo and the component city of Passi had the highest recorded incident of sexual assaults and violation of R.A. 9165.

December was the month with the highest number of recorded cases filed, being the season of Yuletide and revelry.

Many influencing factors were known to have caused the young people to commit criminal acts. No single factor can be attributed as the prime cause of the crime committed. The act may be the result of a group of interrelated factors, ranking first among these was peer group influence or "barkada." The irresistible influence of peer groups or "barkada" on the young person forced him/her to commit sexual assaults, physical injuries, and violations of R.A. 9165. Drunkenness and/or imbibing intoxicating drinks may just be a consequence of the influence by peer groups or "barkada" that leads to the commission of malicious mischief.

Juveniles were likely to commit theft by reason of poverty and/or economic necessity.

One conclusion from these findings was, committing crimes is not a part of man's nature. Social, psychological, economic and physical factors played a role in a person's propensity to commit crimes.

De la Cruz (2005) investigated the factors in the commission of occupational homicide. She defined it as a serious public health problem, but many employers and workers may be unaware of the risk. She stated that no current regulations applied specifically to occupational homicide, but a great need existed for worker protection from intentional injury in the workplace.

High risk workplaces included taxicab establishments, liquor stores, gas stations, detective/protective services, justice/public order establishments, grocery stores, jewelry stores, hotels/motels, and eating/drinking places. Found high-risk occupations were taxicab drivers/chauffeurs, law enforcement officers (police/sheriffs), hotel clerks, gas station workers, security guards, stock handlers/ baggers, store owners/ managers and bartenders. Employers in these high-risk establishments and occupations need to be aware of the risk for homicide and should take steps to ensure a safe workplace.

The following recommendations were made:

Employers and workers should develop immediately and implement prevention strategies on the basis of available information. They should evaluate the factors or situations in the workplace that might place workers at risk.

Researchers should thoroughly evaluate existing or proposed prevention strategies. Few in-depth studies had been conducted to evaluate preventive measures, but such evaluation is critical to homicide prevention efforts.

Researchers should further investigate occupational homicide. Research should be conducted on the specific factors associated with occupational homicides.

The role of guns in occupational homicides should be addressed by investigating the circumstances surrounding the use of them.

Lacson's (2005) study on "Crimes Committed in the Municipality of Mambusao Capiz" determined the index and non-index crimes committed.

Results of the study showed that between the two genders, male criminal offenders were greater in number compared with female offenders for three consecutive years. Majority of the offenders' ages were between 27-31 years old from 2000-2003.

As to civil status, most of the offenders were married and obtained only elementary level of education. Most of them were jobless, some were drivers, and few were labourers.

For index crimes, a total of 70 crimes had been recorded. There was a commission of murder, homicide, physical injury, robbery, theft and rape. Majority of the committed crime was on homicide and the least committed was theft.

Non-index crimes committed in Mambusao from 2000-2003 were recorded to a total of 28 offenders. Crimes committed were related to the violation of R.A. 9165 (Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002), P.D. 1866 (Illegal Possession of Firearms and Ammunitions), P.D. 1602 and 705 (Illegal Logging). Among the non-index crimes, P.D. 1866 was violated.

The following recommendations were given:

Local officials should try their best to create job opportunities for the jobless citizens of Mambusao, Capiz.

The local government through its barangay officials should conduct information drive or seminar regarding criminal offenses to make people aware of the penalties and to avoid committing these crimes.

Invite lecturers, legal counsellors or lawyers to orient the people of Mambusao on how to avoid crime.

Martir's (2005) study employed the content analysis or documentary research on crimes against property, specifically, robbery and theft in the province of Guimaras from 1997-2002.

In view of the findings of the study, the following conclusions were made:

Offenders who committed crimes against property in the province of Guimaras were old, male, married, with low educational attainment and were unemployed.

Most of the cases were filed in the Municipality of Buenavista, followed by Jordan, Nueva Valencia, Sibunag and San Lorenzo.

Majority of the crimes committed against property were theft crimes followed by robbery.

Many factors were identified to have influenced the commission of crimes against property. No single factor can be attributed as the main cause of the crime committed.

The length of time that decisions of these cases were handed down varied.

So as to reduce the growth of crimes against property in the province of Guimaras, the following were recommended:

Intensive value education programs should be given to the youths.

As the most of the offenders were out-of-school youths, non-formal education should be given by local government by teaching them livelihood skills and the like.

The local police force should strengthen their community over policing system by establishing close coordination among barangay officials and local constituents.

Barangay officials and elders should be proactive by coming up with an old time practice of "night watch" to lessen actual commission of crimes.

Skills and livelihood training should be conducted to train and develop them into empowered citizens making them productive members of the community.

Employment agencies both public and private should be established to ensure job placement for those skilled and trained offenders.

The law should be amended, requiring offenders not only to serve their sentence in jails, but also requiring them to do voluntary community service, and at the same time, undergo a required short term reformation course focusing on academic, social, spiritual, and vocational education.

The school and the civic groups should organize programs like intramurals, basketball tournament, sports fest, literary and musical contests where young people can develop their talents and potentials instead of getting involved in vices.

To induce the participation of the people in the maintenance of peace and order, and be able to attain efficiency and effectiveness in the performance of functions assigned, the government should provide incentives to the constituents in their efforts towards controlling crimes.



The local officials should from time to time check on the activities of the different barangays under their jurisdiction, seeing to it that their program of maintaining peace and order are religiously executed.

### **On Crime**

The study of Stephanie A. Whitus Walsh (2007), examined two outcome measures: (1) the labelling of specific physical discipline methods as abusive or non-abusive; and (2) perceptions of the appropriate social response with which to handle someone who physically abuses a child.

Research had shown that one of the strongest associations with perceptions of physical discipline is a history of physical abuse in childhood. Literature supporting the intergenerational transmission of child physical abuse had demonstrated that physically abused children exhibited increased tolerance for corporal punishment in adulthood. Other studies had revealed that abusive histories were associated with a decreased tendency to permit physical discipline on children.

The data utilized for this study consisted of self-reported experiences of 1,739 respondents, obtained through self-administered survey instrumentation. Perceptions of childhood physical abuse were measured by multiple questions asking respondents to assess the frequency, duration, intensity and co-occurrence of their abuse experiences. Respondents were also asked to identify physical discipline behaviours as abusive or non-abusive. Assessment of appropriate handling of physical child abusers consisted of respondents' choice based upon social distance (parent/step-parent, other relatives, acquaintance, stranger).

Findings demonstrated that those with physically abusive child historic exhibited a greater tendency to classify physical punishment methods more often preferred treatment than non-victims.

Scott Richard Maggard's (2007) study on the relationship between community structure and crime had received a great deal of research attention in criminology over the past two decades. Researchers had documented how structural changes in communities were related to crime rates in those areas. While the majority of these studies had focused on property and violent crimes, few studies had investigated the relationship between social structure and race-specific drug arrests. Moreover, most studies investigating structural correlates of crime had used decennial time periods and typically employ change score techniques, thereby only allowing between-city comparisons. Employing techniques used to study the life-course of individual offenders overtime. This research aimed to classify the long term behaviour of drug sales arrests in large cities as distinct trajectories over time. Assuming that cities behaved differently, this research had shed light on how structural changes in cities affected changes in arrest trajectories over time. Findings supported the hypotheses that cities do in fact behave over time in regard to drug sales arrest from 1980-2001. Moreover, they varied significantly by race and while certain cities may have experienced exponential growth in Black /drug sales arrest, other cities witnessed similar growth in White drug sales arrest. Findings also provided support for both social disorganization and concentrated disadvantage among Blacks and Whites from 1980-1990 significantly impacted the likelihood of those cities being in higher drug sales arrest trajectories. Additionally, those cities which experienced dramatic increases in residential mobility from 1980-1990 were more likely to be in higher drug sales arrests trajectories as compared to the lowest. Overall these findings suggest that the structural changes in large cities occurring from 1980-1990 had a more significant impact on drug sales arrest rates than the changes occurring from 1990-2000.

The southern region of the United States historically had a high rate of violent crime, especially homicide. This led to a number of studies tackling the issue by relying on sub cultural theory or by using structural correlates of crime to account for the South versus non-South difference in homicide. Macro level research had focused on pitting culture against structural characteristic such as poverty and measures of income inequality, but suffered from lack of direct cultural measures needed to successfully evaluate the sub-cultural thesis. Micro level research tended to focus on the attitudes of Southerners and found that they tended to hold a heightened approval of violence in specific situations. However, micro level studies suffered from similar critiques as they tended to neglect structural explanations and were unable to evaluate whether these attitudes had any effect on violent crime.

This dissertation proposed a solution to the problems plaguing previous research by aggregating survey data on attitudes toward violence from the General Social Survey (GSS) to the Primary Sampling Unit (PSU) level of analysis and used them to predict actual rates of violence. Results from this analysis indicated that a measure of extreme violent attitudes was positively and significantly related to measures of homicide derived from the Uniform Crime Reporting Program's Supplementary Homicide Reports. This relationship remained in a multivariate model with several control variables used

in previous studies on homicide and on the Southern subculture of violence. This indicated that areas with cultural values approving of violence in a broad range of situations also had higher levels of homicide offending. However, these findings do not support an exclusively Southern subculture of violence, since it is not clear from these data what accounts for the regional differences in homicide. Nevertheless, the study provided a level of evidence for the existence of a subculture of violence not previously achieved in the earlier work in this area.

### **On Law Enforcement**

Can's (2007) study examined law enforcement officers' decision making, where officers were required to make immediate, unplanned and unstructured decisions under simulated near-real world conditions that were often ill-defined, and had a high degree of ambiguity. Ever-present in naturalistic settings ambiguity and uncertainty constituted major obstacles toward effective decision making mainly due to the varying degree to which decision makers conceptualized uncertainty and the different methods for coping with such conditions.

Research in the field of judgment and decision making often compared two approaches, the rationality of a person's intuitive judgments under uncertainty with analytically derived answers produced by format models. However, recently decision-making research had undergone a shift from the "classical" to a "naturalistic" perspective, given the importance of decision making to real-world problems and the impact it had on how the field might advance.

Although decision making, in a police context conformed to the naturalistic perspective, no specific studies had been found in neither the "classical" nor the "naturalistic" literature that directly related to the decision-making processes of police officials. With the naturalistic decision-making model (NDM) being more applicable to a law enforcement context than traditional models, the NDM model guided this research undertaking by utilizing a mixed methodology in order to examine and analyze the decision-making process of police officers as they performed their responsibilities in a simulated environment.

The research mixed both qualitative and quantitative studies and investigated how law enforcement officers applied intuitive decision making more often than their male counterparts; officers who worked longer in law enforcement and had more in-service training hours made their decisions by using their intuition compared to those officers who were relatively new to law enforcement and were less trained in the use of analytical cognitive decision making; officers who had college degrees applied intuitive decision making more often than officers who do not have a college degree; officers who had longer in-service training hours, but no college degrees, applied their intuition to make decisions more often than officers who had college degrees but less in-service training hours, applied their intuition to make decisions more often than officers who do not have college degree but more in-service training hours; and finally, officers who participated more often in unforeseen events were more likely to apply their intuition to make their decisions compared to those officers who participated in similar events less often; officers who participated more often in unforeseen events, but were considered new to law enforcement, were more likely to apply their intuition to make their decisions compared to those officers who served longer but participated in similar events less often.

The research found that while making vital decisions during an unanticipated event, law enforcement officers applied both the intuitive decision making and the analytical cognitive decision making models. In this research, it was also proven that the officers who had previous incident experiences and more in-service training hours, made less errors and performed much better decisions in the simulation process.

Hamilton's (2007) study systematically analyzed the text and rhetoric of over 60 California appellate decisions to achieve a better understanding of how the justice system socially constructed the issues and identities related to intimate abuse between adults. Building on feminist and social constructivist theories and using an analytical induction model, the researcher explored and described the ideological definitions of battering that permeate judicial decision-making.

The focus of this research was how judges, applying this law, selected and framed the evidence, as well as interpreted the social meaning of the evidence to develop judicial knowledge on the subject.

In this analysis, two sets of discourses emerged. The discourses of resistance focused on the abused woman's actions in regard to whether the woman resisted the immediate assault and whether she took steps to permanently end the relationship. The second discourse related to expert's testimony on Battered Women's Syndrome and other issues to explain the common practices of battered women, battering men, and the dynamics of abusive relationships. Such expert testimony strongly influenced the judiciary's knowledge of domestic violence.

Kurtz (2007) study on law enforcement was widely regarded as one of the most stressful and violent professions. Officers' stress were associated with a number of negative behaviors and psychological outcomes including high rates or substance abuse, divorce, and violence. Concerns over officer violence included both work –related acts, like use of excessive force or unwarranted deadly force, and non-work related violence such as domestic abuse. Despite interest in the interplay between sub cultural attitudes, organizational structure, and high stress events, most research on police violence failed to address a fundamental concern-that of gender. In fact, the majority of research addressing officers' stress failed to mention gender or concentrates on gender as a simple control variable.

In order to examine how gender, stress, and law enforcement structure predicted violent behaviour among police officers; the dissertation utilized both existing data and direct officer interviews. Findings showed that law enforcement remains largely a masculine enterprise, and that gender drives images, interaction, and organizational behaviour, often at the expense of both men and women officers. Stress, burnout, and use of violence by officers were not simply a response to high stress events, but were embedded in the gender structure and process of policing.

Restorative justice had been offered as a “new paradigm” of criminal justice, replacing the adversary system’s insistence on the assignment of blame and the imposition of punishment with a new emphasis on the healing of the victim’s losses. One of the central claims of restorative justice was that punishment, while serving the needs of society, was irrelevant to the emotional and psychological recovery of crime victims. Other researchers and scholars, however, believed that punishment, far from contradicting the goals of restoration, was actually necessary for restoration of the emotional and psychological suffered by crime victims.

In a pilot study conducted by London in the Spring of 2005, these competing claims were tested by an experimental design in which 391 Rutgers University undergraduate students at the Newark, New Jersey campus were randomly assigned one of five crime scenarios. The scenarios differed in respect to the severity of the crime, the absence or of previous convictions and whether the incident was viewed from an individual or societal perspective. Likert-scale attitudinal measures were used to ascertain the anticipated emotional and psychological impact on the subjects resulting from the crime incident itself, the quality of treatment by the criminal justice system and the presence or absences of apology, restitution and punishment.

The results indicated that the subjects regarded the imposition of a “significant” punishment as a source of improvement to their expected emotional and psychological well-being, and that the failure to punish substantially impaired their anticipated recovery. Furthermore, subjects reported that the receipt of a “full and honest” apology and full restitution would substantially improve their anticipated recovery only when joined with the imposition of a significant punishment, regardless of their willingness to meet with the offender, their attitudes toward the goals of restorative justice or their personal experience of a crime similar to the one depicted in the scenario.

In a study conducted by Park in 2007, she had concluded that over the past several decades, the American legal system had seen the rise of a wide variety of specialized “problem-solving” courts dealing with issues such as domestic violence, mental illness, community conflicts, and drug abuse. These courts, in general, relied on legal authority and coercion to induce defendants “clients” to participate in treatment programs intended to change their “deviant” ways into more morally acceptable forms of behavior. The creation and operation of problem-solving courts is the major expression of a broader movement toward therapeutic jurisprudence in which various treatment initiatives and policies come to be based in and closely tied to distinctively legal institutions. Building a prior research addressing theoretical concerns of the therapeutic state and policy-oriented topics such as client retention and recidivism, the dissertation talk a different approach to consider how therapeutic jurisprudence practitioners made decision about offenders’ behavior and progress in the program. It identified a series of interpretative and decision-making practices that shaped day-to-day operations of a southern California juvenile drug court that diverted juvenile felony offenders with substance abuse problems into drug treatment instead of long-term custody.

Studies mentioned in this chapter are in one way or another related to the present investigation being conducted by the researcher on the factors related to crime incidence that occurred in the province of Guimaras for the years 2007 to 2009.

The study of Ladrado is related to the present study in a sense that he used content analysis in conducting a research on the juvenile crimes or offenses and violation of RA 9165 in the Regional Trial Court, Branch 68. The study though, dealt on the influencing factors known to have caused the commission of crime among young offenders and the violation of RA 9165 such as sexual assaults; physical injuries, and other related crimes.

De la Cruz study has a semblance to the present study although the former focused only on the factors that caused the commission of occupational homicide. The implications and recommendations of the study on the preventive measures that could be undertaken by law enforcers are enriching and give a much better understanding of the problem on hand.

Lacson's study on crimes committed in the municipality of Lambunao is more or less similar to the study but in this investigation, unlike the present researcher who classified the crimes committed by offenders into 13 as enumerated under the Revised Penal Code of the Philippines, he classified crimes into two (2) categories: the index and non-index crimes. He then proceeded to identify the factors that caused the commission of these crimes. The recommendations he made had enriched the present researcher's knowledge on law enforcement activities that should be done.

Martir's study had provided the basic concept in the formulation of this present investigation. It is a documentary research on crimes against property, specifically on theft and robbery in the province of Guimaras from 1997-2002. The results of his study is related to present investigation as it dwelt on factors indentified to have influenced the commission of crimes, only this time on a more broader context. The implications and recommendations of the results of the study were not only confined among law enforcers but also among school managers that could help draw corrective school programs and activities. While the present study is concerned more on the factors related to crimes and its implications to crime prevention, somehow they are parallel since both try to draw out answers from those sources whose ideas are almost the same.

The related foreign studies of Walsh, Maggard, Can, Hamilton, Kurtz, London and Paik, while foreign of origin had also dealt on subjects about crime, causes of crime, law enforcer's decision making and the criminal justice system, all of whom, in one way or the other, are definitely related to the study on hand.

### **3. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This study was anchored on Heider's attribution theory intended to help a person understand the causes of human behavior, be it their own or someone else's. The basis of attribution theory is that people want to know the reasons for the actions that they and others take; they want to attribute causes to behavior they see rather than assuming that these behaviors are random. This allows people to assume some feeling of control over their own behaviors and over situations. (Mezulis, Amy H., et al. Psychology Bulletin 130, no 5, 2005).

Psychologist Fritz Heider proposed that what people perceived and believed about what they saw dictated how they would act, even if their beliefs about what they perceived were invalid. Heider's theory was further developed by psychologist Bernard Weiner.

In the commission of crime, attribution is considered to be a three-stage process. First the behavior of an offender must be observed. Second, the perceiver must determine that the behavior they have observed is deliberate. That is the offender being observed is believed to have behaved intentionally. Finally, the observer attributes the observed behavior to either internal or external causes. Internal causes are attributed to outside factors. The two international attributions one can make are that on offender's ability or his effort determined the outcome. Task difficulty and luck are the external causes of behavior. When perceiving behavior an observer shall make a judgment as to which of these factors is the cause of behavior. However, when making a determination between internal and external causes of behavior, the perceiver must examine the elements of consistency, distinctiveness, and consensus. These elements are evaluated when observing behavior, and then a judgment about an internal versus external cause of behavior is made. When these elements are all high, distinctiveness is low; the perceiver will attribute the cause of behavior to internal factors. Attribution theory was developed to explain how people understand the causes o human behavior, be it their own or someone else's. (Marcia Simmering, 2006.)

This study was also founded on the Broken Window Theory of Wilson and Kelling, which contends that social psychologist and police officers tend to agree that if a window in a building is broken and is left unrepaired, all the rest of the windows will soon be broken. This is as true in nice neighborhoods as in run-down ones. Window breaking does not necessarily occur on a large-scale because some areas are inhabited by determined window-breakers whereas others are populated by window-lovers; rather, one unrepaired broken window is a signal that no one cares, and so breaking more windows costs nothing.

Wilson and Kelling based their broken window theory, in a part, on research done in 2005 by a Stanford psychologist, Philip Zimbardo. He arranged to have a car without license plates parked with its hood up on a street in the Bronx and comparable car on a street in Palo, Alto, California. The car in the Bronx was attacked by vandals within ten minutes, and within twenty-four hours it had been totally destroyed and stripped of anything of value. The car in Palo Alto sat untouched. After a week, Zimbardo took a sledgehammer to it. People passing by soon joined in, and within a few hours, that car was totally destroyed.

Based on this experiment, Wilson and Kelling concluded that untended property becomes fair game for people out for fun or plunder, and even for people who ordinarily would not dream of doing such things and who would probably consider themselves as law-abiding.

The researcher fully believed that the study on factors on crime incidence has solid basis on the broken window theory. Broken windows and smashed cars are very visible signs of people not caring about their community who are bent to commit crime for fun alone.

### **Conceptual Framework**

Based on the said theory, evidences had shown that people were tempted to violate norms of conduct accepted by society because of factors influencing human behavior. It is hypothesized by the researcher that these factors could be influenced by the personal attributes of the offenders as to their age, gender, civil status and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religious practices, economic life and social life.

As to age, the researcher believes that young offenders are said to be more vulnerable to influences which divert spontaneous play groups into delinquency than the old ones.

As to gender, it is believed that males commit more crimes than their female counterpart. This is probably because males are the family's breadwinners and are more prone to "barkadas and vices such gambling, alcohol and women.

As to civil status, married offenders are believed to be more prone to commit crimes than single ones due to family needs.

As to educational attainment, offenders who had attained education in college are perceived to be more patient and more educated as compared with offenders who are only in the elementary or high school level.

The offender's family life could be a great factors in the commission of crime as a person's relationship with his/her parents, brothers and sisters and marital condition could greatly influence his behavior, either he is happy or unhappy in his home life.

Religion of the family could also be a significant factor that could influence an offender's behavior. Parents who failed to internalize among their children religiosity and the righteous way would most likely produce negative behavior among their children.

Economic life is considered a variable because the researcher believes that people living in poverty are most vulnerable to criminal acts.

Social life is a variable and is hypothesized by the researcher to influence an offender's behavior because it is obvious that he will practically pattern his way of life and ways of thinking after those of his companions or "barkadas".

On the other hand, the investigation on hand also hypnotized that there are many factors or reasons that could influence the offenders in the commission of crimes. Common among them is poverty, peer influence or "barkada", ignorance of law, family influence, media exposure, gambling, drug addiction, alcoholism, laxity in the enforcement of law and many others.

Further, it is hypnotized that the factors in committing the crimes are somehow influenced by the offenders personal attributes such as age, gender, civil status and educational attainment. The instance, young single male who hardly reached high school are very vulnerable or prone to the influence of the "barkada". Offenders, for curiosity reason, these teenagers would go into alcoholism and drug addiction simply because they were influenced by the group. The fact also that they have law education and media exposure on crimes have whetted the appetite of these teenager for adventure.

The dependent variables considered in this present study are the common crimes committed by the offenders against national security and the law of the nations; the fundamental law of the state; public order, public interest; related to prohibited drugs; public morals, committed by public officers, personal liberty and security, property and chastity.



The study hypothesized that both the independent and dependent variables had a strong impact among law enforcers in term of their capacity to maintain peace and order and as to the number of the unit work force that they had to maintain, so as to deter effectively, if not to totally eliminate crime. On the other hand, with the interplay of both variables, school managers or administrator may now consider what curricular offering would school institutions introduce now and be integrated in their courses,

### Research Paradigm

#### Independent Variable

#### Dependent Variable

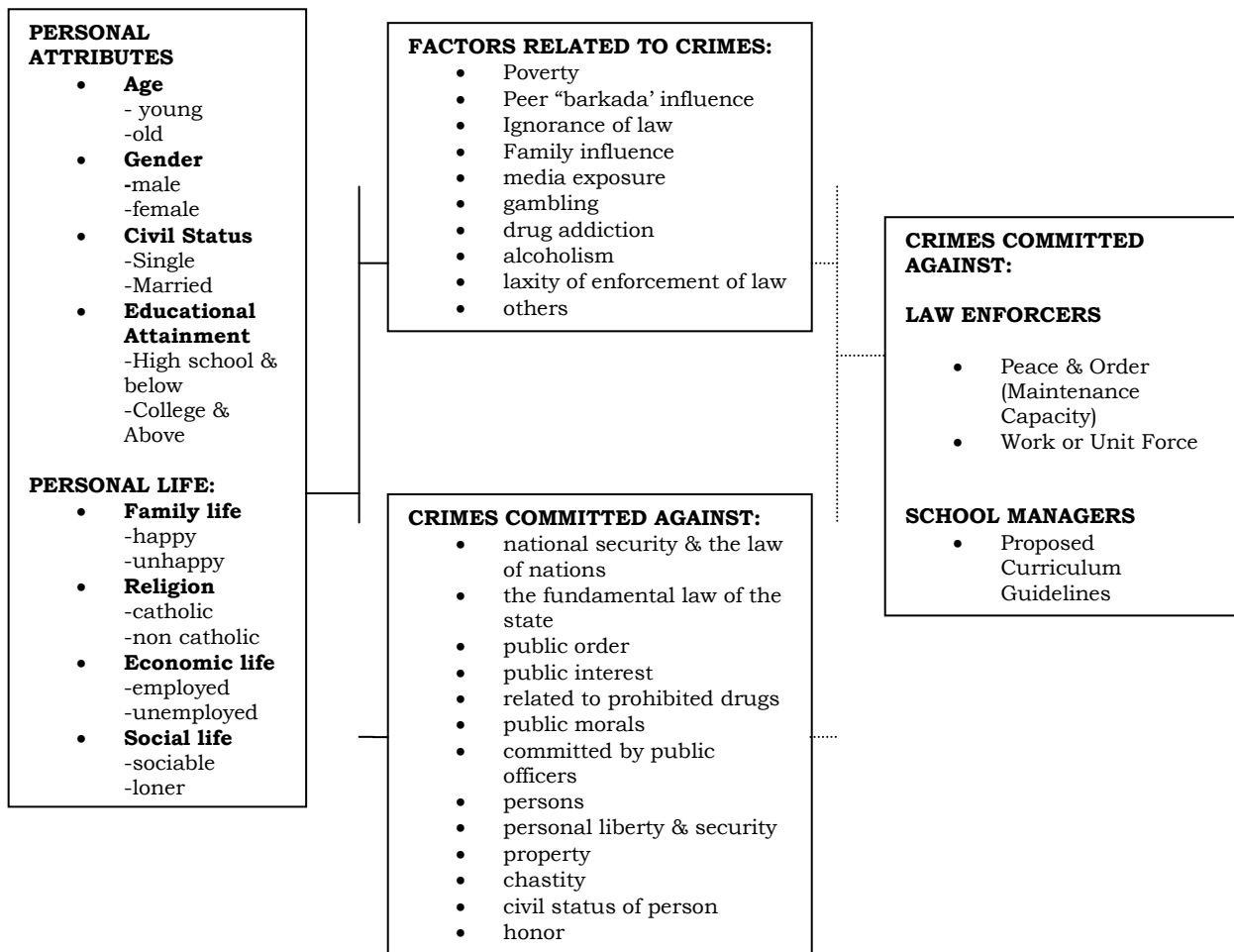


Figure 1: A Schematic Diagram of the Study

## 4. METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents and describes the research design, the subjects, the data gathering procedure, the data gathering technique, and the statistical measures used in this study.

### Research Design

This study employed the documentary technique, one of the forms of the descriptive research design. The objective of the descriptive research is to describe systematically a situation of area of interest factually and accurately.

The documentary content analysis technique is most appropriate for the present study because it involved gathering of information by examining records and documents. The records and documents examined pertained to the cases filed against those who committed crimes and are now kept at the Administrative Section of the Regional Trial Court, Branch 65 in the province of Guimaras.



### The Subjects

The subjects of the study were the violators who had committed offenses and were tried in the Guimaras Regional Trial Court, Branch 65 for the period covering 2007 to 2009.

Records of the court showed that there are a total of 208 offenders in all the five (5) municipalities of the province of Guimaras from 2007 to 2009. Table 1 shows the breakdown of the respondents by municipalities.

**Table 1: Total Population As Respondents Of The Study**

MUNICIPALITY	POPULATION	%
BUENAVISTA	71	34
JORDAN	54	26
NUEVA VALENCIA	41	20
SAN LORENZO	24	19
SIBUNAG	18	9
TOTAL	208	108

### Data Gathering Procedure

The investigator used a research guide to obtain an accurate and systematic information about the cases.

The materials used in this study were the documents kept in the administrative section of the circuit court and Regional Trial Court. Only documents covering the 3-year period (2007-2009) were considered in this study. The present study employed the use of available data. This was done by examining all documents which are the results of the investigative process undertaken for legal cases filed against violators and tried in the circuit court and Regional Trial Court.

All cases were examined of its contents and taking of notes were focused on what are being called for in the research guide. Major considerations were on: (1) personal attributes and personal life of the violators; (2) the incidence of the crime; (3) the data in the filing of the case (3) the circumstances that led to the filing of the cases; (4) the violations and the offenses charged; (5) the factors or causes of the crime commission.

### Data Processing Technique

The data gathered were processed manually because the population size is manageable and the analytical schemes are simple. Since the present study also involved qualitative data, the researcher simply arranged the raw information according to an outline and then wrote a narrative incorporating them.

The tabulation of the data followed this analytical scheme:

Determination of the number of offenses crimes committed within a 3 year period span (2007-2009).

Offenders were categorized according to categories of variables, as follows:

As to age, the respondents were categorized into “young” and old”. This classification was made by first determining the arithmetic mean of all the ages of the violators. Those falling on or above the mean were categorized as “old” while those falling below the mean were categorized as “young”.

a. As to gender, the respondents were classified as “male” and “female”. This was made by counting the male and the female offenders among the cases studied.

b. As to civil status, the respondents were grouped as either “single” or “married”. The frequency and percentage for each category will be determined.

c. As to their education, the respondents were grouped into two categories, the “high” and “low” educational categories. Those college and above were categorized as having “high” educational attainment; while those high school and below were categorized as having “low” educational qualification.

d. As to the offenders’ personal life, specifically, his family life, offenders were categorized as having a “happy” life and “unhappy life”. The frequency and percentage for each category were determined.

e. The religion of the offenders were described as “catholic” and “non-catholic”. Again, the frequency and percentage for each category were determined.

f. Respondents were also grouped according to his economic life based on the following categories, namely, “employed” and “unemployed”. It was done by counting those who responded that they are employed and those who said that they are unemployed. The frequency and percentage for each category were then determined.

g. The social life of the respondents were described as “sociable” and “loner”. The frequency and percentage for each category were also determined.

### Statistical Tools Used

#### Descriptive Statistics

To analyze the gathered data, some statistical procedures were employed. The frequency count, percentage and mean were the statistical tools in determining the number of male and female offenders, civil status, education, family life, religion, economic life and social life. Ranking was used to determine the most prevalent crimes committed during the covered period.

**Percent.** The value which resulted from dividing a value of measurement by the total values, the result of which is multiplied by 100.

**Mean.** The arithmetic mean was used to determine the age and education of the subjects.

**Inferential Statistics.** The inferential statistics used were the Mann-Whitney U-test for two independent samples and the chi-square.

**Man-Whitney U-Test.** This was used to determine the significant differences in the most prevalent crimes committed in the province of Guimaras for the years 2007-2009 when the offenders are classified according to their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, educational attainment and personal life as to family life, religion, economic life and social life. The results of the inferential statistics were interpreted at the alpha level of 0.05. (Fraenkel, 2006).

According to Fraenkel and Wallen (2005) the Mann-Whitney U-test is a parametric statistical test used to see whether a difference between the nominal and ordinal variables is significant.

**Chi-Square.** Chi-square (Fraenkel, 1993) was used to determine the significant relationship between the offender’s crime and the personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status, educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic life and social life.

In this study, the .05 level of significance was used in accepting or rejecting the hypotheses. Contingency tables were used in the computation of the chi-square ( $X^2$ ). When the obtained values were equal to or more than the tabular values, the results were considered significant which meant that there exists a relationship between the variables. However, when the obtained values were less than the tabular values, the results were considered insignificant, meaning, there exists no relationship between the variables.

The computed statistics were used as the basis for arriving at the conclusions and the researcher’s recommendations.

## 5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the summary of the research study, the conclusions drawn from the findings, and the recommendations arrived at by the researcher.

### Summary

This study was conducted in the Province of Guimaras to determine factors that lead to the commission of crimes and the implications of the findings to law enforcers and school managers. It only focused on crimes that had been filed at the Regional Trial Court from 2007 to 2009. This covered the municipalities of Jordan, Buenavista, Nueva Valencia, San Lorenzo, Sibunag. The researcher believes that records in the abovementioned branches are sufficient for the investigation to form valid conclusions of the existing records.

Data gathered were used solely for scholarly analysis and did not necessarily reveal the identity of offenders to protect them. The descriptive statistical tools used were the frequency count, percentage, ranking and the mean. The inferential statistical tools used were the Mann Whitney U-test and the chi-square.

Finally, it is the intent of this study that results of the investigation could be used in the formulation of a preventive program of the policy makers in the justice system, the law enforcement and the school system.

### Major Findings of the Study

Records in the Regional trial court of the Province of Guimaras showed a total of the 208 crimes committed from the year 2007 to 2009. A total of 82 cases or 39.4 percent were committed in 2007, 59 cases or 28.4 percent in 2008 and 67 cases or 32.2 percent in 2009

The profile of the offenders when classified according to their personal attributes showed that of the 208 offenders, 108 or 51.9 percent were young and 100 or 48.1 percent were old. There were 202 or 97.1 percent males and 6 or 2.9 percent females. As to civil status, 54 or 26 percent were single; 154 or 74 percent were married; 204 or 98.1 percent belongs to high school level and below and 4 or 1.9 percent were college level and above. From these data, it showed that that majority of those who had committed crimes were young males, married, had an educational attainment of high school level and below.

When classified according to their personal life, 197 or 94.7 percent of the offenders had a happy family life and only 11 or 5.3 percent had an unhappy life. As to religion, 184 or 88.5 percent were catholic and only 24 or 11.5 percent were non-catholic. As to economic life, only 34 or 16.3 percent employed had committed crimes and mostly or 174 unemployed offenders or 83.7 percent had committed crimes. As to social life, 143 or 68.8 percent sociable offenders had committed crimes and only 65 or 31.3 percent loners had committed crimes. Majority of the offenders were Roman Catholic, had a happy family life unemployed and sociable.

The prevalent crimes committed in the Province of Guimaras was crimes against person ranking first with 133 or 63.9 percent; crimes against public order ranked second with 21 or 10.1 percent offenders; crimes against moral and personal property both ranking third with 17 or 8.2 percent and 17 or 8.2 percent offenders, respectively; crimes related to prohibited drugs with 11 or 5.3 percent offenders; crimes against public interest with 6 or 2.9 percent offenders; and crimes against chastity, honor and crimes committed by public officers, all ranking 8<sup>th</sup> with 1 or 0.5 percent.

There was a significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they are classified according to their civil status ( $p=0.012$ ), religion ( $0.005$ ) and economic life ( $p=0.006$ ). There was no significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they are classified according to age ( $p=0.260$ ), gender ( $p=0.475$ ), educational attainment ( $p=0.984$ ) and their personal life as to their family life ( $0.115$ ), and social life ( $p=0.100$ )

There was no significant difference in the different factors for committing crimes by the offenders when they are classified according to their civil status ( $p=0.165$ ), age ( $p=0.136$ ), gender ( $p=0.105$ ), educational attainment ( $p=0.385$ ) and their family life as to religion ( $0.239$ ), economic life ( $p=0.527$ ), family life ( $0.541$ ), and social life ( $p=0.074$ )

There was a significant relationship between the crimes committed by the offenders and their personal attributes gender ( $x^2=65.215$ ), civil status ( $x^2=21.323$ ) and educational attainment ( $x^2=62.15$ ) and their personal life as to their family life ( $x^2=24.14$ ), religion ( $x^2=31.14$ ), economic ( $x^2=38.96$ ) and social life ( $x^2=22.26$ ). There was no significant relationship between the crimes committed by the offenders as to age ( $x^2=14.175$ ).

The factors or reasons that had influenced the offenders in the commission of crimes were alcoholism (43.278%), media exposure to violent crimes (12.02%), peer influence (10.58%) poverty (9.13%), gambling (8.65%), ignorance of the law (8.17%), drug addiction (6.73%) and family influence (1.44%).

There was a significant relationship between the factors for committing the crimes and their personal attributes as to age ( $x^2=16.234$ ), gender ( $x^2=33.067$ ), civil status ( $x^2=41.907$ ) and social life ( $x^2=36.185$ ). There was no significant relationship between the factors for committing the crimes and their educational attainment ( $x^2=5.366$ ), family life ( $x^2=7.224$ ), religion ( $x^2=11.396$ ) and economic life ( $x^2=8.975$ ).

## 6. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study, the following conclusions are drawn.

Most of the 82 cases or 39.4 percent were committed in 2007, 67 cases or 32.2 percent in 2009, and 59 cases or 28.4 percent in 2008. Majority of those who had committed crimes were young males, married, had an educational attainment of high school level and below. Majority of the offenders were Roman Catholics, those with happy family life, unemployed and sociable. The prevalent crimes committed in the Province of Guimaras were crimes against persons ranking first; crimes against public order ranking second; crimes against moral and personal property, both ranking 3.5; crimes related to prohibited drugs; crimes against public interest ranking 6 and crimes against chastity, honor and crimes committed by public officers, all with rank 8. There was a significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they were classified according to their civil status, religion and economic life. This led to the rejection of the null hypothesis that there was no significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they are classified according to their civil status, religion and economic life. There was no significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they were classified according to age, gender, educational attainment and their personal life as to their civil status, age, gender and educational attainment and to their family life as to religion, economic life, family life, and social life. The null hypothesis was not rejected. There was a significant relationship between the crimes committed by the offenders and their personal attributes as to their gender, civil status and educational attainment and their personal life as to their family life, religion, economic and social life. This led to the rejection of the null hypothesis that there was no significant difference in the crimes committed by the offenders when they are classified according to their gender, civil status, educational attainment, family life, social life, religion and economic life. There was no significant relationship between the crimes committed by the offenders as to age. The null hypothesis was not rejected. The factors or reasons that had influenced the offenders in the commission of crimes were alcoholism ranking number 1, followed by media exposure to violent crimes, peer influence, poverty, gambling, ignorance of the law, drug addiction and family influence. There was a significant relationship between the factors for committing the crimes and their personal attributes as to age, gender, civil status and social life. This led to the rejection of the null hypothesis. There was no significant relationship between the factors for committing the crimes and their educational attainment, family life, religion and economic life. The null hypothesis was not rejected.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusions, the following recommendations are given:

Hand in hand with an empowered, motivated, dedicated and honest group of law enforcers, community policing should be practiced in all government levels (provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays) to eradicate criminality.

Law enforcers should be role models in the community. They should have the strength of character, and correct values, getting the community's respect and trust. Presents should teach their children, by word and example, the fear and love of God.

School managers and teachers should both stress the development of virtues and moral values among their students.

Religious groups like priests, nuns and catechists should intensify religious instructions in the elementary and high school levels.

Government agencies should spur economic activity even at the barangay level by way of putting up cottage industries for the out-of-school and unemployed youth, making them gainfully employed and better members of society.

School, civic groups and others should organize programs like intramurals, basketball tournaments, sports fests, literary and musical contests to allow young people to develop their talents and potentials, hence, veering them away from vices that could eventually lure them to criminality.

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