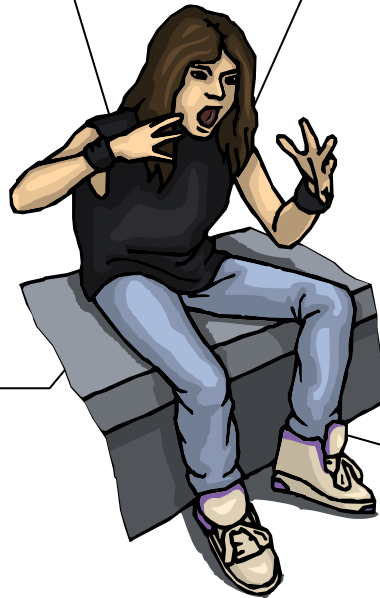


DELINQUENCY RISK FACTORS

Risk Factors: Those characteristics, variables, or hazards that, if present in any given individual, make it more likely that this individual, rather than someone selected at random from the general population, will develop a disorder.

Family Risk Factors

- Family history of the problem behavior
- Family management problems
- Family conflict
- Favorable parental attitudes and involvement in problem behavior



Community Risk Factors

- Availability of firearms
- Community laws/norms favorable toward drug use, firearms and crime
- Transitions and mobility
- Low neighborhood attachment & community disorganization
- Extreme economic deprivation

Individual/Peer Risk Factors

- Rebelliousness
- Friends who engage in problem behavior
- Favorable attitudes toward the problem behavior
- Early initiation of the problem behavior
- Constitutional factors (i.e. gender)

School Risk Factors

- Early and persistent antisocial behavior
- Academic failure beginning in elementary school
- Lack of commitment to school

Some more notes on risk factors...

- Risks are present in many multiple domains.
- Different risks are important at different developmental stages.
- The more risks factors a child has, the greater the risk.
- Common risk factors precede diverse behavior problems.
- Risk factors show many consistency in effects across racial and cultural groups.
- Protective factors may buffer exposure to risk.

Reviewed 7/09

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