

## CHAPTER 10

### 10.1 Self Check page 337

1. What is the most common correctional sanction imposed on juvenile offenders?

The most common sanction is probation; in 1997, 55 percent of all juveniles that were adjudicated delinquent were sentenced to probation. The majority of all sanctions (68 percent) are some kind of community corrections, including probation.

2. What are the different correctional alternatives available in the juvenile justice system?

The options available for juveniles are more diverse and treatment-based than those available for adults.

### 10.2 Self Check page 337

What does the statement, “The juvenile correctional system developed in a bifurcated manner” mean?

It means that it developed in a two-pronged manner. The two prongs are:

- The state reform and training schools that were originally developed as alternatives to adult prison. Many of these are still in operation today.
- The vast array of community-based and private institutions and programs run by philanthropists and local communities.

### 10.3 Self Check page 341

1. Explain what is meant by juvenile community corrections.

This is a broad term that covers the haphazard collection of both public and private placement and referral alternatives for youth who are either adjudicated delinquent or at risk for becoming delinquent.

2. List some of the factors that are used to determine whether a juvenile is sentenced to a secure facility or sentenced to some form of community corrections.

There are seven main factors:

- The circumstances of the offense committed
- Prior history with the juvenile justice system
- Characteristics of the juvenile
- The juvenile’s family situation
- The juvenile’s social situation
- Availability of community resources and alternative placements
- Availability and workload of staff and correctional personnel

**3.** What are classification instruments and what role do they play in selecting correctional alternatives for juveniles?

Classification instruments are instruments that are used to determine which placement or placements are most appropriate for a specific juvenile. (Refer to the worksheet in Figure 10-3 on page 340.)

**10.4 Self Check page 344**

**1.** Describe the process of juvenile probation.

The process is generally as follows:

- The probation department screens the case to determine how it should be processed and whether detention should be maintained.
- They also prepare investigation reports on most cases and provide some supervision of youths awaiting adjudication.
- During adjudication, the probation department is frequently asked to testify or be present.
- After a juvenile is adjudicated delinquent, the probation department becomes responsible for monitoring the youth, maintaining all juvenile records, and coordinating the disposition plan with the youth, his or her parents or guardians, and other agencies of juvenile justice.

**2.** What are some common conditions of probation imposed by the juvenile court?

Common conditions include, but are not limited to:

- Regular school attendance
- Regular work attendance
- Not using alcohol or drugs
- Submitting to random drug screenings
- Checking in regularly with probation officer
- Attending special counseling or treatment
- Not associating with known criminals
- Not committing any crimes
- Obeying an established curfew
- Not possessing a weapon of any type
- Paying restitution
- Performing community service
- Obeying parents or guardians

(Refer to the Focus on Policy box on pages 348-349 for an example of how these conditions are used in a probation agreement.)

**3. What are some of the issues facing probation today?**

Some issues include:

- Probation departments cannot limit or control their caseloads.
- Issues of safety on the job have led many jurisdictions to begin arming probation officers and requiring them to become certified law enforcement officers.
- New laws regarding record keeping, fingerprinting, and photographing are putting new responsibilities on already overburdened probation departments.
- Perhaps the biggest issue is the rehabilitative role of probation itself, as many states have increased the punitive ability of the juvenile court as well as juvenile accountability.

**4. What are the typical duties of a juvenile probation officer?**

Typical duties include:

- Making intake decisions.
- Preparing PSI reports.
- Acting as a liaison for the juvenile court.
- Preparing disposition plans.
- Supervision of juveniles on probation.
- Making decisions about a juvenile's progress.
- Aftercare (the equivalent of parole) for juveniles released from secure placement. Some jurisdictions have separate parole departments that handle this, but many times it falls upon the probation department.

**10.5 Self Check page 357**

**1. What is ISP probation? What types of juveniles should be placed on ISP?**

**Intensive Supervised Probation (ISP)** is a specialized form of probation that increases the level of supervision of the juvenile.

**2. What is the difference between school-based probation and regular probation?**

**School-based probation** is a model of probation in which the probation officer works within the walls of the school. Differences include:

- increased supervision and contact time.
- a different case management style, in which the probation officer can adopt a dual role of both supervisor and educator and is also in a very good position to monitor the juvenile's progress in school and other extracurricular activities.

**3. What is shock probation?**

**Shock probation** involves shocking the juvenile with a brief commitment to an institutional facility and then releasing him or her on probation. In some instances, the juvenile is not informed that he or she will be released from the institution after a short stay; this is to increase the shock value of both the incarceration and the release to probation.

4. How are house arrest and electronic monitoring used to complement probation services?

**House arrest** and electronic monitoring intensify the probationary sentence by placing additional restrictions upon the juvenile. Under house arrest, the juvenile is confined to the home when not at school or in treatment. Under **electronic monitoring**, the juvenile is restricted through the use of an electronic tracking device.

### 10.6 Self Check page 361

1. Describe the process of victim-offender mediation.

It has two parts: In the first part, the victim expresses his or her feelings directly to the juvenile about the crime and the juvenile can attempt to explain his or her actions and motives for the offense. In the second part, the actual losses that the victim incurred are discussed and documented and a plan is developed for compensation by the juvenile directly to the victim.

2. What role does restitution place in juvenile justice? What are some problems with restitution?

Restitution can play a dual purpose of restoration to the victim and embarrassment to the juvenile. Problems involve juveniles that owe too much to pay off or cannot afford even small amounts that they are sentenced to pay. One solution is that juveniles can work off their debts.

3. What is community service and how it is used in juvenile corrections?

**Community service** is a disposition, or part of a disposition, in which youths are required to work a set number of hours doing community improvement work. It is used to teach juveniles a lesson and in the process gain some restoration for society in the form of public service.

### 10.7 Self Check page 369

1. What is meant by the term “alternates to incarceration”?

This means the same thing as **alternative sanctions**, which are a range of correctional sanctions that are designed to take the place of traditional ones such as probation or incarceration.

2. Describe the various types of alternatives to incarceration.

Specialized programs focus on the different types of offenders they purport to serve. Various programs focus on substance abuse, violent youths, status offenders, or property offenders. For instance, Vision Quest (refer to Focus on Programs, page 363) works with emotionally troubled juveniles.

➤ **Day treatment programs** can be a direct sentence by the juvenile court in cases where additional structure and supervision are needed, or can be required for a youth who has been released from a secure facility or other treatment facility and is being transitioned into the community.

➤ **Group homes** care for juveniles that are directly sentenced from the juvenile courts, juveniles in transition that are coming out of secure

placements prior to parole, and juveniles who have been referred for placement by other agencies of juvenile justice.

➤ **Wilderness and adventure programs** emphasize physical challenges, survival skills, and mental challenges through outdoor adventures and nature trips. They are used for both delinquents and those who are at risk for delinquency.

### 10.8 Self Check page 371

1. What is the difference between determinate and indeterminate structures in aftercare?

Under a **determinate** structure, the juvenile is subject to aftercare supervision for a fixed period of time. Under an **indeterminate** structure, a juvenile is placed on aftercare with either a maximum time allowed or based on treatment goals and objectives.

2. What are some of the services and placements a juvenile can benefit from while on probation?

Services can include specialized parole programs that focus on survival skills, vocational training, job placement, substance abuse counseling, and other case-specific services. Examples of programs that provide a wide range of programs are New York City's Community Based Programs (CBI), which serves both pre-delinquent and post-detention release juveniles, and the California Youth Authority (CYA), which offers a variety of programs and operates as a "step-down" process to re-acclimate juveniles to normal life.

### 10.9 Self Check page 373

1. What are the characteristics of successful juvenile correctional programs?

Successful characteristics include:

- They concentrate on changing behavior and improving social skills.
- They focus on teaching problem-solving skills.
- The treatment plans are not uniform, but are tailored to the individual.
- The programs are highly structured and intensive.

2. Review the various programs discussed in this chapter, and, based on the above list of factors influencing success, determine which program might be most successful. Explain why.

The key factors of successful programs include teaching problem-solving skills, individually tailored treatment, intensive programs, and appropriate aftercare.