

# 8TH INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONFERENCE ON LOCAL SAFETY AND SECURITY



UNIVERZITET CRNE GORE  
PRAVNI FAKULTET



University of Maribor

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Faculty of  
Criminal Justice and Security



Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

## YOUTH AND CRIME

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Vanes Prekadinaj, Neli Klun, Maša Pančur, Tilen  
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# Introduction

- Adolescence is a vulnerable period in youth development.
- Youth face identity crises, peer pressure, and emotional changes.
- Crime involvement is linked to both offending and victimization.
- Fear of crime stems more from perception than real experiences.
- Social disorganization increases vulnerability to deviance.
- Unmet emotional needs may escalate into deviant behavior.



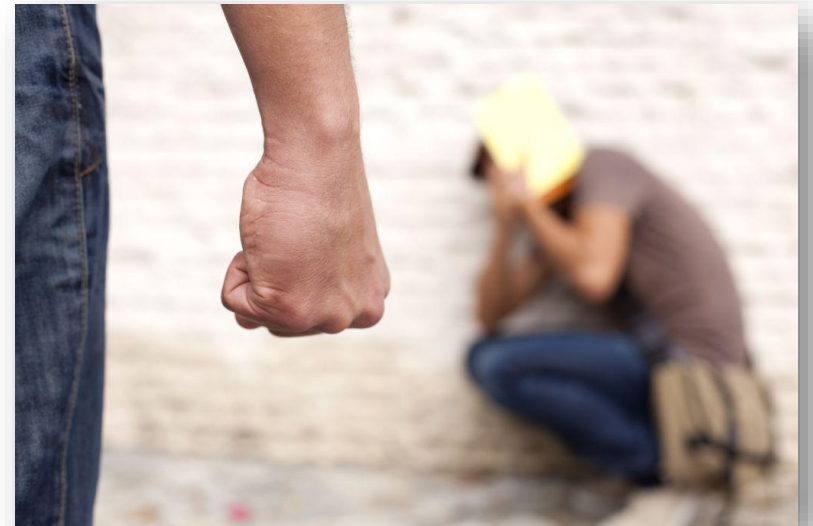
# Factors Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency

- Family background is a major influence (e.g., domestic conflict).
- Social and environmental conditions shape youth behavior.
- Peer pressure is a strong contributor to delinquency.
- Poverty and exclusion create feelings of hopelessness.
- Youth from wealthy backgrounds may also turn to crime.
- Causes are varied and context-dependent.



# Types of Criminal Acts Among Youth

- Youth crimes include violence, theft, drug use, and vandalism.
- Online offenses such as cyberbullying are on the rise.
- Gambling and loitering are signs of antisocial behavior.
- Criminal acts range from petty to serious offenses.
- Early intervention prevents escalation of deviance.
- Both rich and poor youth may engage in crime.



# Role of Local Communities

- Community policing builds trust and reduces crime.
- Cooperation between police, schools, and families is vital.
- Youth centers offer safe spaces and mentorship.
- Examples: 'Mladi zmaji', 'PetKA' in Slovenia.
- Activities promote life skills and social inclusion.
- Feeling accepted reduces attraction to crime.



# Preventive Measures

- Schools and social services must collaborate.
- Workshops on stress, emotion, and conflict help youth.
- Police-led programs like 'Policist Leon svetuje' raise awareness.
- Prevention must start early and be long-term.
- Support structures reduce risk of deviance.
- Digital literacy is key in today's online world.



# Conclusion

- Youth crime reflects deeper social and family issues.
- Punishment alone is not the solution.
- Prevention focuses on inclusion, support, and opportunity.
- Families, schools, and communities must cooperate.
- Digital threats demand updated strategies.
- Empowering youth creates responsible citizens.