

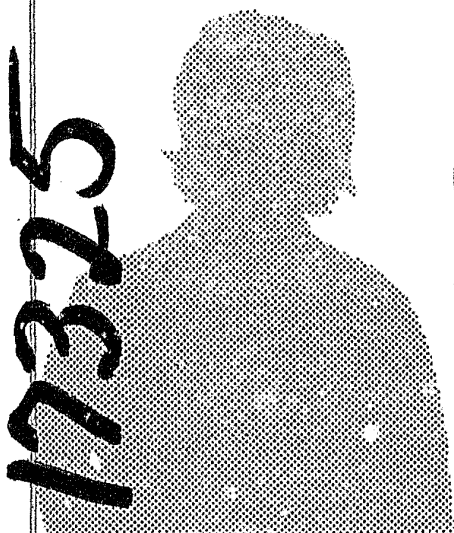
Social Attitudes of Institutionalized Wyoming Youth

-Wyoming Girl's School

-Wyoming Industrial
Institute

-Wyoming State
Hospital

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SURVEY OF WYOMING ADOLESCENT ATTITUDES

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Wyoming Girls' School
Wyoming Industrial Institute
Wyoming State Hospital

In addition, the Wyoming public schools which comprise the state-wide sample of Wyoming adolescents are listed below:

Arapahoe School
Basin High School
Campbell County High School (Gillette)
Casper Dean Morgan Junior High School
Casper East Junior High School
Casper Kelly Walsh High School
Cody High School
Deaver-Frannie High School
Dubois Junior High School
Evanston Junior High School
Fort Washakie Junior High School
Green River High School
Greybull High School
Lander Valley High School
Laramie Junior High School
Laramie High School
Meeteetse High School
Mill Creek Junior High School
Moorcroft Junior High School
Newcastle High School
Pinedale High School
Rawlins Junior High School
Rawlins High School
Riverton Junior High School
Riverton High School
Riverton Project PASCAL
Rock Springs Junior High School
Sheridan High School
Sundance High School
Thermopolis Junior High School
University School (Laramie)
Wyoming Indian High School

ABSTRACT

This report contains the results of a social survey of adolescent inmates conducted during October 1973 in Wyoming's three major institutions for handling youth problems--the Wyoming Girls' School, the Wyoming Industrial Institute, and the Wyoming State Hospital. The number of adolescents in the survey was 117 and represented all youth institutionalized at the time of the study. The results of the institutionalized youth in the survey are compared in this report to the results from a similar survey conducted during the spring of 1973 among a random sample of 4,247 non-institutionalized youth living in Wyoming.

General findings:

The Family. While family influence was found to be quite strong among non-institutionalized youth, it was found to be considerably weaker among institutionalized youth. Particularly important was the lack of influence for institutionalized youth of the father.

The School. While Wyoming adolescents in general have positive attitudes toward education, institutionalized youth were more likely to not view a college education as being a part of their lives.

The Police. Although Wyoming adolescents generally like the police, they do not necessarily respect the police and try to cooperate with them. However, in contrast, institutionalized youth did not generally view the police with

positive attitudes nor do they respect or try to cooperate with them.

Alcohol and Drug Use. These data shown that, while a great majority of all Wyoming adolescents approve of drinking and do drink, institutionalized youth drink more often and become drunk more often. In strong contrast to non-institutionalized youth, institutionalized youth generally favor the use of marijuana and other drugs.

SOCIAL ATTITUDES OF INSTITUTIONALIZED WYOMING YOUTH

This report represents the results of a 1973 social survey of Wyoming youth who were inmates of the state's three major institutions for delinquent adolescents. These institutions were the Wyoming Girls' School, the Wyoming Industrial Institute, and the Wyoming State Hospital. The study was conducted under the auspices of the University of Wyoming and the Governor's Planning Committee on Criminal Administration, State of Wyoming. The study was directed toward providing data on the attitudes of institutionalized Wyoming youth toward the family, the school, the police, and alcohol and drug use.

RESPONDENT DESCRIPTION

Data were collected from 117 adolescents who were inmates of the Wyoming Girls' School, the Wyoming Industrial Institute, and the Wyoming State Hospital. All of these institutions qualify as total institutions in that, as defined by Erving Goffman (Asylums, New York: Anchor, 1961, p. xiii), they are "a place of residence and work where a large number of like-situated individuals, cut off from the wider society for an appreciable period of time, together lead an enclosed, formally administered round of life."

The total number of respondents represents the number of adolescents confined in each institution at the time of the survey. The survey population consisted of 42 females at the Wyoming Girls' School, 50 males at the Wyoming Industrial Institute,

and 25 mental patients at the Wyoming State Hospital. The mental patient population consisted of 14 males and 11 females. The total survey population of 117 respondents consists, therefore, of 64 males and 53 females.

NOTE: DATA ARE PRESENTED IN TERMS OF PERCENTAGES. IN ALL CASES WHERE THE PERCENTAGES DO NOT TOTAL 100%, THE OMITTED PERCENTAGE IS THE PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS FAILING TO RESPOND TO A PARTICULAR QUESTION.

The ages of the respondents by percentage were as follows: 12 (0.9 percent), 13 (4.3 percent), 14 (10.3 percent), 15 (12.0 percent), 16 (29.1 percent), 17 (23.9 percent) and 18 years old (18.8 percent). Also, 96.6 percent of the respondents were not married and 2.6 percent indicated they were married.

Ethnic/racial background of the respondents by percentage was White (65.8 percent), Mexican-American (16.2 percent), American Indian (13.7 percent), and Black (2.6 percent).

As an additional descriptive indicator, these respondents were asked to express their feelings of approval or disapproval about living in their local community or hometown in Wyoming. Some 43.2 percent said they liked their hometown very much and 41.9 percent stated they were satisfied with their community; 22.7 percent indicated they were dissatisfied with their community. As for the future, 17.1 percent stated they thought they would grow to like their hometown even more, 63.2 percent indicated no change from their present opinion, and 17.9 percent indicated they would grow to dislike their community.

These respondents were also asked if they planned, upon return to their hometown, to leave their community in the foreseeable future and establish a permanent home elsewhere. The responses to this question were 68.4 percent yes and 28.2 percent no. Reasons given for leaving their home community permanently by percentage were: marriage (7.7 percent), lack of good jobs (11.1 percent), get away from parents (10.3 percent), desire to live in a large city (8.5 percent), more excitement elsewhere (8.5 percent), change in scenery (2.6 percent), dislike Wyoming "lifestyle" (5.1 percent), dislike the climate (2.6 percent) and other (15.4 percent). "Other" in this item included: to meet new people, do not like the attitudes in my hometown, and to have new experiences.

Generally, it would appear that these respondents like living in Wyoming. However, a strong majority indicate that they plan to leave their home community permanently in the future for a variety of reasons.

METHODOLOGY

Data were obtained in October 1973 by means of a survey questionnaire administered at the three institutions. The questionnaire was originally designed by the author in consultation with other University of Wyoming faculty members (see title page). This questionnaire was pre-tested upon University of Wyoming freshman and sophomore students enrolled in selected introductory courses in sociology and educational psychology. Results from

this pre-test were subjected to item analysis and a revised questionnaire was administered to 7th and 8th grade students enrolled in the University of Wyoming's University School. Item analysis of this second pre-test resulted in the final selection of items included on the questionnaire utilized in this study.

The questionnaire was first employed during the spring of 1973 in a statewide random sample of non-institutionalized Wyoming youth. This sample consisted of 4,247 adolescents enrolled in grades 7 through 12 in 32 Wyoming public schools. A detailed analysis of this data is contained in a separate report (see Cockerham, William C., Survey of Wyoming Adolescent Attitudes, Laramie, University of Wyoming, 1974).

In October 1973 the same questionnaire was then administered at the Wyoming Girls' School, the Wyoming Industrial Institute, and the Wyoming State Hospital for purposes of comparison. This data is contained in this report.

The analysis of data were based upon the integrated system of computer programming provided by the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) (see Norman Hie, Dale Brent, and C. Hadlai Hull, Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), New York: McGraw-Hill, 1970). For the purposes of this study, SPSS provided an analysis of each item (question) by the variables of sex, age, ethnic background, and father's education. Specific statistical procedures employed with each item were Chi Square, Cramer's V, Pearson's Contingency Coefficient, Kendall's Tau B, Kendall's Tau C, Gamma and Somer's D.

Since this study is intended for the general public, data are presented in this report only in the form of percentages. Any interested individuals or organizations desiring additional analysis on any item by any of the above statistical procedures is invited to contact the author.

Because of the large number of tables (356) generated by the analysis of 89 items by four variables, data are presented generally by institution. The mean responses of all three groups of institutionalized youth is given and the institutionalized mean is then compared to the mean responses for the statewide non-institutionalized survey. For example, see Table O below:

Table O.

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4,247)
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In Table O, WGS represents the percentage of the 42 respondents of the Wyoming Girls' School, WII represents the 50 respondents of the Wyoming Industrial Institute and WSH represents the 25 respondents of the Wyoming State Hospital. The mean response rate by percentage of all three institutions are then represented in the 117 respondents whose responses are combined in the Institutions Mean column. The column for Statewide Mean represents the 4,247 respondents who comprised the random sample of non-institutionalized youth. This column is presented to allow the reader to compare the responses of Wyoming's institutionalized and non-institutionalized youth.

Data are presented in this report in five parts: Part I: The Family, Part II: The School, Part III: The Police, Part IV: Alcohol and Drug Use, and Part V: Summary and Conclusion.

PART I: THE FAMILY

PERSON HAVING MAJOR INFLUENCE IN LIFE

In order to ascertain the basis of attitudes toward the family among institutionalized Wyoming adolescents, the respondents were requested, first of all, to indicate the person having the major influence on them during their entire lifetime and the person having the major influence on them at present.

As Table 1 shows, these respondents generally indicated that their mother had been the major influence during their entire lives. It is important to note, however, that friends of the same or opposite sex were ranked as more influential than the father by institutionalized youth. In fact, the father (14.2%) was ranked behind the mother (30.7%), friend of the same sex (17.6%), friend of the opposite sex (17.6%), and other (15.9%). If the mean responses favoring friend of either the same or opposite sex are combined into a single friend or peer group category, the influence of friends as the major influence during the lifetimes of these institutionalized youth would be 35.2% which would be greater than that of mother.

In comparing institutionalized and non-institutionalized youth from the statewide random sample (Cockerham, 1974), it is again apparent that the influence of friends is more important than the influence of the father for institutionalized youth. Whereas institutionalized youth rank the father fifth

(14.2%), non-institutionalized youth rank the father second (29.4%) as being the major influence in their lives. Table 1, therefore, suggests that the influence of the father may be an important difference in the family life of youth who become or remain institutionalized or non-institutionalized.

TABLE 1. "What person has influenced you the most so far when you think about your entire life?"

Response	WGS (N=40)	WII (N=48)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=113)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Mother	40.0	27.0	24.0	30.7	33.0
Father	5.0	22.9	12.0	14.2	29.4
Friend Same Sex	12.5	18.7	24.0	17.6	11.5
Friend Opposite Sex	25.0	10.4	20.0	17.6	8.9
Teacher	0.0	2.1	4.0	1.8	1.6
Minister	2.5	2.1	0.0	1.8	1.4
Other*	15.0	16.5	16.0	15.9	14.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

*"Other" in this item referred most often to school principal, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, cousin, etc.

Respondents were next asked "What person has the greatest influence in your life over what you do right now?" The intent of this question was to assess any differences between the persons influencing the institutionalized Wyoming adolescent the most during adolescence as compared to his entire

life. Compared to Table 1 (entire life), Table 2 (right now) shows the influence of the mother and father declining somewhat. Instead, the influence of other (foster parent, aunt, brother, sister, therapist, counselor, social worker, group supervisor, etc.) is the largest category of response to the question of which person has the most influence right now. Considering that these responses are from adolescent inmates of state institutions, it is not surprising that institution personnel are among the most influential persons at present in the life of the inmates. "Other" was the primary influence of 38.8% of all institutionalized respondents compared to 27.9% for mother and 12.6% for father. The categories of friend of same or opposite sex were also not as strong for Table 2 (the present) as for Table 1 (entire life) for institutionalized youth. Teachers and ministers showed little or no major influence on institutionalized youth.

In comparison to the statewide sample of non-institutionalized youth, the significance of both Tables 1 and 2 is that the influence of the family in the form of the mother and the father is less of a major influence for institutionalized youth. This is particularly true of the influence of the father. Therefore, while it can be stated that family influence in Wyoming remains strong among non-institutionalized youth (see Cockerham, Survey of Wyoming Adolescent Attitudes, 1974), family influence does not appear to be as strong among those youth who are

inmates of the state's institutions. The influence of the father is an important differential between the two groups.

TABLE 2. "What person has the greatest influence in your life over what you do right now?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=45)	WSH (N=25)	Institutional Mean (N=111)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Mother	29.2	22.4	36.0	27.9	32.0
Father	9.7	17.8	8.0	12.6	25.9
Friend Same Sex	12.2	4.4	12.0	9.0	14.7
Friend Opposite Sex	7.3	6.6	20.0	9.9	13.0
Teacher	2.4	2.2	0.0	1.8	2.7
Minister	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Other*	39.2	46.6	24.0	38.8	10.7
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

*Other refers to foster parent, aunt, brother, sister, therapist, counselor, social worker, group supervisor, etc.

As a check upon the first two questions regarding the person having the most influence over the respondents, the question was also asked "What person has influenced you the least during your entire life?" For institutionalized youth, this question supported previous indicators that the father's influence is lacking. The father ranked first in regard to least influence, followed by the minister and the teacher.

TABLE 3. "What person has influenced you the least during your entire life?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=47)	WSH (N=24)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Mother	12.2	17.0	12.5	14.2	5.6
Father	25.6	19.3	37.5	26.1	9.3
Friend Same Sex	12.2	10.6	4.2	9.8	6.8
Friend Opposite Sex	4.9	10.6	4.2	7.1	11.9
Teacher	19.5	17.0	25.0	19.6	25.4
Minister	25.6	25.5	16.6	23.2	41.0
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

PARENTAL INFLUENCE

The next three questions dealt with a hypothetical situation in which someone known to the respondent is having a party and inviting all of the respondent's close friends. The setting for the party and the situation within which it occurs is outside of the respondent's institution in what would be a normal non-institutionalized social setting. The respondent's parents, however, have indicated to the respondent that he or she should not go to the party. The three questions then ask if the respondent would attend the party anyway if (1) there was a slim chance their parents would find out, (2) if they knew for certain that their parents would not find out, and (3) if they knew for certain their parents would find out. According to Table 4,

a majority (64.3%) of the institutionalized respondents would go to the party if there was a slim chance their parents would find out. Non-institutionalized respondents were almost evenly divided on this question as to going (48.9%) or not going (49.9%). Youth who have been institutionalized appear somewhat more willing to take a chance on going to the party against their parents' wishes.

TABLE 4. "If your parents were against you going to a party, would you go if there would be a slim chance your parents would find out?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=48)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Definitely would attend the party	14.3	29.2	36.0	25.2	14.9
Probably would attend at the last minute	7.1	12.5	0.0	7.8	6.6
Difficult to say, but probably would attend	31.1	31.2	32.0	31.3	28.4
Difficult to say, but probably would not attend	11.9	16.6	20.0	15.8	19.4
Probably would not attend	16.8	6.3	8.0	10.4	16.4
Definitely would not attend	19.0	4.2	4.0	9.5	12.7
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.8%

If there were no chance parents would find out about the respondent attending the party, a majority (75.7%) of institutionalized youth responded to categories which favored attending the party. This percentage compares to 64.4% of the

non-institutionalized respondents who also favored going to the forbidden party if their parents would not find out. These responses are listed in Table 5.

TABLE 5. "If your parents were against you going to a party, would you go if there would be no chance your parents would find out?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=48)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Definitely would attend the party	23.8	43.7	44.0	36.6	34.4
Probably would attend at the last minute	9.5	12.5	8.0	10.4	8.9
Difficult to say, but probably would attend	28.6	29.1	28.0	28.7	21.1
Difficult to say, but probably would not attend	4.8	4.2	20.0	7.8	12.2
Probably would not attend	21.4	6.2	0.0	10.4	11.9
Definitely would not attend	11.9	4.2	0.0	6.1	10.3
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.8%

However, if the institutionalized youth knew for sure their parents would find out if they attended the party, a majority (53.9%) indicated they would still attend the party. By way of contrast, Table 6 on this question shows that only 26.5% of the non-institutionalized youth in the statewide sample would attend the party if they knew for sure their parents would find out.

TABLE 6. "If your parents were against you going to a party, would you go if you knew for sure that your parents would find out?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=48)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=114)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Definitely would attend the party	16.7	33.3	36.0	38.1	9.0
Probably would attend at the last minute	2.4	2.1	8.0	3.5	4.2
Difficult to say, but probably would attend	16.7	31.2	20.0	23.6	13.3
Difficult to say, but probably would not attend	14.3	10.4	20.0	14.0	13.5
Probably would not attend	23.8	6.4	0.0	11.4	21.5
Definitely would not attend	26.2	16.6	16.0	19.4	37.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.3%

While Tables 4, 5, and 6 indicate that non-institutionalized Wyoming youth generally respect parental authority, it is also evident that institutionalized youth are somewhat more willing to oppose parental authority. While Tables 4 and 5 show that many non-institutionalized adolescents may be tempted to oppose their parents' views if there is little or no chance their parents will know of the action, Table 6 clearly demonstrates that a majority of non-institutionalized Wyoming adolescents will not go against their parents' wishes if there is certainty their parents will know of the violation. However, among Wyoming youth that have been institutionalized, Tables 4 and 5 show even a larger percentage of youth tempted

to oppose their parents' views and Table 6 clearly shows a majority of institutionalized youth willing to go against their parents' wishes even if there is certainty their parents will know of the violation. Again it is apparent that a breakdown in the importance of family influence, when compared to non-institutionalized youth, is operating among Wyoming's institutionalized youth.

As a further indicator of parental influence, these respondents were asked whether the disapproval of their parents, teachers, or best friends would be the hardest for them to take. Table 7 shows both youth groups favoring parents' disapproval as the hardest thing for them to take, but parental influence is somewhat stronger among non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 7. "Generally speaking, which of these things would be the hardest for you to take?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Parents' Disapproval	52.4	62.0	44.0	54.7	60.5
Teachers' Disapproval	9.5	8.0	8.0	8.5	6.9
Best Friends' Disapproval	38.1	30.0	48.0	36.8	31.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.6%

Although Tables 1 and 2 show the mother to be the most influential person in the life of the institutionalized Wyoming adolescent, with the father ranked fifth, an additional measure

of parental influence was obtained to explore the extent of the feelings toward mother and father. Table 8 shows the influence of the mother to be dominant among a majority of Wyoming institutionalized youth. This response differs from that of the statewide sample which discloses that a majority of non-institutionalized youth view the influence of both parents as being equal.

TABLE 8. "Which parent has the most influence on you?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Mother	62.0	40.0	52.0	51.3	33.4
Mother and Father almost equal	19.0	28.0	32.0	25.6	43.1
Father	19.0	32.0	16.0	23.1	23.5
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

To further explore the feelings of these adolescents toward their parents, Tables 9 and 10 show the responses regarding how close the respondents felt toward their parents. In Table 9, a majority, 60.7%, of institutionalized youth felt either very close or moderately close to their father compared to 75.8% of non-institutionalized youth: it is important to note that 24.0% of the institutionalized youth felt very distant compared to 9.0% of the non-institutionalized youth. Table 10 shows a majority (85.4%) of institutionalized youth either very close or moderately close

to their mothers: yet the proportion of institutionalized youth in the category of very close (63.2%) is much larger than the same category of very close (49.1%) of non-institutionalized youth. Tables 9 and 10 suggest that while a majority of institutionalized youth feel close to both their mother and their father, the institutionalized youth is more likely to feel very distant from his father and perhaps compensates by feeling closer to his mother when compared to non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 9. "How close are you to your father in terms of feelings toward him?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Very close	23.8	48.0	24.0	34.2	37.8
Moderately close	38.1	22.0	16.0	26.5	38.0
Moderately distant	16.7	16.0	12.0	15.4	13.1
Very distant	21.4	12.0	48.0	24.0	9.0
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	97.9%

TABLE 10. "How close are you to your mother in terms of feelings toward her?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Very close	59.5	70.0	56.0	63.2	49.1
Moderately close	28.6	12.0	32.0	22.2	35.7
Moderately distant	2.4	4.0	8.0	3.4	9.5
Very distant	9.5	14.0	4.0	11.2	4.7
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.0%

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The next section of the survey dealt with the activities the adolescent was likely to enjoy with his family and his friends in a non-institutionalized setting. As a measure of parental control, these respondents were asked if, when they were home, did their parents always know where they were and what they were doing. Table 11 shows that for institutionalized youth, the largest category of response was no--only some of the time. The largest category of response for non-institutionalized youth was no--but most of the time.

TABLE 11. "Do your parents always know where you are and what you are doing when you live at home?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Yes--all of the time	2.4	12.0	16.0	9.4	12.6
No--but most of the time	45.2	26.0	24.0	32.5	61.7
No--only some of the time	47.6	60.0	44.0	51.3	22.9
No--never	4.8	4.0	16.0	6.8	2.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Tables 12, 13, and 14 show only the mean response for the three institutions compared to the statewide mean because of the lack of significant differences between institutions. Table 12 on how often the respondent does something enjoyable with his or her parents when at home shows little difference from

the responses of non-institutionalized youth. The major category of response is once or twice a week.

Table 13 indicates that the type of activities enjoyed most with parents by institutionalized youth are Christmas and camping, while camping and trips are preferred by non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 12. "When at home, how often do you do something you enjoy with your parents?"

Response	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Daily	19.7	11.8
Once or twice a week	43.6	41.7
About once a month	14.5	24.9
Two to three times a year	7.7	12.8
Once a year or less	7.7	5.5
Never	6.8	3.3
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

TABLE 13. "When at home, what kind of activity do you enjoy doing most with your family?"

Response	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Games, athletics	3.4	10.1
Watching T.V.	15.4	8.0
Trips	12.0	19.8
Camping, picnics	20.5	25.6
Christmas	22.2	10.8
Going out to eat	1.7	3.9
Attending movies	1.0	1.0
Discussing life	7.7	4.5
Shopping	3.4	1.8
Church activities	1.7	1.1
Other*	7.7	10.7
TOTALS:	96.7%	97.7%

*"Other" refers to such activities as fishing, hunting, skiing, and snow mobiling.

Table 14 is concerned with how often the adolescent does something he enjoys with his friends. A majority of adolescents do something they enjoy with their friends daily or once or twice a week. Table 15 on the next page shows that while non-institutionalized youth rank messing around or just talking to be their favorite type of activity with friends, youth who have been institutionalized favor messing around, using drugs, and drinking alcohol.

TABLE 14. "When at home, how often do you enjoy doing something with your friends?"

Response	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Daily	52.1	60.5
Once or twice a week	36.8	32.7
About once a month	6.0	3.6
Two to three times a year	1.7	1.0
Once a year or less	0.0	0.6
Never	2.6	0.5
TOTALS:	99.2%	98.9%

TABLE 15. "When at home, what type of activity do you enjoy doing most with your friends?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Talking and being with them	9.5	6.0	12.0	8.5	22.1
Drinking (alcohol)	11.9	20.0	16.0	16.2	12.7
Sports	4.8	6.0	0.0	4.3	12.2
Raising heck	4.8	0.0	8.0	3.4	6.8
Church activities	0.0	4.0	0.0	1.7	1.3
Movies, T.V.	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.9	2.1
Dating	9.5	12.0	4.0	9.4	4.5
Messing around	38.0	16.0	28.0	26.5	27.2
Using drugs	16.7	26.0	16.0	20.5	2.3
Studying	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other*	2.4	6.0	16.0	5.8	6.7
TOTALS:	100.0%	96.0%	100.0%	98.3%	98.1%

*"Other" in this table refers to activities such as playing pool, collecting stamps, club projects, sexual activities, hunting, fishing, etc.

SUMMARY: THE FAMILY

From these data it would appear that the influence of the family upon youth who have been committed to state institutions for adolescent offenders in Wyoming is not as strong as it is for non-institutionalized youth. While the mother was ranked first among persons having the most influence in the lives of institutionalized youth, the father ranked fifth. In fact, on all measures regarding the father, the father was not a major influence on institutionalized youth. This response may be an important indicator of the differences of family influence between institutionalized and non-institutionalized youth.

While both institutionalized and non-institutionalized youth would be tempted to oppose their parents' wishes if there was little or no chance of being found out, a much greater proportion of institutionalized youth than non-institutionalized youth would violate their parents' wishes even if it was likely their parents would know of their action.

It was also noted that while a majority of both institutionalized and non-institutionalized youth felt close to their mother and father, the institutionalized youth was more likely to feel very distant from his father and perhaps to compensate by feeling closer to his mother when compared generally to the non-institutionalized youth. A majority of institutionalized youth are influenced by their mother while the majority of non-institutionalized youth view the influence of both parents as being equal.

Another important difference is that a majority of institutionalized youth stated their parents knew where they were and what they were doing only some of the time compared to a response of most of the time for non-institutionalized youth.

The favored activities of institutionalized respondents with their parents were camping and Christmas, and the favored activities with friends were messing around and using drugs.

PART II: THE SCHOOL

COLLEGE PLANS

The first section of attitudes toward school deals with the attitudes of the respondent, his parents, and his friends toward attending college as an indicator of the value of education. While Table 16 shows that 69.7% of non-institutionalized Wyoming youth in the statewide sample are planning on college, only 43.6% of Wyoming youth who have been institutionalized indicate they plan to go to college.

TABLE 16. "Do you plan to go to college?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=247)
Yes	52.4	36.0	44.0	43.6	69.7
No	45.2	60.0	56.0	53.8	26.1
Undecided	2.4	4.0	0.0	2.6	4.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Tables 17 and 18 are concerned with the reasons given by the respondent for either attending college or not attending college. Table 17 shows the largest category of response to reasons for attending college by both youth groups to be to get a good job. Table 18 shows the largest category of response to reasons for not going to college for both youth groups to be that college is not important to them. More non-institutionalized youths than institutionalized are clearly

planning on college as an educational experience. Tables 17 and 18 are by institutions and statewide means only because of the lack of significant differences in responses between the institutionalized respondents.

TABLE 17. "If you are planning to go to college, what is your most important reason for doing so?"

Response	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
Good job	20.5	27.5
Marriage	0.0	1.7
Get away from home	0.9	2.6
Parents insist	0.0	1.7
Athletics	2.6	4.5
Have a good time	2.6	1.7
Desire to learn	4.3	8.6
To find out what I want out of life	7.7	14.1
To get an education to help humanity	3.4	5.8
Other*	2.6	4.6
TOTALS:	44.4%	72.8%

*"Other" refers in this table to meet new people, have new experiences, etc.

TABLE 18. "If you are not planning on going to college, what is your most important reason for this decision?"

Response	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
Not enough money	5.1	4.0
Am not a good student	12.0	4.6
Going into military	0.9	3.1
Marriage	5.1	3.5
Already have a good job	5.1	2.4
Not important to me	23.9	7.7
Other*	2.4	5.3
TOTALS	54.5%	30.6%

*"Other" in this table refers to going to trade school, plan to travel, etc.

As an indicator of parental influence concerning college plans, Table 19 shows that a strong majority (67.5%) of parents of institutionalized Wyoming youth have provided no particular direction to the adolescent on whether or not he or she should attend college. Instead, these parents are leaving it up to the youth to decide if he or she wants to go.

TABLE 19. "How do your parents feel about you attending college?"

Response	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
They insist that I go	7.7	11.2
They do not insist, but feel I should go	18.8	40.4
They are leaving it to me to decide	67.5	43.8
They are against me going to college	0.9	0.8
They do not care what I do	5.1	3.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

While parents of institutionalized youth do not appear to be a strong influence on college plans, peer group support for college attendance is also strongly lacking. Table 20 shows that a large majority (73.5%) of the institutionalized youth's friends are not planning on going to college. This percentage contrasts sharply with the 30.7% of the statewide sample who state most their close friends are not going to college.

TABLE 20. "Are your close friends going to college?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institution Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
Yes	16.7	16.0	48.0	23.1	64.8
No	78.6	80.0	52.0	73.5	30.7
Undecided	4.8	4.0	0.0	3.4	4.5
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

ATTITUDES TOWARD HIGH AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

The next section on attitudes toward the school was concerned with the attitudes of the respondent toward the school at the level at which he or she either was or should be enrolled. The questions in this section consisted of statements about which a respondent was directed to indicate his or her range of agreement or disagreement in categories of strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree, or strongly disagree. The results to these statements concerning the school are shown in Table 21 for institutionalized youth and non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 21. ATTITUDES TOWARD SCHOOL

Statement	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
1. "School is dull and boring."		
Strongly Disagree	15.4	7.3
Disagree	24.8	30.7
Undecided	33.3	29.7
Agree	15.4	20.4
Strongly Agree	11.1	11.9
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
2. "I am not doing so well in school."		
Strongly Disagree	14.5	17.3
Disagree	40.2	41.9
Undecided	21.4	17.8
Agree	17.1	17.6
Strongly Agree	6.8	5.4
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
3. "I feel that a high school education is very important."		
Strongly Disagree	7.7	3.4
Disagree	4.3	3.0
Undecided	10.2	8.2
Agree	37.6	37.3
Strongly Agree	40.2	48.1
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
4. "Someday I would like to be the kind of person my favorite teacher is."		
Strongly Disagree	28.2	27.2
Disagree	31.6	30.3
Undecided	22.3	25.1
Agree	12.0	11.9
Strongly Agree	6.0	5.5
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
5. "I feel that most teachers are not old-fashioned or narrow-minded."		
Strongly Disagree	12.0	9.4
Disagree	21.4	20.7
Undecided	23.1	26.0
Agree	35.0	37.1
Strongly Agree	8.5	6.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
6. "My teachers usually treat me as an individual instead of just one of the group."		
Strongly Disagree	5.1	9.7
Disagree	20.5	25.7
Undecided	30.8	24.7
Agree	39.3	34.0
Strongly Agree	4.3	5.9
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

Comparing institutionalized youth and non-institutionalized youth in Table 21 shows the responses to the six attitude statements to be generally the same. A majority agree that a high school education is very important, that they are doing well in school and seem to be somewhat evenly divided over whether or not school is dull and boring. Most of the respondents would not like to be like their favorite teacher, although they generally indicate that most teachers are not dull and boring. They also feel that their teachers generally treat them as individuals.

SUMMARY: THE SCHOOL

These data indicate that both Wyoming youth who are institutionalized and non-institutionalized have a generally positive attitude toward education at least on the high school and junior school level. The value of an advanced education on the college level, however, points to an important difference between the two youth groups. Institutionalized youth are not as likely to have plans for college or parental guidance supporting college attendance. This latter finding is consistent with data on the family in the first part of this report which suggests family influence to be not as strong among institutionalized youth as it is among other youth. It is also important to note that a clear majority of the institutionalized youth's friends are not planning on going to college.

Therefore, it appears overall that while the institutionalized youth is positive about education, he has neither the plans nor the parent or peer group support to view himself as college bound.

PART III: THE POLICE

The section of the survey dealing with attitudes toward Wyoming's law enforcement establishment is concerned with attitudes toward the police, attitudes toward careers in law enforcement, attitudes toward the actual enforcement of the law, and the types of offenses institutionalized adolescents view as likely to get them into trouble. All items in this section consist of statements of agreement or disagreement with the exception of the final item.

ATTITUDES TOWARD THE POLICE

Table 22 shows the responses for both institutionalized and non-institutionalized Wyoming youth in the statewide sample for attitudes toward the police. In comparison to non-institutionalized youth, institutionalized youth are not as favorable toward the police. A majority (45.3%) disagree with the statement that they like the police in their community.

Table 22 also shows institutionalized youth by a slight majority agreeing that the police treat juvenile suspects fairly for misdemeanors and disagreeing slightly that the police treat juvenile suspects for felonies fairly. Since a felony is likely to result in institutionalization, these institutionalized youth may be more likely to question police fairness on the felony statement. Whereas, a significant percentage of non-institutionalized youth were undecided on the misdemeanor-felony items, institutionalized youth were more

likely to have an opinion because of their increased contact with the police.

The next item on whether or not the police are respected generally by teenagers also produced a contrast. While some 60.4% of non-institutionalized youth responded in the disagreement categories to the statement that in general teenagers respect the police and try to cooperate with them, a higher percentage of 73.5% of the institutionalized youth also disagreed with the statement. While neither youth group generally holds great respect for the police, the youth who have been institutionalized seem to hold less respect.

Responses to the three items whether the respondent's attitudes toward the police had been shaped largely by their own family, friends, or personal experiences with the police indicated conclusively that the great majority of institutionalized youth formed their attitudes toward the police as a result of personal experiences. These responses differed from non-institutionalized youth whose responses favored the family largely shaping their attitudes toward the police.

Institutionalized youth also tended somewhat to disagree that it is the unusual teenager that has trouble with the police. They tended to agree with non-institutionalized youth that more than liking or disliking the police, most juveniles just don't pay much attention to the police one way or another. A majority of institutionalized youth stated they do not form opinions about the police as a group, but

tended to size up the individual officer, that the police force in their home town was exceptional compared to others in the state, that police lack respect from teenagers and from the community at large. Only a very slight majority indicated agreement that complaints about police brutality usually do not amount to anything and that teenagers are responsible for only a very small amount of serious crime.

TABLE 22. Attitudes Toward the Police

Statement	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
1. "In general, I would have to say that I like the police in my community."		
Strongly Disagree	24.8	10.5
Disagree	20.5	15.2
Undecided	28.2	29.4
Agree	20.5	37.1
Strongly Agree	6.0	7.7
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
2. "Most police officers treat juvenile suspects for misdemeanors fairly."		
Strongly Disagree	15.4	7.3
Disagree	17.9	17.8
Undecided	26.5	38.4
Agree	34.2	32.3
Strongly Agree	6.0	4.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
3. "Most police officers treat juvenile suspects for felonies fairly."		
Strongly Disagree	19.7	9.3
Disagree	21.4	21.9
Undecided	25.7	44.1
Agree	24.8	21.4
Strongly Agree	8.5	3.3
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
4. "In general, teenagers respect the police and try to cooperate with them."		
Strongly Disagree	30.8	17.6
Disagree	42.7	42.8
Undecided	14.6	23.2
Agree	11.1	15.9
Strongly Agree	.9	1.6
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
5. "Your own attitudes toward the police have largely been shaped by your family."		
Strongly Disagree	21.4	10.5
Disagree	40.2	32.7
Undecided	16.3	18.9
Agree	16.2	30.9
Strongly Agree	6.0	7.0
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

TABLE 22 (continued)

Statement	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
6. "Your own attitudes toward the police have largely been shaped by your friends."		
Strongly Disagree	7.7	9.4
Disagree	38.5	41.9
Undecided	25.7	22.0
Agree	22.2	23.4
Strongly Agree	6.0	3.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
7. "Your own attitudes toward the police have been largely shaped by your own personal experiences."		
Strongly Disagree	3.4	7.2
Disagree	7.7	19.0
Undecided	13.7	19.2
Agree	44.4	39.4
Strongly Agree	30.8	15.1
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
8. "It is the unusual teenager that has trouble with the police."		
Strongly Disagree	17.1	11.3
Disagree	33.3	38.5
Undecided	15.4	22.6
Agree	26.5	22.4
Strongly Agree	7.7	5.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
9. "More than liking or disliking the police, most juveniles just don't pay much attention to them one way or another."		
Strongly Disagree	4.3	3.4
Disagree	17.1	15.7
Undecided	17.1	23.7
Agree	47.0	48.9
Strongly Agree	14.5	8.3
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
10. "Personally, I don't form any opinions about the police as a group. I wait to size up the individual officer."		
Strongly Disagree	6.0	3.3
Disagree	12.8	14.3
Undecided	28.2	28.1
Agree	42.7	44.8
Strongly Agree	10.3	9.4
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

TABLE 22 (continued)

Statement	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
11. "Complaints about police brutality usually don't amount to anything."		
Strongly Disagree	10.3	5.3
Disagree	20.5	21.8
Undecided	30.8	33.0
Agree	27.4	35.1
Strongly Agree	11.1	4.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
12. "The police in my home town are pretty good, but they are exceptional when compared to other towns in the state."		
Strongly Disagree	12.8	9.4
Disagree	19.7	21.6
Undecided	33.3	40.9
Agree	26.5	24.0
Strongly Agree	7.7	4.1
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
13. "Teenagers are responsible for a very small amount of serious crime."		
Strongly Disagree	8.5	8.1
Disagree	27.4	31.2
Undecided	23.1	28.2
Agree	33.3	27.9
Strongly Agree	7.7	4.7
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
14. "The job of a policeman is one that does not get enough respect from teenagers."		
Strongly Disagree	9.4	2.8
Disagree	10.3	11.0
Undecided	21.4	19.9
Agree	44.4	51.1
Strongly Agree	14.5	15.2
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
15. "The job of a policeman is one that does not get enough respect from the community at large."		
Strongly Disagree	8.5	2.9
Disagree	23.9	23.5
Undecided	35.9	30.8
Agree	29.1	35.0
Strongly Agree	2.6	7.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

ATTITUDES TOWARD A CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Table 23 indicates that a majority of institutionalized youth are not favorable toward a career as a police officer or toward some other phase of the criminal justice system other than a police officer. This finding is not surprising in view of their experience and those among them that have a police record.

TABLE 23. ATTITUDE TOWARD CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Statement	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
1. "I see nothing bad about a career as a police officer."		
Strongly Disagree	25.6	8.8
Disagree	23.9	18.3
Undecided	15.4	21.6
Agree	27.4	41.6
Strongly Agree	7.7	9.6
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
2. "I would consider a career in some phase of the criminal justice system, but not as a police officer."		
Strongly Disagree	17.9	9.9
Disagree	25.6	27.7
Undecided	29.1	34.3
Agree	23.9	24.5
Strongly Agree	3.4	3.6
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

ATTITUDES TOWARD THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAW

Table 24 shows that both institutionalized and non-institutionalized youth tend to agree that the police in Wyoming enforce the law strongly enough. However, in contrast to non-institutionalized youth, a majority of youth who have been institutionalized indicate disagreement with the statement

that judges in Wyoming make a strong attempt to be fair. The differences on the fairness of judges item, however, is not strong. Some 41.0% of the institutionalized youth respond in the disagreement categories with 35.9% responding in the agreement categories. Yet the percentage of institutionalized youth who strongly disagree (22.2%) is obviously larger than the same response (6.2%) for non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 24. Attitude Toward the Enforcement of Law

Statement	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4247)
1. "The police enforce the law strongly enough."		
Strongly Disagree	7.7	5.7
Disagree	13.7	20.0
Undecided	22.2	27.4
Agree	42.7	39.5
Strongly Agree	13.7	7.4
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%
2. "The judges that sit in the courts in our state make a strong attempt to be fair."		
Strongly Disagree	22.2	6.2
Disagree	18.8	11.4
Undecided	23.1	34.8
Agree	29.9	39.5
Strongly Agree	6.0	6.9
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%

TYPES OF OFFENSES SEEN AS LIKELY TO CAUSE TROUBLE

The final section of Part III on the police is concerned with adolescent perspectives toward the types of offenses which they see as significant in causing them to get into trouble. We desired an open-ended response to this question, without prompting or suggestion by the interviewer,

so that these respondents would describe, in their own words and according to their own views, the specific actions causing individuals difficulty in their community. We therefore requested the respondents to list, on their own, specific actions that they or their friends could get into trouble for or which would be objected to by others.

It was possible to categorize each response as one of ten different types of offenses: (1) crimes against the person (murder, assault, etc.); (2) crimes against property (vandalism, arson, trespass, etc.); (3) theft; (4) sex offenses; (5) drug use; (6) alcohol use; (7) disorderly conduct (disrupting classes in school, scuffling, being a "loud mouth," etc.); (8) traffic violations; (9) firearm violations; and (10) residual categories (run-away child, curfew violations, truancy, etc.).

Although all of the categories listed on this scale were ones which would cause individuals difficulty in their community, it was the intent of our classification scheme to assess which specific actions were perceived by the respondents as being the most likely to occur in their community. Table 25 shows that institutionalized youth, in contrast to non-institutionalized youth, rank drug use (66.7%) as the most likely source of trouble in their community. Non-institutionalized youth rank alcohol use (69.6%) first. This response suggests that drug use is viewed by institutionalized youth as a more likely source of trouble than drinking for them. While the two youth groups reverse their top two

rankings of drug and alcohol use, institutionalized youth rank traffic violations 7th instead of 3rd as do non-institutionalized youth. Otherwise, the responses are generally in the same order.

TABLE 25. "Specific actions which can cause you difficulty in your community."

Institutionalized Youth Rankings (N=117)		Statewide Sample Rankings (N=4247)	
1- Drug Use	66.7%	1- Alcohol Use	69.6%
2- Alcohol Use	50.4%	2- Drug Use	56.1%
3- Theft	38.5%	3- Traffic Violations	49.8%
4- Residual Categories	35.0%	4- Theft	45.1%
5- Crimes Against People	33.3%	5- Residual Categories	39.2%
6- Crimes Against Property	31.6%	6- Crimes Against Property	29.8%
7- Traffic Violations	18.8%	7- Crimes Against People	28.7%
8- Disorderly Conduct	16.2%	8- Disorderly Conduct	27.2%
9- Sex Offenses	13.7%	9- Sex Offenses	7.5%
10- Firearm Violations	3.4%	10- Firearm Violations	3.2%

NOTE: The above percentages are the total percentages of all respondents who cited a particular action.

SUMMARY: THE POLICE

As would be expected, institutionalized youth indicate less favorable attitudes toward the police than non-institutionalized youth in the statewide sample. They are also not as likely to desire a career in law enforcement. As a group having more contact with the police and the criminal justice system than non-institutionalized youth, institutionalized youth indicate their attitudes are more likely to be shaped by their own personal experiences with the police than by their family and they are more likely to question whether or not judges in the state make a strong attempt to be fair.

PART IV: ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

Part IV on alcohol and drug use is divided into three sections on (1) alcohol, (2) marijuana, and (3) drugs other than alcohol and marijuana.

ALCOHOL USE

As the previous report (Cockerham, 1974) stated, if the statewide random sample were reduced to its single most powerful expression of attitudes, that expression would have to be that Wyoming adolescents are extremely positive toward drinking. The additional data on institutionalized youth shows also a strong approval of drinking behavior; in fact, there is not a significant difference, as Table 26 shows, in the responses of both youth groups to the question of whether or not it was generally all right for people to drink alcoholic beverages. Some 70% of both groups agreed that it was all right.

TABLE 26. "In general, do you believe that it is all right for people to drink alcoholic beverages?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Yes	61.9	76.0	76.0	70.9	73.7
Undecided	16.7	14.0	12.0	14.5	14.7
No	21.4	10.0	12.0	14.5	11.1
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.5%

Although both youth groups approve of drinking by approximately the same percentage, Table 27 discloses that institutionalized youth have tried alcohol to a greater extent than non-institutionalized youth. Some 91.3% of the institutionalized have tried alcohol several times compared to 66.5% of non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 27. "Have you ever tried drinking beer, wine or liquor?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=49)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Never	00.0	2.1	4.0	1.7	8.8
Once or Twice	7.3	8.2	4.0	7.0	23.6
Several Times	92.7	89.7	92.0	91.3	66.5
TOTAL:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.9%

The next table, Table 28, discloses that institutionalized youth also begin drinking generally at an earlier age than non-institutionalized youth in the statewide sample. Fully 56.0% of institutionalized had their first serious drink by age 12 compared to 43.0% of non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 28. "How old were you when you had your first drink?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=49)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Never	2.5	00.0	4.0	1.7	11.9
Less than 12	17.1	40.8	44.0	33.0	25.6
12	31.7	20.4	28.0	26.0	17.4
13	24.4	10.2	00.0	13.0	15.6
14	14.6	24.5	4.0	16.5	13.8
15	4.9	4.1	8.0	5.2	9.3
16	00.0	00.0	12.0	2.6	3.8
17	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.8
18	4.9	00.0	00.0	1.7	0.4
TOTALS:	99.7%	100.0%	100.0%	99.7%	98.6%

Table 29 shows that for the few Wyoming adolescents who do not drink, the primary reason for not drinking is that they are not interested or because of danger to health.

TABLE 29. "If you do not drink at all or do not drink on a regular basis, please list your primary reason why."

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Danger to health	4.8	4.0	4.0	4.3	7.6
Expensive	2.4	00.0	4.0	1.7	1.5
Religious reasons	2.4	4.0	00.0	2.6	3.1
Against the law	2.4	00.0	00.0	.9	1.2
My family disapproves	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	3.0
My friends disapprove	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.2
Bad experience	2.4	4.0	00.0	2.6	1.1
Not interested	4.8	00.0	00.0	1.7	11.4
Other*	4.8	4.0	4.0	4.3	5.8
TOTALS	24.0%	16.0%	12.0%	18.1%	34.9%

*"Other" in this table refers to "I get sick when I drink," "I do not like the taste", etc.

Reasons given for drinking are shown in Table 30. Enjoyment is the primary reason for adolescent drinking; to get high or to have fun with the gang are other important reasons for drinking.

TABLE 30. "If you like to drink on a regular basis, please list your primary reason why."

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4152)
Enjoyment	26.2	36.0	36.0	32.5	17.0
Get Silly	7.1	00.0	4.0	3.4	3.4
Social	4.8	00.0	4.0	2.6	3.5
Get High	9.5	20.0	12.0	14.5	7.1
Adult Status	2.4	00.0	00.0	.9	0.6
Have fun with the gang	11.9	8.0	8.0	9.4	11.6
Relax	2.4	8.0	4.0	5.1	3.7
Liven up the party	2.4	2.0	00.0	1.7	2.7
Tastes good	4.8	2.0	4.0	3.4	8.5
My best friend or favorite date likes it	2.4	6.0	00.0	3.4	1.1
Other	2.4	8.0	20.0	8.5	7.2
TOTALS:	76.3%	84.0%	88.0%	85.4%	66.4%

*"Other" in this table refers to getting dizzy, forgetting troubles, having new experiences, makes me feel close to others, etc.

The next item on drinking dealt with questions concerning the type of favored alcoholic beverage and how often the respondent usually drank. Wyoming adolescents generally prefer beer to wine or liquor. Table 31 shows the response to preferred alcoholic beverage.

TABLE 31. "What do you prefer to drink?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=49)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
I do not drink	7.3	8.1	12.0	8.7	22.2
Beer	36.6	53.0	32.0	42.6	32.1
Wine	26.9	22.4	20.0	23.5	27.5
Liquor	29.2	16.3	36.0	25.0	16.4
TOTALS:	100.0%	99.8%	100.0%	99.8%	98.2%

Table 32 shows the responses to the question on frequency of drinking. While Table 32 indicates that a majority of both youth groups drink several times a month, it also discloses that youth who have been institutionalized drink with a greater frequency than non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 32. "How often do you usually drink?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=49)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
I do not drink	7.3	8.2	12.0	8.7	19.4
Once or twice in my life	12.2	6.1	16.0	10.4	20.9
Several times a month	63.4	42.9	28.0	47.0	44.2
Several times a week	17.1	30.6	40.0	27.8	10.1
Every day	00.0	12.2	4.0	6.1	1.5
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	96.1%

The next item was concerned with how many times the respondents had gotten drunk in the last year. Whereas Table 32 showed that institutionalized youth drink with greater frequency, Table 33 demonstrates that institutionalized youth get drunk more often.

TABLE 33. "How many times have you gotten drunk in the last year?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=49)	WSH (N=24)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Never	16.7	10.2	16.7	13.9	37.3
Once	2.4	6.1	4.1	4.3	11.7
2-3 times	14.3	16.3	00.0	12.2	13.0
4-5 times	19.0	6.1	16.7	13.0	7.4
6-7 times	14.3	2.1	8.3	7.8	5.0
8-9 times	00.0	2.1	00.0	.9	2.9
10 or more times	33.3	57.1	54.2	47.8	20.3
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%	97.6%

The next indicator of attitudes measured was the extent of peer group influence upon adolescent drinking. Although a majority of respondents in both youth groups stated their friends either strongly agreed or agreed that drinking was o.k., the friends of institutionalized youth appear somewhat more positive about drinking in Table 34.

TABLE 34. "How would you say the majority of your friends feel about drinking alcoholic beverages?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Strongly agree that it is o.k.	45.2	54.0	52.0	50.4	34.4
Agree that it is o.k.	35.7	32.0	32.0	33.3	40.3
They would have no particular opinion	11.9	10.0	8.0	10.2	14.0
They would disagree that it is o.k.	7.1	2.0	4.0	4.3	5.8
They would strongly disagree that it is o.k.	00.0	2.0	4.0	1.7	3.2
TOTALS:	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%	97.7%

Since it is apparent that these respondents drink, we wanted to know how often they got into trouble with their parents or with the police over drinking. Table 35 (trouble with parents) and Table 36 (trouble with police) indicate that institutionalized youth have gotten into trouble more often than non-institutionalized youth who apparently do not get into trouble for drinking very often.

TABLE 35. "How many times have you gotten into trouble with your parents because of drinking?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=48)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4152)
Never	42.8	54.2	56.0	50.4	73.9
Once or Twice	28.6	27.1	24.0	27.0	21.0
Several times	28.6	18.7	20.0	22.6	5.1
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

TABLE 36. "How many times have you gotten into trouble with the police because of drinking?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=48)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=115)	Statewide Mean (N=4152)
Never	76.2	47.9	68.0	62.6	90.2
Once or twice	16.7	31.3	20.0	23.5	8.0
Several times	7.1	20.8	12.0	13.9	1.8
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

To briefly summarize the data on drinking, both youth groups approve of drinking and state they do drink. Institutionalized youth, however, indicate that they are more likely to drink, to drink more often, and to have gotten drunk more often.

DRUGS

The other major area of this section deals with the use of drugs. In order to obtain a measure of attitudes toward drugs, these respondents were asked if they believed in general that it is all right for people to use drugs. Our definition of drugs in this response excludes alcohol, but includes all other forms of drugs. Table 37 shows that while a majority (46.0%) of the non-institutionalized youth in the statewide sample are opposed to drug use, the reverse is evident for institutionalized youth who favor drug use by a majority (52.1%).

TABLE 37. "In general, do you believe that it is all right for people to use drugs if they want to?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Yes	45.2	62.0	44.0	52.1	29.6
Undecided	28.6	24.0	32.0	27.3	22.0
No	26.2	14.0	24.0	20.5	46.0
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.9%	97.6%

MARIJUANA

Measures of attitudes toward drug use in this report are divided into separate categories of attitudes toward marijuana and attitudes toward drugs other than marijuana because our review of the literature on drugs indicates that often there is a difference in attitudes. The first question on marijuana dealt with whether or not the respondent had ever tried marijuana personally. Table 38 shows that while only 31.0% of the non-institutionalized respondents had tried marijuana, some 86.7% of the institutionalized youth had tried marijuana. Obviously institutionalized youth have shared a much more common experience with marijuana.

TABLE 38. "Have you ever tried marijuana?"

Response	WGS (N=41)	WII (N=47)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=113)	Statewide Mean (N=4152)
Yes	82.9	89.4	88.0	86.7	31.0
No	17.1	10.6	12.0	13.3	66.0
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	97.0%

Since Table 38 indicates a much wider use of marijuana among those youth who have been institutionalized, it is not surprising that Table 39 shows institutionalized youth have used marijuana with a much greater frequency than non-institutionalized youth. The largest category of response for non-institutionalized youth was never compared to several times a week for youth who have been institutionalized.

TABLE 39. "How often would you say that you use marijuana?"

Response	WGS (N=40)	WII (N=49)	WSH (N=24)	Institutions Mean (N=113)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Never	20.0	16.3	16.7	17.7	67.0
Once or twice in my life	30.0	8.2	25.0	19.5	13.0
Several times a month	17.5	22.4	8.3	17.7	9.4
Several times a week	23.5	30.6	16.7	24.7	4.5
Every day	10.0	22.4	33.3	20.4	2.3
TOTALS:	100.0%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	96.1%

Table 40 on peer group influence also demonstrates the consistent trend of increased marijuana usage among those youth who have been institutionalized by disclosing that a majority of the institutionalized youth's friends either strongly approve or approve of using marijuana.

TABLE 40. "How would you say the majority of your friends feel about the use of marijuana?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Strongly agree that it is o.k.	35.7	58.0	60.0	50.4	12.6
Agree that it is o.k.	47.6	18.0	24.0	29.9	19.4
No opinion	14.3	16.0	8.0	13.7	22.5
Disagree that it is o.k.	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	17.6
Strongly disagree that it is o.k.	2.4	4.0	8.0	4.3	24.6
TOTALS:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	96.7%

The next two tables, Table 41 and 42, are concerned with the reasons for either using or not using marijuana. Table 41 shows danger to health and not interested to be the primary reasons for not using marijuana in both youth groups. Table 42 shows enjoyment and to get high the largest categories of response. In both tables it is obvious that marijuana useage is much more pronounced among those youth who have been institutionalized.

TABLE 41. "If you don't use marijuana, please list your primary reason why."

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Danger to health	7.1	4.0	16.0	7.7	22.5
Expensive	7.1	00.0	00.0	2.6	2.6
Religious reasons	2.4	4.0	00.0	2.6	2.5
Against the law	00.0	4.0	4.0	2.6	5.2
Family disapproves	00.0	2.0	00.0	.9	2.7
Friends disapprove	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.8
Bad experience	00.0	2.0	4.0	1.7	1.2
Not interested	19.0	4.0	00.0	8.5	26.8
Other*	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	10.5
TOTALS:	35.6%	20.0%	24.0%	26.6%	74.8%

*"Other" in this table refers to such responses as "I do not like to smoke anything," "I do not like the taste," "marijuana made me sick," etc.

TABLE 42. "If you use marijuana, please list your primary reason why."

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Enjoyment	23.8	28.0	20.0	24.8	7.5
Get silly	2.4	2.0	4.0	2.6	0.8
Be social	2.4	00.0	00.0	.9	1.0
Get high	21.4	28.0	40.0	28.2	6.8
Adult status	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.1
Fun with friends	4.8	4.0	00.0	3.4	1.9
To relax	2.4	10.0	4.0	6.0	1.8
Liven up the party	2.4	00.0	4.0	1.7	0.4
Tastes good	2.4	00.0	00.0	.9	0.2
My best friend or favorite date likes it	00.0	2.0	4.0	1.7	0.4
Other*	00.0	00.0	12.0	2.6	4.4
TOTALS:	62.0%	74.0%	88.0%	72.8%	25.3%

*"Other" in this table refers to "it makes me feel close to people," "I like to have all kinds of experiences," "it makes me more aware," etc.

The final item on marijuana dealt with age at first use. Table 43 shows that marijuana use begins initially between the ages of 12-14 for a majority of respondents. Again institutionalized youth demonstrate a much larger degree of use than non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 43. "If you use marijuana, how old were you when you first tried it?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Less than 12	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0
12	21.4	22.0	24.0	22.2	3.5
13	23.8	24.0	28.0	24.8	4.9
14	14.3	16.0	00.0	12.0	6.8
15	9.5	12.0	4.0	9.4	6.2
16	7.1	4.0	16.0	7.7	4.8
17	00.0	4.0	8.0	3.4	2.1
18	2.4	00.0	4.0	1.7	0.5
TOTALS:	78.5%	82.0%	84.0%	81.2%	28.8%

DRUGS OTHER THAN MARIJUANA

The final section on alcohol and drug use deals with the use of drugs other than marijuana. In an effort to assess what types of drugs were used initially, these respondents were asked to identify the first drug that they had ever used. The most popular drug used initially in both youth were the hallucinogens such as LSD or acid. Yet once again a much higher percentage (63.3%) of institutionalized youth report drug use than the percentage (15.2%) of non-institutionalized youth. Table 44 shows these responses.

TABLE 44. "What was the first drug (other than marijuana) that you used?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Hallucinogens	33.3	40.0	48.0	39.3	7.1
Amphetamines	7.1	10.0	8.0	8.5	4.3
Barbiturates	7.1	12.0	12.0	10.3	1.8
Cocaine	00.0	6.0	00.0	2.6	1.3
Heroin	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	0.4
Morphine	00.0	2.0	00.0	.9	0.3
TOTALS:	47.5%	74.0%	68.0%	63.3%	15.2%

The next item was concerned with drug preferred at present. Asked to name the drug they favored using at present, respondents in both groups favored the hallucinogens. Some 23.1% of the institutionalized youth reported on this question in Table 45 compared to 7.4% of non-institutionalized youth.

TABLE 45. "What drug do you favor using now?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Hallucinogens	2.4	14.0	24.0	12.0	2.6
Amphetamines	00.0	6.0	12.0	5.1	2.1
Barbiturates	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	1.2
Cocaine	00.0	6.0	00.0	2.6	0.8
Heroin	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	0.4
Morphine	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.3
TOTALS:	2.4%	34.0%	36.0%	23.1%	7.4%

Tables 46 and 47 show the reasons for either using or not using drugs other than marijuana. Not interested and danger to health are again cited as the largest categories of response by both youth groups to reasons for not using drugs. For those who desire to use drugs now, the reasons given largest response are those of enjoyment and to get high.

TABLE 46. "If you do not use drugs, please list your most important reason why."

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Danger to health	14.3	12.0	16.0	13.7	29.6
Expensive	2.4	2.0	4.0	2.6	2.4
Religious reasons	4.8	4.0	00.0	3.4	2.4
Against the law	00.0	2.0	00.0	.9	4.0
Family disapproves	2.4	00.0	4.0	1.7	2.8
Friends Disapprove	2.4	4.0	00.0	2.6	0.6
Bad experience	2.4	2.0	00.0	1.7	1.6
Not interested	26.2	2.0	4.0	11.1	33.6
Other*	2.4	2.0	4.0	2.6	12.9
TOTALS:	57.3%	28.0%	32.0%	40.3%	89.9%

*"Other" refers in this table to "too hard to get here," "it makes me sick," "I am afraid of what I might do." "I do not want to be a drug addict," etc.

TABLE 47. "If you use drugs now, please list your most important reason why."

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4168)
Enjoyment	4.8	20.0	12.0	12.8	4.2
Get silly	00.0	00.0	4.0	.9	0.1
Be social	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	0.3
Get high	2.4	16.0	12.0	10.3	2.7
Adult status	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.1
Fun with friends	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	0.3
To relax	00.0	4.0	00.0	1.7	0.2
Liven up the party	2.4	2.0	00.0	1.7	0.1
Tastes good	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0
My best friend or favorite date likes it	00.0	00.0	00.0	00.0	0.2
Other*	2.4	00.0	8.0	2.6	0.1
TOTALS:	12.0%	50.0%	36.0%	33.4%	8.5%

*"Other" in this table refers "to be close to people," "to have new experiences, etc."

The final two items on drug use deal with age at first use of drugs and friends' attitudes toward drugs. Table 48 shows that a majority (52.8%) of non-institutionalized youth view their friends as either strongly disagreeing or disagreeing that drug use is all right. In a strong contrast, however, a majority (65.8%) of institutionalized youth indicate their friends would either strongly agree or agree that using drugs was all right.

TABLE 48. "How would you say the majority of your friends feel about the use of drugs?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Strongly agree that it is o.k.	21.4	42.0	28.0	31.6	7.1
Agree that it is o.k.	42.9	22.0	44.0	34.2	13.1
No opinion	28.6	26.0	20.0	25.7	23.1
Disagree that it is o.k.	2.4	8.0	00.0	4.3	22.7
Strongly disagree that it is o.k.	4.8	2.0	8.0	4.3	30.1
TOTALS:	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%	96.1%

The final table, Table 49, shows that institutionalized youth begin using drugs in a large percentage at earlier ages than non-institutionalized youth. Again the critical years of first exposure to drug use are the ages generally of 12-14.

TABLE 49. "How old were you when you first started using drugs?"

Response	WGS (N=42)	WII (N=50)	WSH (N=25)	Institutions Mean (N=117)	Statewide Mean (N=4155)
Less than 12	11.9	12.0	12.0	12.0	0.4
12	14.3	10.0	12.0	12.0	2.2
13	21.4	18.0	28.0	21.4	2.5
14	9.5	24.0	00.0	13.7	4.0
15	7.1	12.0	4.0	8.5	3.6
16	4.8	4.0	12.0	6.0	2.3
17	2.4	00.0	00.0	.9	1.0
18	2.4	00.0	8.0	2.6	0.2
TOTALS:	73.8%	90.0%	76.0%	77.1%	16.2%

SUMMARY: ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

While it would appear that some 70 per cent of all Wyoming youth approve of drinking and over 90 per cent of these respondents have at least tried drinking alcoholic beverages, institutionalized youth appear to drink in greater frequency and to get drunk more often.

As for marijuana, institutionalized youth again represent a much larger percentage of users than non-institutionalized youth. The difference in percentages is from over 85 per cent for institutionalized youth to over 30 per cent for non-institutionalized youth.

The same pattern is apparent also for the use of drugs other than marijuana. While the favored drug is the hallucinogens, institutionalized youth report a much larger percentage of drug use.

For both youth groups, the critical ages of first exposure to alcohol or drugs seems to be ages of 12 to 14.

PART V: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Data on the adolescent populations of Wyoming's institutionalized youth at the Wyoming Girls' School, the Wyoming Industrial Institute, and the Wyoming State Hospital point to some important differences when compared to non-institutionalized youth. As pertaining to the family, it is apparent that the influence of the family is not as strong for institutionalized youth. A particularly critical variable seemed to be the influence of father which was very weak for institutionalized youth in comparison to non-institutionalized youth.

As for education, it was obvious that institutionalized youth do not have as strong an orientation generally toward education as non-institutionalized youth who are much more likely to be planning a college education.

Responses toward the police show non-institutionalized youth to have generally positive or ambivalent attitudes toward the police, while institutionalized youth who have generally had greater contact with the police are either negative or ambivalent toward the police. Institutionalized youth are much more critical toward judges.

It is also not surprising that while both youth groups generally approve of alcohol use, institutionalized youth drink with greater frequency and become drunk more often. Institutionalized youth also use marijuana and drugs other than marijuana in larger amounts than non-institutionalized youth. In fact, both the attitudes of the institutionalized

youth and of his peer group are much more positive toward the use of marijuana and other drugs than the non-institutionalized youth.

If delinquent patterns generally emerge first in the home, what would seem to be an important variable in reducing delinquency in Wyoming would be the role of the father in the family. A strong family influence, which non-institutionalized youth express, may be what is accounting for the significant differences in attitudes between the two youth groups.

END