

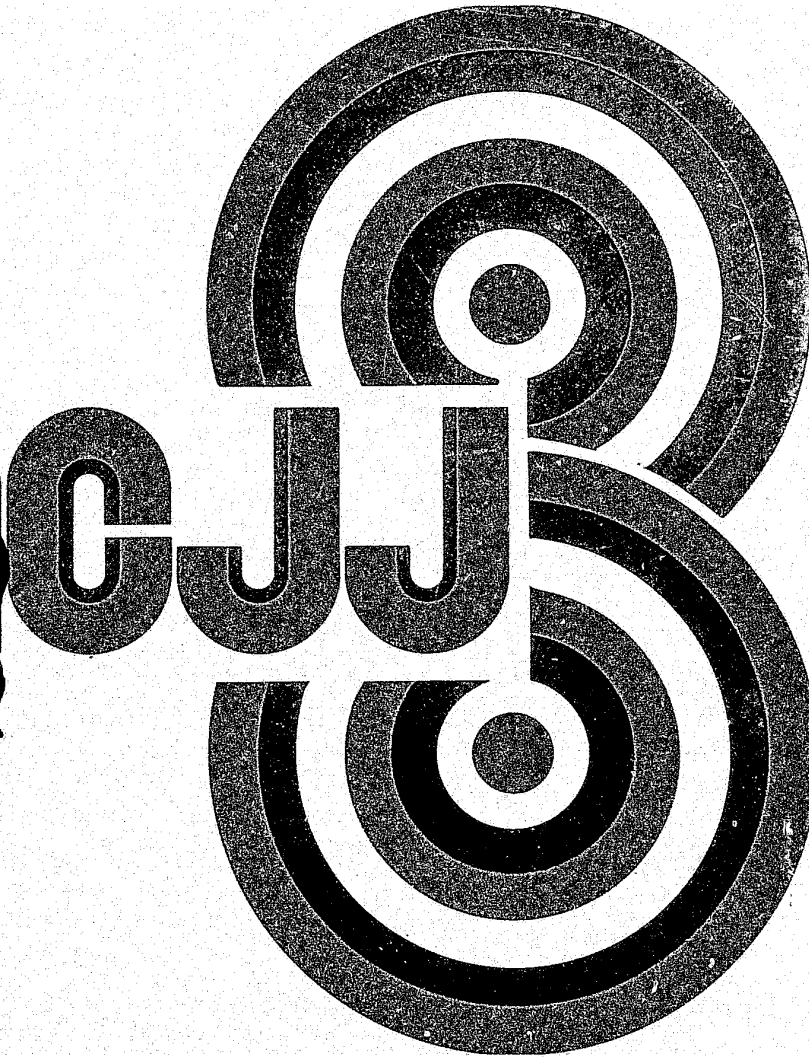
THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

JULY, 1976

NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE
THE RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES

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INTRODUCTION

The Center continues to move ahead. When you have completed reading this report, I hope that you will share my enthusiasm for what is going on there. Each of the projects described represents dramatic research, education and/or progress within one facet or another of the juvenile justice system.

Some of the long term projects have required the hiring of additional personnel, but we have done our best to avoid personifying the Peter Principle. Our permanent staff is now ten, with a number of other professionals, researchers, technicians and students hired from time to time on an *ad hoc* basis. We have managed to preserve a "non-fat" operation thus far, and we are all, Board of Fellows and administration, using our best efforts to keep it that way.

While many of the activities at the Center sound (and I believe are) quite ambitious, we do not want any Council members to forget that one of the stated purposes of the Center is to assist individual judges. The Center exists to help *you*. Don't hesitate to call on it for assistance.

Those of you who are familiar with the history of the Center from its inception, will share, I am sure, my pleasure at the progress which has been made.

Maurice B.
Cohill, Jr.

Maurice B. Cohill, Jr., Judge
Chairman, Board of Fellows
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
July 1, 1976

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

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LEAA Discretionary
Grant #76-DF-99-0034
LEAA Grant #76-JN-99-0006
LEAA Discretionary
Grant #75-DF-99-0014
LEAA Discretionary
Grant #73-DF-99-0017

The National Center for Juvenile Justice is a non-profit organization. Contributions made to the Center are received by the National Juvenile Court Foundation, which holds IRS tax status 509 (a) (3).

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JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

The Center has contracted with the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) to collect, to prepare and to analyze the statistical information generated by the nation's juvenile courts.

Since 1926, this task had been undertaken by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare or predecessor government agencies. The granting of this responsibility is an expression of confidence in the Center by LEAA. The Center has begun the work. However, the present statistics are not adequate for research or planning. Within a few years, the Center staff hope to improve the statistical reporting format so that the final summaries will be more useful.

KINDEX

Juvenile justice researchers have never had a detailed index to legal periodicals which met their needs. KINDEX, a computerized index to legal periodical articles on children, fills this gap.

KINDEX contains over 12,000 citations in 199 categories of specific subjects within juvenile law. Dating from 1964 to the present, KINDEX contains all significant legal writing on issues in juvenile justice. The Center continuously updates KINDEX.

KINDEX can be used in three ways: 1. the hardcover book; 2. the regular update; and 3. the automated search.

STATUTES ANALYSIS

State law is the basis of the juvenile justice system; each state has its own juvenile statutes. The Center has undertaken an analysis of the juvenile statutes of all fifty states, Washington, D.C., and several proposed model statutes. The analysis contains fifteen major sections and has 150 subsections.

A monograph, *Juvenile Court Organization and Status Offenses*, was published by the Center in 1974, based upon a portion of this

data. A publication containing the entire analysis will be forthcoming. Tentative plans include an annual updating of the publication. The statutes analysis will not only contribute to a better understanding of courts having juvenile jurisdiction, but also serve as a resource for other program efforts.

RESPONDENTS PANEL

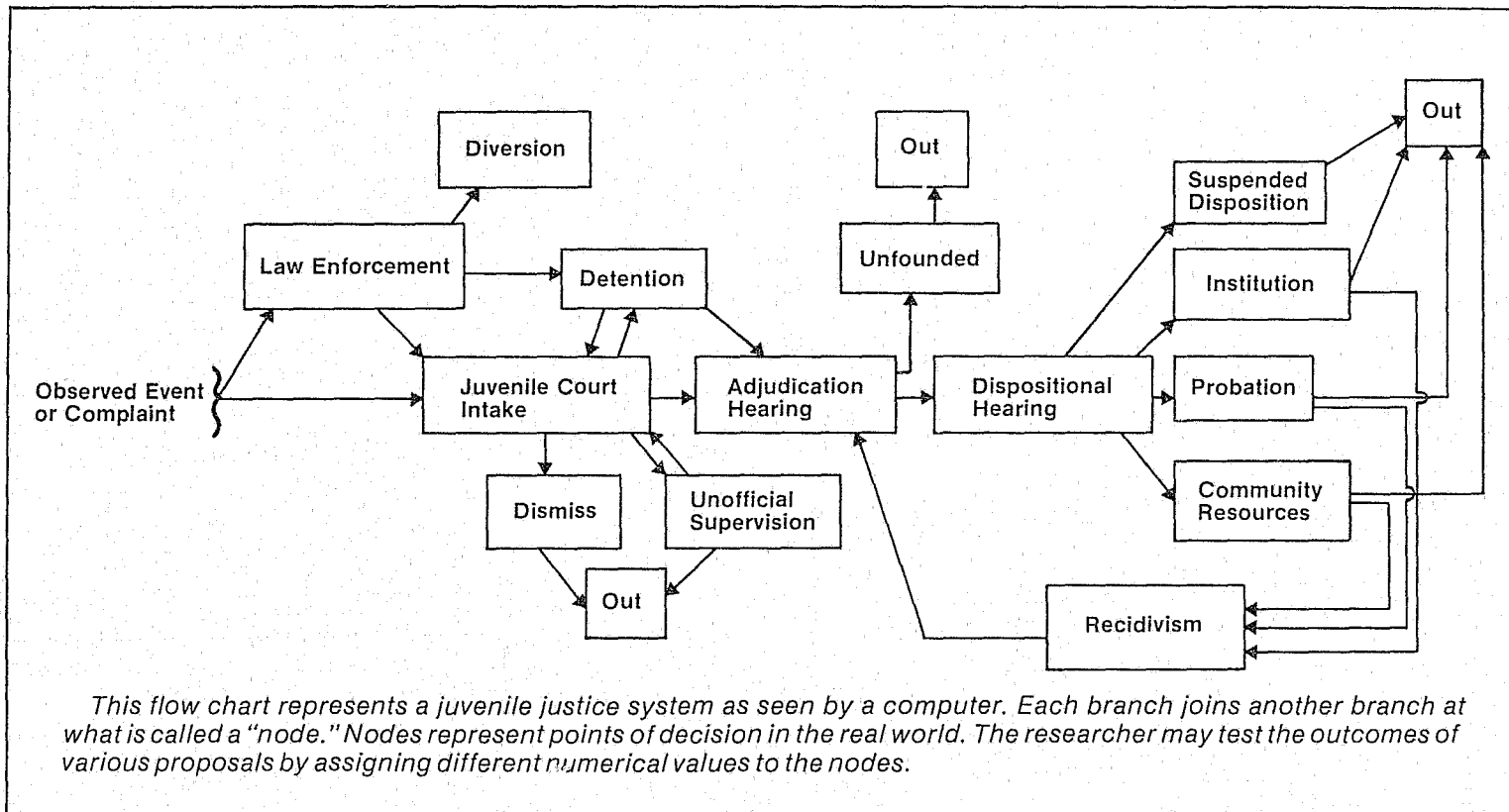
The respondents panel is a group of persons experienced in juvenile justice. The Center expects to have at least one representative from each state who will be available for quarterly interviews on questions of importance to the juvenile justice system. The Center established the respondents panel to provide instant information on: current issues, needs and innovations. Additionally, this resource will provide a contemporary profile of organization, budget, volume and activities of children's services in each state. The aggregate results of the surveys will be made available to the *Juvenile Court Newsletter*.

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JUVENILE LAW CURRICULUM

Juvenile law is a relatively new addition to the curriculum of the law schools of the United States and Canada. A survey by the Center indicates 65 percent of U.S. law schools offer one or more courses dealing with the juvenile justice system and the faculty at 43 percent of those schools find it necessary to supplement available texts with other materials. Small wonder, for the most recent text available is over four years old.

The Center proposes to develop a law school curriculum in juvenile justice which would attempt to coordinate curriculum development and objectives. The *ad hoc* character of present circumstances provides the Center with an opportunity to meet a real need. The opportunity to reach future attorneys, legislators and judges at such a formative stage in their careers has great potential for system-wide influence.



MODELING AND SIMULATION

Today, scientific planning and evaluation are possible for juvenile courts in the United States because the National Center for Juvenile Justice has developed computer simulation models of juvenile justice systems. These have the capacity to analyze questions of cost analysis, evaluation, and planning. These models enable computers to test outcomes of proposed system changes "on paper" without courts, in fact, having to make the proposed changes.

The computer model will tell the court administration whether or not the proposed changes will accomplish the desired results by simulating the cost and effectiveness of the changes.

WISCONSIN JUVENILE COURT SERVICES STUDY

The Center is providing technical support for the study of Wisconsin Juvenile Court Services. The Center will employ modeling and simulation for the study.

This research technique, developed by the Center, will be used to examine existing processes in the state's juvenile court services system. This will include a budget analysis and an assessment of costs of alternative services.

The lessons of this review will inform master plan development and provide suggestions for future data collection formats.

BROKEN BONES/BROKEN HOMES

Broken Bones/Broken Homes is a 16mm film in color and sound. Subtitled, "Dealing with Child Abuse," the film shows attorneys, physicians, psychiatrists, nurses, social workers and other professionals at work trying to help abused and neglected children and their families.

Broken Bones/Broken Homes has two parts. Part one, thirty minutes, reviews the historical, psychiatric, legal, public welfare and research aspects of problems of abuse and neglect. Part two is sixty minutes and traces a case of suspected abuse from tentative identification in a hospital through a disposition in a mock juvenile court hearing. The hospital program to try to determine what is the character of the case and the hearing in court illustrate the difficulties surrounding suspected child abuse and what might be done about them.

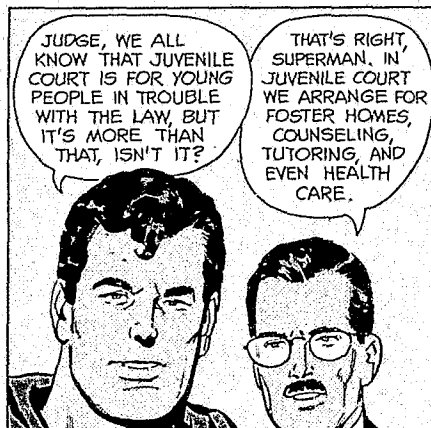
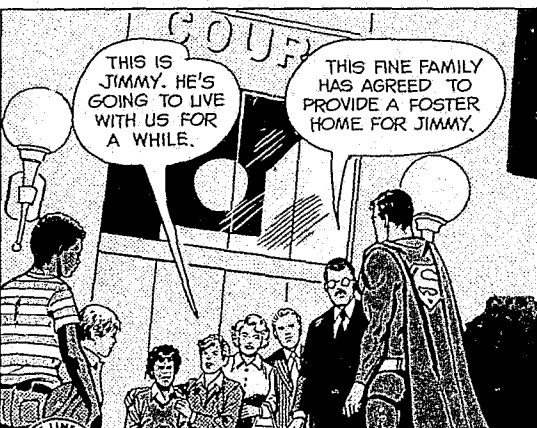
The film has been in circulation since February 1975. As of the end of March, 1976, there were four sales and fifty-one rentals. The film has been to twenty-six states and Canada, as well as having been shown on cable television in Eastern Pennsylvania. The Center has donated a copy to the Reno office of the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges for use in its training programs.


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SUPERMAN - JUVENILE JUSTICE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Since December 1975, the Center has worked with National Periodical Publications (holders of the rights to the Superman character) in a juvenile justice education campaign featuring Superman as spokesman. The purpose of the campaign is to inform young people of their rights and obligations under the law. The media for the campaign are comic books and posters. National Periodical Publications donates one page per month in each of the eight million comic books they publish. Their readership is estimated to be twenty-five million. The Center has the comic book art reproduced as posters and distributes them nationally. Twelve thousand posters a month are distributed across the country through national child caring organizations for display in places where children will see them. Distribution by schools and local Chambers of Commerce is providing intensive coverage in the Pittsburgh area. The National Council of Juvenile Court Judges distributes the posters to its judge-members free of charge.

JUSTICE FOR ALL INCLUDES CHILDREN. 4



 PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC. IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, THE RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES.

ENTRUSTMENT AGREEMENT STUDY

"Entrustment agreement" is one of many names given to the legal instruments which make possible the extra-judicial placement of children. Circumventing judicial review increases chances for abuse and obscures accountability. The Center has undertaken a national study of entrustment agreements, proceeding along two fronts: statutes and administrative practice. Information on the latter was obtained from a mail survey of judges, social welfare officials, and legal services offices. A forthcoming monograph will include: an essay on the subject of entrustment agreements, abstracts of relevant statutes, as well as case law and information on practices in the various states.

THREE RIVERS YOUTH STUDY

⑧ The Three Rivers Youth (TRY) program is a network of group homes for young people in trouble. The project exists as an innovative attempt to intervene to prevent subsequent delinquent behavior. TRY has a grant requirement to be evaluated on its performance of its mission by an outside evaluator. In a competitive bidding, the National Center for Juvenile Justice was selected as the evaluator.

Center staff have designed and are implementing the research strategy. The Center is responsible to provide a critique which, hopefully, will be the basis for positive contributions to the improvement of the program.

PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications

Case Load Size Variation and Difference in Probation/Parole Performance by Marc Neithercutt and Don M. Gottfredson. Available from NCJJ for \$3.00.

Juvenile Court Organization and Status Offenses: A Statutory Profile by John Dineen. Available from NCJJ for \$3.00.

Juvenile Law Faculty and Curricula of Accredited American and Canadian Law Schools by Richard S. Levine. Limited quantities available for free. Faster service may be obtained by sending self-addressed manilla envelope (6" x 9" or larger) to the Center.

Daniel D. Smith and Hrair Aldermeshian, "Simulation of Juvenile Court Intake, Detention and Detention Hearings," *Modeling and Simulation Vol. 6*, eds., Vogt, William G. and Mickle, Marlin H., (Pittsburgh: Instrument Society of America, 1975). Not available from the Center.

Daniel D. Smith, "An Application of Process Costing in the Juvenile Justice System by Using Modeling and Simulation," *Modeling and Simulation Vol. 7*, eds., Vogt, William G. and Mickle, Marlin H., (Pittsburgh: Instrument Society of America, 1976). Not available from the Center.

Services

In the past year, the Center has provided over 160 free consultations to judges, planners and administrators. This means that on an average, Center staff provide a free service every two work days.

In cooperation with the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges:

The Center supports the Juvenile Information System Requirements Analysis project of the NCJJCJ in two ways: the Center made a matching fund contribution and the Center Director serves on the project advisory board. Juvenile court information systems provide a basis for good national statistics in which the Center has a great interest.

Center staff serve as liaison to several NCJJCJ committees and serve as resource persons at various NCJJCJ sponsored seminars and symposia around the country.

THE STAFF

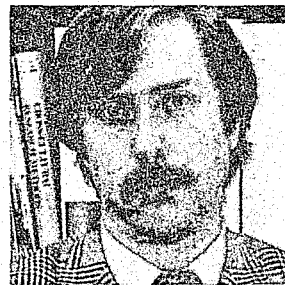
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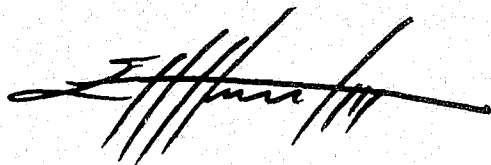
AFTERWORD

The National Center for Juvenile Justice was established to develop facts. Probably, men will always plot their courses from the heart rather than the head and I, for one, would not change that circumstance if I could. I would, however, endeavor to keep reason free to insure that the error of opinion does not prevail unchallenged. We have made considerable progress in the last two years toward the goal of developing facts that can be used to keep reason free. We are not there yet, but we are moving closer to such a goal. Some of the tools needed to aid the search for facts are complete such as KINDEX. Others are nearing completion. We are now in a position to provide information and resources that can be used to build a more reasoned response to the socially offensive behavior of children.

One of the first tasks undertaken by the Center after its establishment was an assessment of services for juveniles in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. That study,

like most of its predecessors, was a trade expert type study, a subjective comparison of what existed to "standards." Two years later, in the state of Wisconsin, we are able through the use of computer modeling to estimate the system impact of implementation of certain standards or recommendations. This was not possible when we did the study of Lycoming County.

In the coming months, we hope to greatly expand our activities in applied research and planning. We now have something more than an opinion to offer. We have developed a solid foundation of information, technical resources, and competent personnel to assist positive change in the juvenile justice system.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hunter Hurst", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hunter Hurst
July 1, 1976

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