The violent world of homeless and runaway adolescents: an investigation of severe risk factors among homeless and runaway adolescents

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Terrell, Nathaniel Eugene, Ph.D.

Iowa State University, 1993

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The violent world of homeless and runaway adolescents: An investigation of severe risk factors among homeless and runaway adolescents

by

Nathaniel Eugene Terrell

A Dissertation Submitted to the Graduate Faculty in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

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For the Graduate College

Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa

1993

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to four special people in my life: my father, my nephew, my daughter, and my son. Since the death of my father, Nathaniel Terrell, in 1970, my whole drive to obtain a college degree predicated on the memories of him. Therefore, this dissertation is dedication to you, Nathaniel Terrell. Because of you, my dream has become a reality. I dedicate this dissertation to my nephew, Nick Sheldon Bruner Jr., who passed away two days after I made first deposit on June 14, 1993, for all his advice and support and for listening to me when I was in doubt about my self and the future. For my children, Cameo Elizabeth Terrell and Nathaniel Rasean Terrell, I dedicate this dissertation to you, because you are the leaders of the future.
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"I was thirteen the first time I ran. That time, I wandered around our town all night. The second night I hid in a friend's basement. On the third day, my father caught me, or maybe I let him find me because it was too scary on the street alone. My parents grounded me. For two months, I wasn't allowed to leave my room, except to go to school. After that, I ran away every chance I got. I used an abandoned ticketbooth for my hideaway. For warmth, I had a sleeping-bag. I stole groceries, cigarettes, and clothes and stashed them in my booth... I couldn't go to school because the police would be on the look-out for me. Instead, I'd keep on the move between malls and donut shops, and I'd hitch rides to nearby towns. Sometimes the police would pick me up and they'd ask why I was always running away. I was terrified of getting my parents in trouble, maybe even jailed, so I'd say, 'I'm just a problem child; I don't know why,' which is exactly how my parents explained it. Or they'd say that I ran because I was rebelling against rules. They didn't explain what those rules were, or how badly my dad beat me even when I didn't break them (Webber, 1991:42)."
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

According to former President Ronald Reagan, "the homeless are homeless, you might say, by choice" (Morse, 1992:3). If what Reagan says is true, then people have been choosing to be homeless for centuries. Homelessness -- chosen or forced -- is not a new phenomenon. Christ was one who chose to be homeless, and had many homeless followers. In the 1600s, a person's financial status was always checked before that person could settle in many communities. The poor, non-working people and beggars all found it hard to find support in a community that practiced these behaviors (Caton, 1990a). In an effort to discourage people who returned, some communities would whip the unwanted before driving them out of the community for a second time (Caton, 1990a; Sweeney, 1993). Through time, the image of the homeless person has been predominately male. Institutions for the homeless began to appear in the early to mid eighteenth century (1725-1750). Houses of correction and almshouses developed in large towns (Caton, 1990a). By the mid-nineteenth century (from 1837 to 1850), the inmate populations of almshouses in the state of New York consisted of 10,000 males with one-fourth (2,500) being children (Sweeney, 1993). When the depression hit the United States in the early twentieth century, the number of homeless persons increased; but when children were found without homes, they were said to be runaways (persons who left home voluntarily) and not homeless. Nothing intrinsic about being homeless has changed over time. What has occurred includes a lot of consciousness raising and definitional problems in terms of homelessness.
Research on runaway adolescents in the late 1930s and 1940s suggests that runaway behavior was due to grossly inadequate and unhealthy home environments (Armstrong, 1937; Riemer, 1940). Conversely, the research during the 1950s and 1960s suggests personality and psychopathology as reasons for runaway behavior (Leventhal, 1963). Psychologically, runaways were considered deviants (Robertson, 1992), juvenile delinquents (Jenkins and Boyer, 1968), and peevish youths. During the late twentieth century, there was a noticeable increase in individuals including those who were without homes, wandering city streets, and sleeping just about anywhere, including doorways (Talbott, 1979; Baxter and Hopper, 1981). The concern about runaways finally became significant enough for a hearing to be held by the 1972 Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice that found:

(1) the number of juveniles who leave and remain away from home without parental permission has increased to alarming proportions, creating a significant law enforcement problem for the communities inundated, and significantly endangering the young people who are without resources and living on the streets;

(2) that the exact nature of the problem is not well defined because national statistics on the size and profile of the runaway population are not tabulated;

(3) many of these young people, because of their age and situations are urgently in need of temporary shelter and counseling services;

(4) that the anxieties and fear of parents whose children have run away from home can best be alleviated by the effective interstate services and the earliest possible contact with their children;
(5) that the problem of locating, detaining, and returning runaway children should not be the responsibility of already overburdened police departments and juvenile justice authorities; and

(6) that in the view of the interstate nature of the problem, it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to develop accurate reporting of the problem nationally and to develop an effective system of temporary care outside the law enforcement structure (see Janus, McCormack, Burgess, and Hartman, 1987:4-5).

By the 1990s, then, homelessness was nothing new (Hopper and Hamberg, 1984; Momeni, 1989). However, the increasing proportion of adolescent men and women who are homeless and on the streets reflect an alarming trend (Hier, Korboot, and Schweiter, 1990). The image of a homeless individual traditionally has been that of the "hobo" and "skid row" alcoholic, but in more recent times society has noticed a more diverse group of homeless people. The homeless population in the 1990s includes large numbers of families with both parents, families with one parent (predominately the mother), individuals without a substance abuse problem, and young people (18 years old and younger), as well as the traditional homeless. Young people are leaving their homes more today than in the past at an earlier age.

The United States may be the first society in history in which its children are worse off than the adults (Moynihan, 1986). Simons, Whitbeck and Bales (1989) have documented the danger as well as the psychological and physiological problems the adult homeless encounters. From a sample of 80 homeless adults residing in six cities in Iowa (Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Sioux City, Council Bluffs, Ames, and Waterloo), it was found that low self-efficacy was associated with victimization, and victimization and low self-efficacy were associated with increased levels of psychological distress the longer the homeless adults were living on the
streets. Although living on the streets presents day to day threats to one's psychological and physiological well-being (Hope and Young, 1986), many homeless persons, especially the young, prefer living on the streets, as opposed to living in shelters (Hope and Young, 1986; Jahiel, 1987; Stefl, 1987; Whitbeck and Simons, 1991). Because of the increasing number of adolescents leaving home and desiring to live on the streets, homeless and runaway adolescents have become a polemic issue.

Contrary to the popular press, most homeless adolescents are from local communities and not transients (Shaffer and Caton, 1984). The predominant ethnic background of the homeless adolescent population typically reflects the ethnic background in that community (General Accounting Office, 1989). Nationally, the majority of the homeless adolescent men and women are White Americans and without public assistance (Rotheram-Borus, Koopman, and Ehrhardt, 1991). Today's estimates of homeless and runaway adolescent men and women vary from more than one-half million (Adams, Gullotta, and Clancy, 1985), to 750,000 to two million (Janus, McCormack, Burgess, and Hartman, 1987; Powers and Jaklitsch, 1989) to over two million (Ito, 1988; Roberts, 1981; US. Congress, 1985). One in eight adolescents will run away from home prior to their eighteenth birthday (Nye and Eldelbrock, 1980). In addition, when a child is from a single parent household or a household with eight or more persons, the figure almost doubles (Nye and Eldelbrock, 1980; Shane, 1989).

Even with these high figures on homeless and runaway adolescents, the numbers are underreported due to parental neglect, embarrassment, and apathy on behalf of the parents (Roberts, 1981). Aside from the issue of how many homeless
and runaways there actually are, researchers are faced with the many diverse ways in which youths on the streets are reported to authorities.

Previous research on homeless and runaway adolescents has failed to produce a consensus definition of the population (Brennan, Huizinga, and Elliott, 1979; Greater Boston Emergency Network, 1985; Hier, Korboot, and Schweitzer, 1990). Numerous terms have been utilized to refer to the living situations of homeless and runaway adolescents. Among these terms are: "damaged teens," "hard-to-serve youth," "homeless," "pushouts," "societal rejects," "street kids," "system kids," "runaways," "throwaways," and "unaccompanied youth" (Adams et al., 1985; National Network of Runaway and Youth Services, 1985). "Damaged teens" refer to youths who may have mental problems due living in an abusive environment. "Hard-to-serve" youth refers to youth who will not cooperate with agencies trying to help them. "Push-outs" refers to youths who are urged to leave home (Rothman and David, 1985). "Societal rejects" refer to youths who are rejected by normal peers, their family and school teachers, and have no immediate long-term help from social agencies (Adams et al., 1985). "Street kids" refer to kids who prefer to live on the streets as opposed to their parents' home or shelters. "System kids" refer to youths who have been shuffled back and forth among emergency shelters, residential schools, foster homes, psychiatric hospitals, and juvenile justice facilities (Athey, 1991), but prefer to live on a street life. "Throwaways" refer to kids who are encouraged, barred, or asked to leave home (Adams et al., 1985; Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). "Unaccompanied youth" refers to youth living on the streets by themselves without an adult figure.

The terms "homeless" and "runaway" has been used interchangeably in the media (Hevesi, 1988). Current literature does make a distinction between
"homeless" and "runaways", but there is not consensus on either of the definitions.

The numerous definitions for "homeless youths" include:

People who have spent at least one night either in an emergency shelter, in improvised shelter (including abandoned building, vehicles, public places, or other somewhat protective sites not normally considered conventional dwelling places), or on the streets (i.e., in outdoor areas such as parks or benches) (Kryder-Coe et al., 1991:35).

[A Youth] who is in need of service and is without a place of shelter where supervision and care are available (See Caton, 1990b:22).

... those with no parental, foster or institutional home, including push-outs (urged to leave) and throwaways (left home with parental knowledge or approval without an alternative place to stay) (see Robertson, 1992:288).

... anyone who lacks adequate shelter, resources, and community ties (Levine, 1983:1).

Persons who are living doubled up with friends or family in precarious, makeshift housing arrangements lack the fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (US. General Accounting Office, 1989:8).

[A person is defined as homeless if his or her residence at night is] in public or private emergency shelters which take variety of forms -- armories, schools, church basements, government building, former firehouses and, where temporary vouchers are provided by private or public agencies, even hotel apartments, or boarding homes; or in the streets, parks, subways, bus terminals, railroad stations, airports, under bridges or aqueducts, abandoned building without utilities, car, trucks, or any other public or private space that is not designed for shelter (Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1984:7-8).
More specifically, homeless youth can be defined as anyone lacking conventional shelter (at parents or guardian place of residence), resources, and family ties where he or she can return for shelter and support.

The many different definitions for "runways" include:

... children and youth who are away from home at least overnight without parental or caretaker permission (National Network of Runaway and Youth Services, 1985:1).


...children who [are] often thrown from his [or her] home or asked to leave his [or her] home by a very angry, a very depressed, a very drunk, [or] a very high on drugs parent who simply cannot cope with [his or her] own problem, and that these kids are forced out. (House Committee of Education and Labor, 1984:162).

The first definition focuses on the person who has left home to spend time overnight with a friend and who has not actually run away, while the second definition actually describes reasons why a youth runs away, and the latter includes the characteristics of homeless youth. For instance, it states that if a youth is asked or forced to leave home, then that youth is a runaway. The optimal definition of a runaway is any youth who leaves his or her legal residence without parental or caretaker permission due to perceived family conflict and poor social rapport, but can return to the residence if wanted.

Throughout this research, "damaged teens," "pushouts," "societal rejects," "throwaways," and "unaccompanied youth" who are living on the streets will be referred to as homeless youths. That is, none of the youths will be from a conventional shelter where they have resources and family ties. "Hard-to-serve
youth," "street kids," and "system kids" are referred to as runaways due to the fact that they can return home but chose to live a street life. Adolescent men and women in this research are referred to as homeless and runaway adolescents. The primary differences between the two are that the homeless youths do not have a legal residence to which to return and the runaway youths can return home if they want to return.

Once on the streets, these young people often find that street life is not all fun and games. Research has shown that people living on the streets may be victimized and find themselves in life-threatening situations (Hindelang, Gottfredson, and Garofalo, 1978; Simons, Whitbeck, and Bales, 1989; Whitbeck and Simons, 1991). Unlike the previous research on homeless and runaway adolescents, the current research will break down some of the different types of victimization and life threatening situations that may accompany homeless and runaways while on the streets. This research proposes to investigate factors that may affect adolescents' risk for life-threatening situations, such as aggravated assault, rape, AIDS, and suicide. Predicted antecedents of severe risks include: physical abuse, sexual abuse, deviant peers, deviant subsistence strategies, victimization, depression, and the amount of time an adolescent man or woman has spent away from home.

The theoretical perspective chosen for this analysis is an adaptation of Patterson's social learning approach. Patterson has shown that poor parenting practices and abuse contribute to adolescent men and women running away (Patterson, Dishion, and Bank, 1984; Patterson and Stouthamer-Loeber, 1984) and delinquency (Patterson, DeBaryshe, and Ramsey, 1989; Patterson, Dishion, and Banks; Patterson and Stouthamer-Loeber, 1984). A social learning approach to the victimization of homeless adolescent men and women proposes that a greater
history of deviant behavior among adolescents directly relates to coercive, aggressive, harsh and abusive parental disciplinary techniques which in terms relates to leaving home and victimization on the streets. In addition, the longer adolescents are living on the streets, the greater the likelihood they will find themselves in pejorative types of relationships due to their living situations and survival techniques (see Hindelang et al., 1978; Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). The outcome for those who are most at risk is aggravated assault, rape, AIDS, and suicide.

Subsequent chapters will: (1) review the literature on homeless and runaway adolescents; (2) examine the social learning perspectives and develop a conceptual model to explain the various types of life threaten situations on the streets; (3) discuss the method of data collection, scales, and exogenous and endogenous variables; (4) interpret research results; (5) discuss major findings and areas for future research; (6) discuss qualitatively the adolescents violent surrounding; and finally, (7) discuss possible policy implications and recommendations.

The next chapter will review the literature on homeless and runaway adolescent men and women.
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

Empirical literature on homeless and runaway adolescents is scarce. Robertson (1992) notes that adult homeless studies outnumber the studies of adolescents, with the majority of adult studies not even addressing homeless adolescents or runaways. Homeless and runaway studies are finite in that their samples consist of adolescents in institutions or shelters (Coalition for the homeless, 1983; Shaffer and Caton, 1984) or with caretakers from the social services (Rothman and David, 1985).

The problems of homeless and runaway adolescents are far more complex than those of the homeless adult population. One of the biggest problems for adolescents is that they have not yet reached young adulthood; homeless and runaway adolescents have not separated from their families and established their own independence. That is, they do not yet have the ability to survive emotionally, physically and financially outside of the family home. Many homeless and runaway adolescent men and women today are living on the streets without emotional or financial support (Robertson, 1992).

Once adolescent men and women were contacted on the streets, researchers found multiple causes for their runaway behavior (Adams, 1985; Adams and Munro, 1979; Adams et al., 1985; Ambrosino, 1971; Brennan, 1980; Gullotta, 1978; Fleming, 1991; Hier, Kortoot, and Schweitzer, 1990; Nye, 1980; Roberts, 1981, Whitbeck and Simons, 1990; Windle, 1989; Young, Godfrey, Matthews, and Adams, 1983). Table 2.1 summarizes the reasons homeless and runaway men and women leave home. According to Fleming (1991), adolescent men and women may run away because of physical and sexual abuse, parental neglect and
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Study</th>
<th>Reasons for runaway behavior</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adams et al., (1990)</td>
<td>Alienation from parents&lt;br&gt;Delinquency&lt;br&gt;Extreme family conflict 2, 3&lt;br&gt;Interpersonal tension&lt;br&gt;Incestuous relationship with family members 1, 3&lt;br&gt;Physical abuse or neglect 1&lt;br&gt;Poor teacher-student relations or other school problems 3&lt;br&gt;Poor communication with parents&lt;br&gt;Poor parent-child relations 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hier et al. (1990)</td>
<td>Parental control regarding:&lt;br&gt;- boyfriend and girlfriend relations,&lt;br&gt;school, grooming, and dress behavior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleming (1990) 1</td>
<td>Adventure&lt;br&gt;Alcoholism and drug use&lt;br&gt;General confusion&lt;br&gt;Parental marital problems&lt;br&gt;Mental danger 3&lt;br&gt;Unhappiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windle (1989) 2</td>
<td>Depression&lt;br&gt;Loneliness&lt;br&gt;Pregnancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitbeck and Simons (1990) 3</td>
<td>Left with friends&lt;br&gt;Trouble with friends&lt;br&gt;Trouble with legal authorities&lt;br&gt;Parents did nor care about them&lt;br&gt;Parents too strict</td>
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Note: 1, 2, 3 correspond to reasons mentioned by researchers.
rejection, confusion, unhappiness as adolescents, parental marital problems, alcoholism and drug use. Windle (1989) suggest that poor school performance, parental conflict, pregnancy, depression, and loneliness are reasons why adolescents' runaway. Whitbeck and Simons (1990) found that young people run away from home with their friends, because they are in trouble with legal authorities or friends, because their parents do not care about them, and because of strict parenting. Hier et al. (1990) suggest that parental control regarding boyfriend and girlfriend relations, school, grooming, and dress behaviors are reasons adolescents ran away. Lastly, Adams et al. (1990) mention an array of reasons ranging from poor parent-child relations to school problems to delinquency.

When adolescent men and women become engrossed in street life, they soon find that living one's private life in public greatly increases the risk of serious victimization (Hindelang, Gottfredson, and Garafola, 1978; Windle, 1989). Spending time on the streets also increases the likelihood of affiliation with deviant peers who serve as socialization agents for antisocial behaviors including the exploitation of one another (Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). Homeless and runaway adolescent men and women also find that legitimate means for employment are blocked or low paying. Because of these blocked opportunities, they may adopt deviant survival techniques such as selling drugs, shoplifting, burglary, theft, or prostitution while on the streets. Although not all homeless and runaway adolescent men and women engage in deviant activities while on streets (Hier et al., 1990), the longer they live on the streets the greater are the chances that they will engage in delinquent acts. In addition, the longer adolescent men and women prefer streets life, the higher their risk for victimization: street life simply substitutes new risks of being victimized for old ones (Whitbeck and Simons, 1990), e.g., an abusive environment.
More and more adolescents ran away from abusive environments. A problem in the literature today lies with how to define abuse. For instance, according to Powers and Jaklitsch (1989), physical abuse is when an adolescent has been nonaccidentally physically harmed or put at risk of being physically harmed. The problem with this definition is that the researchers only looked at the meaning of the act and not the act itself. By not looking at the act, one can push aside the actual occurrence in the act. To illustrate, if a parent pushes his/her son into a door at home because the son stayed out too late, and the son's injury required stitches, that is physical abuse. If the same act occurred while the parent and child playing, it is not called physical abuse. Nothing inherent in the act changed. The son still had to get stitches. As a society, Americans do not want to be viewed as violent, so they say the act was accidental. Ninety-seven percent of children in the United States at some time experience physical punishment (Fleming, 1991; Straus and Gelles, 1990) couched under the rubric of discipline. Because of this line of thinking, the older the victim becomes, the more the abuse and the more the act will become viewed as both deserving and minor. Because violence within a family can lead to homelessness for adolescents (Berck, 1992), the outcome has been that an alarming number of adolescent men and women are leaving home, placing themselves in life-threatening situations on the streets because of an abusive family environment. The current research focuses on four types of life threatening victimization: aggravated assault, rape, AIDS-risk, and suicide ideation.
Aggravated Assault

Assault is not a rare occurrence for people living on the streets. The more time a person spends, especially at night, in public places, the more that person is at risk for criminal victimization (Hindelang et al., 1978). The current research focuses on aggravated assaults inflicted on adolescents. Aggravated assault refers to an attack by a person (or persons) upon another inflicting severe bodily injury. Aggravated assault is normally accompanied by the use of a weapon. Aggravated assault has increased 15% (33,689 to 38,799) from 1989 to 1990 for males under the age of 18 and 18% for adolescent women under the age of 18% (5,706 to 6,6735) (US. Department of Justice, 1992). Being assaulted by peers or other people has become a life threatening situation that adolescents routinely encounter on the streets.

Some argue that adolescent men are victimized due to their association with other adolescent men, who themselves are disproportionately victimized (Lauritsen, Sampson and Laub, 1991). Lauritsen et al. (1991) examined the hypothesis that delinquent lifestyles increase adolescents risk for victimization. Using the National Youth Survey's first five waves as their sample (1,725 adolescents), they found significant support for victimization in all five waves. The most important direct effect on assault was adolescents increased involvement in delinquent lifestyles. Males were more at risk for assault because of their association with deviant peers and were more likely than females to report their assaults. Lauritsen et al. (1991) concluded that adolescents' delinquent lifestyles increase their risk for victimization.

Sparks (1982) suggests that "offenders" are easy targets for victimization. "Offender-victims" are especially vulnerable because they are less likely to contact the police about the incident than "nonoffender-victims." Even given that the police
are called, the "offender-victims" complaint will be less creditable because of their past offending history. Therefore, young people who are offending are at great risk of victimization by other "offenders" (Lauritsen et al., 1991). In addition, the type of environment places people at risk for victimization (Hindelang et al. 1978; Jensen and Brownfield, 1986; Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). Thus for homeless and runaway adolescent men and women their situation places them at risk for increased victimization.

Whitbeck and Simons (1991) have shown with a sample of 156 adolescents that 80% of the adolescents (81% adolescent men; 79% adolescent women) had been slapped by their parent, foster parent or adult relative; forty-eight percent reported they were beaten up by a parent, foster parent or adult relative (54% adolescent men; 41% adolescent women); nine percent of both adolescent men and women reported being assaulted with a gun or a knife. They also found an association between adolescents being physically abused at home and victimized physically again on the streets. Whitbeck and Simons found that when young people leave home, 43% are beaten up (49% adolescent men; 35% adolescent women) and 33% are assaulted with a weapon (42% adolescent men; 23% adolescent women) while on the streets. Proximity to a crime predicts victimization (Garafola, 1987), and if adolescents are at high-risk for aggravated assault, they may also be at risk for rape.

Rape

Rape is another life-threatening situation adolescents encounter while on the streets. Rape is a term typically reserved for females in a society. This is because females are the predominant victims of rape. However, males are not only being
raped by other males but some by females. Therefore, the term rape should include in its definition the possibility of males being raped. An appropriate definition for rape is any "penile penetration of a nonconsenting victim's vagina, anus, or mouth, with no or almost no preceding erotic interaction, or erotic preference for having a nonconsenting person perform fellatio" (Freund, 1990:198), cunnilingus, or forced petting. While fellatio refers to oral stimulation of the male genital organs and cunnilingus refers to oral stimulation of the female genital organs, petting refers to fondling, oral stimulation of breasts, giving and receiving manual and or oral genital stimulation. Janus, Burgess, and McCormack (1987) have found an association among sexual abuse, family distress and adolescents running away from home. Those adolescents who experience problems with the family in the home are more likely to be sexually abused and run away.

A great risk of sexual abuse among adolescent men and women is associated with poor rapport with their parents (Finkelhor, Araji, Baron, Browne, Peters, and Wyatt, 1986). The risk of abuse is exacerbated when the parents have poor rapport with each other (Finkelhor, 1984). According to Browne and Finkelhor (1986), being sexually abused at home often leads to sexually acting out and increased promiscuity among adolescent men and women. Young girls who experience early sexual abuse at home are at risk of being physically and sexually abused during their adolescent years (Browne and Finkelhor, 1986; Finkelhor and Browne, 1988; Wyatt and Powell, 1988).

McCormack, Burgess, and Gaccione (1986) found from a sample of 90 runaways (54 adolescent men and 36 adolescent women) that family structure and financial stability are related to sexual abuse. They focused on three categories of family structure: (1) intact families (two natural parents in the home), (2) broken
families (one natural parent in the home), and (3) reconstituted families (one natural parent and a step parent in the home). Forty-six percent of the families were intact, 30% broken, and 23% reconstituted. Forty-eight percent of the runaways reported leaving a financially unstable home. Forty-four percent of the runaways reported being sexually abused. Furthermore, when looking at family structure, more runaways from broken families (59%) reported being sexually abused followed by reconstituted families (50%) and intact families (30%). However, although structure may describe the abused runaway's family, financial stability -- whether the family is financially stable or financially unstable -- is a bigger predictor. When financial stability was taken into account, McCormack, Burgess, and Gaccione (1986) found little differences in the reporting of sexual abuse of runaways from broken and intact families (27% vs. 21%, respectively). Yet, 67% of runaways from reconstituted families reported being sexually abused. In other words, of the runaways sexually abused in reconstituted families, 67% reported being sexually abused while living in a financially stable reconstituted household. They concluded that financial stability is more important than the structure of the family in terms of sexual abuse.

McCormack, Janus and Burgess (1986) found with a sample of 144 homeless adolescents that 73% of the adolescent women and 38% of the adolescent men reported being sexually abused. Whitbeck and Simons (1990), using a sample of 88 adolescents, found that 44% of the adolescent women and 12% of the adolescent men were raped by their parent, foster parent, or adult relative. Janus, Burgess and McCormack (1987) investigated sexual victimization of 89 male runaways, and that 38% of the males reported being sexually abused. This figure is dramatically higher than the 3% to 9% of the general population of males who are sexually abused (see Finkelhor, 1984). Nevertheless, 58% of the males
reported being offered money to have sexual intercourse with an adult. Being sexually abused and propositioned by adults for sex exposes adolescent men and women for further sexual victimization on the streets.

Outreach workers who interact closely with homeless and runaway adolescents reported that adolescents engage in high levels of sexual activity, some voluntary and some not (Athey, 1991). Yates, MacKenzie, Pennbridge, and Cohen (1988) in their Los Angeles study of 110 runaways found that 57% reported having sexual intercourse prior to their 15th birthday and 19% percent reported having sexual intercourse prior to their 10th birthday. Nationally, 50% of all rape victims are under 18 years of age (Neinstein and Stewart, 1984) and adolescent women who are homeless and living on the streets become easy targets for sexual victimization. Although young homeless men are sexually abused on the streets, young women are at a higher risk of being victimized. Finkelhor et al. (1986) found adolescent women to be are two to three times more likely to be sexually abused than adolescent men. Whitbeck and Simons (1990) have shown that adolescent women are four and one fourth times more likely to be raped by a parent or adult relative than adolescent men. In addition, some rapists are high-risk carriers for the HIV virus due to previous sexual encounters (Burgess and Hartman, 1989), and young women who prefer street life are especially vulnerable to rape (Athey, 1991). This leads us to another life-threatening situation, risk of catching AIDS.

AIDS-risk

Fifty-nine to seventy-one percent of street youths have a sexually transmitted disease (Rotheram-Borus, Koopman, and Ehrhardt, 1991). The high rates of multiple voluntary and involuntary sexual experiences and sexual victimization place
homeless and runaway adolescents at high risk for sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV infection and AIDS. The acronym AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. "Acquired" means that the conditions are not ancestral, but gained through environmental factors. "Immune deficiency" means that the AIDS virus causes deficient immunities (Cox, 1992). "Syndrome" means that the AIDS virus causes multiple kinds of diseases. The virus that contributes to the AIDS virus is referred to as the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). In the 1990s, HIV is spreading most rapidly among those who are least able to protect themselves (Luna, 1990). Furthermore, it is more difficult for homeless and runaway adolescent men and women to protect themselves who live on the streets or get acquire treatment for diseases. Matters are exacerbated when homeless and runaway adolescent men and women living in undesirable environments gravitate to neighborhoods that places them at high risk for the HIV infection (Rotheram-Borus, Koopman, and Ehrhardt, 1991; Stanton, Black, Kaljee, and Ricardo, 1993). With about 60,000 adolescent women and men infected with HIV in 1989 (Stricof, Kennedy, Nattell, Weisfuse, and Novick 1991), this is a life-threatening situation for homeless and runaway women and men.

Although few adolescent men and women are being reported to the Center for Disease Control as having AIDS (Athey, 1991), this does not dismiss the danger for contracting the virus. Nationally, 4% of homeless adolescents are HIV positive (Rotheram-Borus, Koopman, and Ehrhardt, 1991). The low percentage of adolescents with the HIV virus is due to the lack of reporting; most adolescents who contract the virus do not know their fate until they are young adults. In January of 1990, the Center for Disease Control (1990) reported 6,233 cases among persons 20 to 24 years-old and 19,568 cases among persons 24 to 29 years-old had
contracted the AIDS virus. It is likely that the older group contracted the virus during their early or late adolescent years. It follows, then, that there may actually be several thousands homeless youths who have already contracted the HIV virus (Athey, 1991). The longer adolescent men and women are on the streets, the more they are at risk for contracting the HIV virus and AIDS.

Some adolescent men and women on the streets engage in "survival sex". Survival sex refers to adolescents occasionally having sexual intercourse (heterosexual or homosexual relationships) in exchange for a place to stay or to get enough money for food. Yates et al. (1988) in their Los Angeles study, found that 26% of adolescent men and women had engaged in survival sex. In addition to the multiple sexual activities (voluntary and involuntary), and being sexually abused, survival sex clearly increases adolescents' risks for AIDS.

There are three subgroups of homeless and runaway adolescent men and women at high-risk for contracting the HIV virus. First, 6% of the homeless population are gay or lesbian (National Network of Runaways and Youth Services, 1991). Gay adolescent men may engage in sexual activity with gay men with whom they have a relationship. Some homeless and runaway gay and lesbian adolescents engage in survival sex for a place to stay and or food to eat. Second, 12% to 38% of adolescent men and 44% to 73% of adolescent women are sexually abused while in parental care, and we have seen that when sexual abuse at home force's youth to run away, they find themselves victims again on the streets. Third, homeless adolescent men and women are more likely to have a drug problem leading some adolescents into selling drugs in order to support themselves while on the streets. Robertson (1989) suggests that 50% of homeless adolescent men and women have sold drugs to survive while living on the streets. This kind of activity
may lead to increased drugs as well as increased sharing of drugs particularly intravenous drugs.

AIDS can be contracted through the use of intravenous drugs. Even though the rate of intravenous drug use among adolescents is not high (Athey, 1991), Yates et al. (1988) found that 35% of runaway adolescents in their Los Angeles study had used intravenous drugs, compared to 4% of non-runaways. Of those adolescents who are engaging in intravenous drug use, they are more likely to have more sexual partners than non drug users. Although intravenous drug use places one at risk for the AIDS virus, high-risk sexual behavior rather than intravenous drugs use, put homeless and runaway adolescent men and women at high risk for contracting HIV and then AIDS (Rotheram-Borus, Becker, Koopman, and Kaplan, 1991). Shaffer and Caton (1984) found that while fewer than 1% of their sample of inner-city runaways from New York had used intravenous drugs, 85% had experienced sexual intercourse with 16% using condoms consistently. Thus, multiple sexual partners, being sexual abused, engaging in survival sex, being raped, and using intravenous drugs all contribute to placing adolescent men and women at risk for contracting the AIDS virus.

Suicide Ideation

Suicide ideation is the final risk factor investigated in the current research. Suicidal behavior among adolescent men and women had generated major concern in the United States. While most people plan life, it is poignant and strenuous to understand those who plan to take their lives. Suicide is an intentional thought and/or action that can cause death. Adolescent suicide has become the second leading cause of death among this age group (Adcock, Nagy, and Simpson, 1991).
In addition, adolescent suicide has dramatically increased over the past 30 years in the United States. The Phi Delta Kappa Task Force on Adolescent Suicide (1988) found an increase of 300% among adolescent men and an increase of 230% among adolescent women since the 1960s. According to Simons and Murphy (1985), adolescent suicides constituted 5% of the national suicide rate in the 1960s, and increased to 20% among adolescent men and 14% among adolescent women in the late 1980s. American School Health Association (1989) national probability sample of eighth and tenth-graders, found that the lifetime attempted suicide for adolescents was 14 percent. Although the epidemiological data for suicide rates indicates that adolescent men die more often than adolescent women from suicide, adolescent women attempt suicide more often (Levy and Deykin, 1989). One of four males and four of ten females had contemplated suicide (National Adolescent Student Health Survey, 1989). With 120,000 children (of all ages) estimated to be hospitalized yearly due to suicidal behavior (Mitchell and Rosenthal, 1992), those who have attempted suicide are at great risk of repeating the act (Rotheram-Borus, Jane, and Bradley, 1991).

Suicide attempts by homeless and runaway adolescent men and women has been well documented. Shaffer and Caton (1984) found that 33% of homeless and runaway adolescent women and 16% men had attempted suicide. Meeham, Lamb, Saltzman, and O'Carroll (1992) found that 54% (374) of their sample of 694 young adults had considered suicide. Adcock et al. (1991) surveyed 3,803 eighth and tenth graders as to their knowledge of suicides, attempts of suicides and depression. Of the sample, one percent (35 young people) were under the age 13, 25% (942 adolescents) were 13 years old, 15% (585 adolescents) were 14 years old, 37% (1,400 adolescents) were 15 years old, 16% (602 adolescents) were 16
years old, and 6% (239 adolescents) were over the age 16. Thirty-three percent of the sample reported that it was "very hard" or "hard" to cope with their stressful family situations. Adolescent women were found to experience more stress and suicide attempts than adolescent men. Adcock et al.'s data support the notion that adolescent men and women who engage in high risk behaviors are also at high risk for depression and suicide ideation. Suicide ideation is viewed as the preparatory stage to committing suicide, although youths may not progress to the later stage (Simons and Murphy, 1985).

Simons and Murphy (1985) investigated suicide ideation among 407 high school students (225 adolescent men; 168 adolescent women) utilizing psychological-behavioral variables (emotional problems, hope, self-esteem, and delinquent behavior) and socioenvironmental factors (absence of parental support, employment problems, interpersonal school problems). They found that 32% of the adolescent men and 46% of the adolescent women reported that they had thought about suicide. The most significant variable for adolescent men in predicting suicide ideation was employment problems. Conversely, for adolescent women, emotional problems was the most significant variable in predicting suicide ideation. Adolescent women also differ from adolescent men in that delinquent behavior was a good predictor of suicide ideation. Although parental support predicted delinquent behavior only for adolescent women, parental support predicted depression for both adolescent men and adolescent women.

Levy, and Deykin (1989) sampled 424 (271 adolescent women; 153 adolescent men) 16 to 19 year-old adolescents about depression and suicide. Forty-one percent reported having thought about death in general, with 27% reported of ever having suicide thoughts. They found that although adolescents
thought about death and suicide, the actual suicide attempts were far less. Hence a history of depression among the adolescent was found to be associated with suicide attempts.

According to de Wilde, Kienhorst, Diekstra, and Wolters (1992), stressful life events also contribute to the incidence of suicidal behavior. de Wilde et al. (1992) compared three groups looking at adolescent suicidal behavior and adolescents' life events. Their sample consisted of 48 suicide attempters (41 adolescent women; 7 adolescent men), 66 depressed adolescents who have not attempted suicide (52 adolescent women; 14 adolescent men), and 43 non-depressed adolescents who never have attempted suicide (31 adolescent women; 12 adolescent men). They found that adolescent men and women who have attempted suicide and depressed adolescents who had not attempted suicide reported being physically abused and having more problematic life events than normal adolescents. Thirty-three percent of the adolescents who attempted suicide reported being sexually abused at home compared to 21% of the depressed adolescents and 5% of the normal adolescents. Janus, Burgess and McCormack (1987) also note that being sexual abused predicts suicidal behavior. McCormack, Janus, and Burgess (1986) found a large percentage of runaways who had been sexually abused also reported suicidal feeling. Of the 144 runaways studied, 55% of both adolescent men and women reported suicidal feeling as opposed to 33% of non abused runaway men and women. Since homeless and runaway adolescent men and women are leaving their homes because of stressful life events, they are at risk for suicidal behavior on the streets. Furthermore, runaways have been found to be more depressed, to have attempted suicide more, and to have been actively suicidal than their normal peers (Yates et al., 1988).
In summary, homeless adolescent men and women are often doubly victimized. They bring a history of victimization to the streets, and are at great risk of encountering serious victimization while trying to adapt to street life. In their attempt to escape often intolerable situations, these young people go to the streets and find equally damaged peers, exploitive adults, and further victimization (Whitbeck and Simons, 1991).

The next chapter examines the application of the social learning perspective to victimization, and develops conceptual model to explain the various types of life-threatening situations encountered on the streets.
CHAPTER 3: THEORY

The previous chapter provided a review of current research concerning homeless and runaway adolescents' life-threatening situations. The purpose of this chapter is to (1) review social learning theory and (2) develop theoretical models based on the social learning perspective and the literature review.

The founder of contemporary social learning theory was Albert Bandura. He wrote that individuals learn repertoires of behaviors through direct experience or observation. That is, people get most of their ideas by observing the actions of others who serve as models, although new behavior can occur through directly experiencing a trial and error situation and selecting the most effective response. The person whose behavior is most modeled will more likely have more power, prestige, and be more successful than the observer. A central tenet of modeling is motivation. A person must experience a behavior and evaluate that behavior in terms of desirable or undesirable behaviors in order to model that behavior.

Other components of social learning theory are reinforcement and punishment. Reinforcement can be internal or external. Internal reinforcement focuses on self-monitoring of self-reinforcement. A person develops a value of his or her own behavior and this value shapes his or her evaluation about other behaviors. The result is gained information about one's environment and the motivation to engage in certain behaviors over others (Bandura, 1977).

External reinforcement focuses on environmental consequences. For instance, when a kindergarten teacher praises 5-year-old Sean's attempt at tying his shoelaces, the teacher provides information that learning to tie one's shoelaces is a praiseworthy behavior and future efforts will probably lead to further approval.
Overall, the underlying premise of Bandura's social learning theory is the notion that a person's psychological functions are determined by factors associated with that person, the behavior of that person, and that person's environment. The relationships are interrelated in that all three components interact and influence one another. That is, a person's behavior not only influences his or her environment, but the environment also influences that person's behavior.

In contrast to Bandura, Patterson's (1982) idea of learned human behavior is more sociological than psychological. Patterson asks more questions about the temporal arrangement of events that aggregate the topography of family interaction. Patterson's social learning theory has great utility in explaining family interactional patterns and antisocial children. In terms of the current research, it is the disrupted family interaction that places adolescent men and women at risk for life-threatening situations.

Patterson, DeBaryshe, and Ramsey (1989) have suggested that poor parental discipline and monitoring lead to child conduct problems during early childhood. Studies on how parents monitor their delinquent adolescents have consistently found that the parents had limited awareness of where their children were, what they were doing, and with whom they spent time. The older the adolescent gets, the less time parents spend monitoring their adolescent's behavior, and the higher the delinquency for adolescent (Patterson and Stouthamer-loeber, 1984). It has also been found that if parents react to the adolescent, it is more likely to be with a lecture, a threat, or a scolding that is not backed by an effective consequence (Patterson, 1982). Thus, a lack of family management practices is related to antisocial behavior among children.
Effective family techniques should include clearly stating house rules, monitoring children's behavior, and having the skills to solve problems. The lack of house rules, monitoring, and problem solving skills produce antisocial children (see Figure 3.1) and delinquency. For example, house rules should state acceptable and unacceptable behaviors and set a time schedule for family members. The lack of or poorly defined house rules are found to be associated with antisocial behavior among children (Patterson, 1982). Those parents who do not utilize house rules do so to avoid confrontations with their children (Patterson, 1982). Parents of antisocial children are more likely to punish their children than parents of normal children. For the child, lack of monitoring meant that they could regulate their own behavior. In other words, no monitoring means no punishment and no punishment means that the child is headed further out on the deviancy dimension (Patterson, 1982).

In contrast to parents who do not monitor or punish their children, parents of antisocial children who punish their children are more likely to inflict severe beatings. In addition, physically abusive families typically engage in confrontations with their children over house rules (Harbin and Madden, 1979). With this in mind it is not surprising that mutually aggressive behaviors in severely dysfunctional families are reciprocal (Patterson et al. 1989).

To resolve antisocial behavior, abuse of house rules and the lack of monitoring, parents need good problem solving skills. Parents faced with poverty, unemployment, marital conflict, depression, drug abuse, and extremely long work hours have been found to lack effective family management techniques, which in turn influences antisocial behaviors among children. Further disruptive outcomes include lower rates of shared activities, lower responsiveness to modeling,
Parents Not Implementing Family Management Practices:
1. House Rules
2. Monitoring
3. Contingent consequences
4. Problem solving, crisis management, negotiating compromises

Figure 3.1. The relationship among family management practices, crisis, and antisocial child behavior (Patterson, 1982).
reinforcement and punishment, and an increased sense of powerlessness and isolation among others (see Figure 3.2). Disruptions in parent's family-management techniques consistently correlate with pre-adolescents' antisocial behavior (West and Farrington, 1973). For instance, shared activities are reduced due to family members avoiding or escaping each other's presence. This lack of family interaction provide the child with no positive models, no punishment, and if reinforcement, negative reinforcement, resulting in fewer positive encounters and more aversive encounters. Inept parenting practices also produce coercive behaviors among children which reflects the interaction and negative reinforcement of family members (Patterson, 1982). To escape aversive intrusions the child learns to use aversive behaviors. This shift in the level of coercive interchanges reduces interaction, shared leisure time and responsiveness, and increases isolation and hostility among family members (Patterson, 1982), and this lack of interaction can lead to physical aggression among family members.

Children socialized in such families exhibit behaviors that affect their peer group associations and academic performance. Studies have consistently found that antisocial children show poor academic achievement (Wilson and Herrnstein, 1985), and normal peer group rejection (Patterson et al., 1989). Such adolescents may turn to those most like themselves for companionship. This rejection of peers and failure in academic areas, especially during the middle childhood stage, may lead to commitment to deviant peer groups during late childhood and adolescence (see Figure 3.3). This, in turn, leads to delinquent activities (Elliott et al., 1985; Hirschi, 1969) because peer groups act as a major training ground for delinquent activities (Patterson et al., 1989).
Figure 3.2. Outcomes for disrupted management practices (Patterson, 1982)
Figure 3.3. A development progression for antisocial behavior (Patterson et al., 1989).
Furthermore, Patterson and his associates have shown that poor parenting practices and abuse contribute to running away (Patterson, Dishion, and Bank, 1984; Patterson and Stouthamer-loeber, 1984) and delinquency (Patterson, DeBaryshe, and Ramsey, 1989; Patterson, Dishion, and Banks; Patterson and Stouthamer-Loeber, 1984). Others have found that homeless and runaway adolescents report leaving home because of poor parent-child relationships (Finkelhor, Araji, Baron, Browne, Peters, and Wyatt, 1986). Ineffective and aggressive parenting practices are thus associated with conduct disorders among children. These children in turn attempt to find ways to control their parents or to escape. Such aggressive interchanges increase the likelihood of abuse within the family. It has been documented that abuse within one's family is a good reason for running away. Once these adolescents are on the streets they are again subjected to victimization.

The social learning approach to the victimization of homeless adolescent men and women proposes that deviant behavior among adolescents directly relates to coercive, aggressive, harsh and abusive parental disciplinary techniques. Such learned patterns of interaction are carried to the streets. The longer adolescents live on the streets, the greater the likelihood that such interaction will be reinforced.

Whitbeck and Simons (1990) have shown that adolescent men and women who adopt deviant survival strategies such as selling drugs, shoplifting, petty theft, and prostitution are at much greater risk of victimization. Although all young people on the streets are in harm's way, the current research extends these findings to isolate those homeless and runaway youths at greater risk for life-threatening victimization.
Hypotheses

On the basis of previous research, four separate models were hypothesized for risk of aggravated assault, rape, AIDS-risk (see Figure 3.4), and suicide ideation (see figure 3.5). The models propose that homeless and runaway adolescent men and women from abusive environments would be more likely to stay away from home longer when they run away and be more likely to affiliate with deviant peers. Such adolescents, in turn, would be more likely to become involved in deviant survival techniques such as selling drugs, shoplifting, petty theft, and prostitution. The combination of these factors would increase the risk of life-threatening victimization.

The following four hypotheses proposed to ascertain direct effects of family abuse, length of time away from home, deviant peers, and deviant subsistence strategies #1 on aggravated assault.

M1H1 Adolescents who are abused (sexually and physically) at home are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

M1H2 The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

M1H3 The longer adolescents are away from their legal residence, the more they are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

M1H4 The more adolescents engage in deviant subsistence strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

The following four hypotheses proposed to ascertain direct effects of family abuse, length of time away from home, deviant peers, and deviant subsistence strategies #1 on rape for the current research.
M2H1  Adolescents from abusive families are at risk for rape on the streets.

M2H2  The longer adolescents are away from home, the more they are at risk for rape.

M2H3  The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for rape.

M2H4  The more adolescents engage in deviant subsistence strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for rape.

Figure 3.4 (Model 3) is the proposed model for adolescent men and women at risk for contracting AIDS. The following nine hypotheses proposed to ascertain direct effects on the one exogenous variable (family abuse) and the three endogenous (length of time away from home, deviant peers, deviant subsistence strategies #2) on AIDS-risk.

M3H1A  Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to stay away from home longer when they run away.

M3H1B  Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to affiliate with deviant peers.

M3H2A  The longer adolescents are away from home, the more likely they will engage in deviant subsistence strategies #2 to support themselves on the streets.

M3H2B  The longer adolescents are away from home, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.

M3H3B  The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.

M3H4A  The more adolescents engage in deviant subsistence strategies #2 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.
Figure 3.4. Hypothesized model for risk of contracting AIDS on the streets.
Figure 3.5 (Model 4) is the proposed model for adolescent men and women at risk of committing suicide. The following ten hypotheses proposed to ascertain direct effects on suicide ideation include:

M4H1A Adolescents from sexually abusive families are more likely to be victimized on the streets.

M4H1B Adolescents from sexually abusive families are more likely to engage in deviant subsistence strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets.

M4H1C Adolescents from sexually abusive families are more likely to be depressed on the streets.

M4H1D Adolescents from sexually abusive families are at high risk for suicide while on the streets.

M4H2A The more adolescents engage in deviant subsistence strategies #1, the more they are at risk for victimization.

M4H2B The more adolescents engage in deviant subsistence strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more likely they will be depressed.

M4H2C The more adolescents engage in deviant subsistence strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for committing suicide.

M4H3A The more adolescents are victimized on the streets, the more they will be depressed.

M4H3B The more adolescents are victimized on the streets, the more they are at risk for committing suicide.

M4H4A The more adolescents are depressed on the streets, the more they are at risk for committing suicide.

The next two chapters will discuss the method of data collection, scales, and exogenous and endogenous variables, and interrupt the current research results.
Figure 3.5. Hypothesized model for suicide ideation while on the streets.
CHAPTER 4: METHODOLOGY

This chapter is divided into four parts consisting of: data collection methods, descriptive statistics, operationalization of model variables and reliability scores for scale items utilized to measure family abuse, sexual abuse, affiliation with deviant peers, deviant subsistence strategies #1 and #2, victimization, and depression, and concluding the chapter with analytical procedures including logistic regression and path modeling.

Data Collection

The survey questions utilized in the current research were from the Whitbeck and Simons Street Kids Project. The final sample consisted of 240 homeless and runaway adolescents (143 young men and 97 young women) interviewed on the streets and in shelters in Des Moines, Iowa, a Midwestern city with a population of about 300,000 people. Counselors and street workers affiliated with agencies who worked with homeless adolescents along with research assistants from Iowa State University contacted the respondents. Homeless and runaway adolescent men and women were found in alleys, by the Des Moines river, in shopping malls, in parks, in abandoned apartment building, motels, houses, and cars, on the loop (an area that circles downtown Des Moines, that is about 2 1/2 miles in diameter), by going home with homeless and runaway adolescents to meet additional youths, by adolescents who have heard about the survey contracting the interviewers and adolescents in shelters. Employees of two shelters delivering free meals to the homeless in Des Moines, also contacted adolescents for future interviews. The first agency delivered hot, free meals to homeless adults and adolescents every Saturday night in the
community. The second agency had counselors and street workers search for homeless adolescents and runaways from Tuesday through Saturday afternoons and evenings in an effort to be a resource for the youths. This agency also was a source for free meals of cold sandwiches, fruit, different types of deserts, and occasionally something to drink.

Once adolescents were contacted, they were told of the project and how their participation might help them as well as other homeless and runaway adolescents. Night-eight percent of the survey consisted primarily of closed-ended questions that took about 15 to 20 minutes to administer. Respondents received $2.00 for their participation in the interview. The interviewers kept track of refusal rates, and reported a response rate of 80 percent. Any researcher obtaining a response rate of 70% or over is considered to be very good (Babbie, 1990).

The current research method of data collection differs from that of previous methods. Previous research on collecting data for homeless and runaway adolescents not only had small samples, but researchers would survey only in youth shelters (see Adams et al., 1985; Janus, Burgess, and McCormack; Rotheram-Borus, Becker, Koopman, and Kaplam), or use clinical data (see Simons and Murphy, 1985; Yates et al., 1985). Interviewers in the current research made an attempt to contact homeless and runaway adolescents where they lived, such as going to alleys, by the Des Moines river, in shopping malls, in parks, in abandon apartment building, motels, houses, and abandoned cars, to the downtown loop, by going home with homeless and runaway adolescents to meet additional adolescents, and by contacting adolescents who have heard about the survey and wanted to be interviewed. Although the data was obtained from self-reports of troubling homeless and runaway adolescent men and women, research suggests
that self-reports are quite reliable (Hindelang, Hirschi, and Weirs, 1981; Robertson, Ropers, and Boyer, 1985).

Descriptive Statistics

This section will discuss demographic characteristics of the youths, as well as, their family structure, parents' educational level, living situations at the time of the interview, reasons for runaway behaviors, runaway episodes, perceived parental support, and the adolescents sexual behaviors. Table 4.1 summaries demographic characteristics in this sample of homeless and runaway adolescent men and women. Eighty-eight percent (126) of adolescent men and 80% (78) of the adolescent women interviewed were between the ages 15 and 18 with the majority of the age group being 17 years-old (35%) for adolescent men and 16 years-old (28%) for adolescent women. The remaining 12% (17) of the adolescent men and 20% (19) of adolescent women were between the ages 11 and 14. Research has indicated that the homeless population mirrors the poor in that location. The 1990 census of Iowa indicated that 96.8% of the poor in Iowa is White Americans (Burke and Goody, 1992) and our homeless sample is congruent with Iowa's poor population. That is, the current research consisted of 83% (195) White American, 7% (17) African American, 5% (11) Native Americans, and 4% (10) Hispanic American. An overwhelming percentage of adolescent men and women were from Des Moines, Iowa. Seventy-four percent (168) of the adolescents reported being from Des Moines, Iowa, or a suburb of Des Moines, about 20% (46) were from elsewhere in Iowa, 3% (6) from the Midwest but outside Iowa, and 4% (8)
Table 4.1. Demographic characteristics of adolescent men and women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>N =</strong></td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-13</td>
<td>5.8 (14)</td>
<td>5.6 (8)</td>
<td>6.2 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>9.2 (22)</td>
<td>6.3 (9)</td>
<td>13.4 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>10.9 (26)</td>
<td>7.0 (10)</td>
<td>16.5 (16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>20.9 (50)</td>
<td>16.2 (23)</td>
<td>27.8 (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>31.0 (74)</td>
<td>35.2 (50)</td>
<td>24.7 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>22.2 (53)</td>
<td>29.6 (42)</td>
<td>11.3 (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White American</td>
<td>82.3 (195)</td>
<td>79.0 (109)</td>
<td>89.6 (86)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>7.3 (17)</td>
<td>7.2 (10)</td>
<td>7.3 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>4.7 (11)</td>
<td>6.5 (9)</td>
<td>2.1 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>4.3 (10)</td>
<td>6.5 (9)</td>
<td>1.0 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>.4 (1)</td>
<td>.7 (1)</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geographic Background</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of over 100,000</td>
<td>65.4 (136)</td>
<td>66.7 (82)</td>
<td>63.5 (54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of 50,000 to 100,000</td>
<td>11.1 (23)</td>
<td>9.8 (12)</td>
<td>12.9 (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town or small city 10,000 to 50,000</td>
<td>9.6 (20)</td>
<td>10.6 (13)</td>
<td>8.2 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small town or 2,500 10,000</td>
<td>8.2 (17)</td>
<td>8.9 (11)</td>
<td>7.1 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural area</td>
<td>5.8 (12)</td>
<td>4.1 (5)</td>
<td>8.2 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Des Moines or a suburb of Des Moines</td>
<td>73.7 (168)</td>
<td>70.6 (96)</td>
<td>78.3 (72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsewhere in Iowa</td>
<td>20.2 (46)</td>
<td>22.8 (31)</td>
<td>16.3 (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest, outside Iowa</td>
<td>2.6 (6)</td>
<td>2.9 (4)</td>
<td>2.2 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside the Midwest</td>
<td>3.5 (8)</td>
<td>3.7 (5)</td>
<td>3.3 (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
Sample size may not equal total sample size due to non-responses.
outside the Midwest. Sixty-five percent (136) were from a city of over 100,000 and 11% (23) from cities of 50,000 to 100,000, with the remaining 24% (49) coming from towns or rural area.

Previous literature has indicated educational problems among homeless and runaway adolescents (Adcock et al., 1991; Yates et al., 1988). Adolescents in the current study mirror those adolescents of previous studies. Table 4.2 indicates the current educational status and educational problems among the homeless and runaway adolescent men and women. The biggest problems adolescents faced in school were arguing, fighting and or not following rules (73% (64) of the adolescent men and 67% (35) of the adolescent women), and having problems with teachers (59% (50) adolescent men and 48% (24) adolescent women). Not all adolescents fall victim to the educational system. Although 35% (82) had dropped out of school at the time of their interview, 25% (59) of adolescent men and women graduated from high school or received their G.E.D. However, the lack of education for dropouts, homeless and runaway adolescents will have profound effects in terms of finding employment. They may find legitimate means for employment blocked or low paying. Due to these blocked opportunities, adolescents may adopt deviant survival techniques to survive while on the streets.

Another demographic characteristic discussed in the current research is family structure. The adolescents in the current sample are not coming from traditional or intact families. In terms of the family structure, 69% (159) of adolescent men and women reported that their natural mother lived in the home, 10% (23) had no mother in the home, 7% (17) had stepmothers, and the remaining
## Table 4.2. Educational characteristics of adolescent men and women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Adolescent Men</td>
<td>Adolescent Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N =</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grade completed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 or less</td>
<td>3.0 (7)</td>
<td>2.9 (4)</td>
<td>3.1 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5.1 (12)</td>
<td>4.3 (6)</td>
<td>6.3 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>13.1 (31)</td>
<td>15.0 (21)</td>
<td>10.4 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>25.8 (61)</td>
<td>23.6 (33)</td>
<td>29.2 (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>19.1 (45)</td>
<td>19.3 (27)</td>
<td>18.8 (18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>19.1 (45)</td>
<td>16.4 (23)</td>
<td>22.9 (22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 or more</td>
<td>14.8 (35)</td>
<td>18.6 (26)</td>
<td>9.4 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perceived Problems</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>35.5 (49)</td>
<td>41.2 (35)</td>
<td>26.4 (14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>42.3 (58)</td>
<td>38.8 (33)</td>
<td>48.1 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arguing, fighting or not following rules</td>
<td>72.3 (99)</td>
<td>73.3 (64)</td>
<td>67.3 (35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With teachers</td>
<td>54.8 (74)</td>
<td>58.8 (50)</td>
<td>48.0 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With school</td>
<td>48.9 (67)</td>
<td>52.4 (44)</td>
<td>43.4 (23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current School Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspended or expelled</td>
<td>7.5 (18)</td>
<td>7.7 (11)</td>
<td>7.3 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dropped out</td>
<td>34.5 (82)</td>
<td>33.8 (48)</td>
<td>35.4 (34)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending school</td>
<td>22.3 (53)</td>
<td>17.6 (25)</td>
<td>29.2 (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending alternative school</td>
<td>10.8 (26)</td>
<td>8.5 (12)</td>
<td>14.6 (14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduated High School</td>
<td>10.1 (24)</td>
<td>12.7 (18)</td>
<td>6.3 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G.E.D.</td>
<td>14.7 (35)</td>
<td>19.7 (28)</td>
<td>7.3 (7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
Sample size may not equal total sample size due to non-responses and questions not asked on first questionnaire; see appendix A and B.
14% (32) consisted of adopted mothers, other female adults, other relatives, and foster mothers, respectively. There is a difference in terms of fathers in the household. Thirty-two percent (75) of adolescent men and women reported that their natural father lived in the home, 27% (61) reported a stepfather in the home, approximately 24% (53) reported no father figure, and the remaining 17% (37) consisted of adapted fathers, other adult males, other relatives, and foster fathers, respectively. Only 21% (51) of the adolescent men and women came from intact families and 3% (7) were from traditional families where the natural father worked and the natural mother stayed home.

In terms of the parents' educational status it was found that 76% (164) of mothers and 72% (135) of fathers had completed high school with some obtaining additional schooling. Twenty-four percent (53) of adolescents reported that their mothers had not completed high school, 35% (76) had mothers who had completed high school, 22% (48) had mothers who had finished high school and received some other training or college, and 18% (40) of the mothers received college degrees. The educational level was similar for the fathers. Twenty-eight percent (52) of the adolescents fathers had not finished high school, 36% (67) had finished high school, 22% (41) had some college or other training after high school, and 14% (27) of the adolescents fathers had received college degrees.

When the adolescent men and women were asked about the living situation in which they spent the most time during the past year prior to the time of the interview (Table 4.3), 31% (71) reported that they were home with their parents. Twenty-five percent (58) reported living at a friend's home, 10% (22) reported living in group homes, 9% (21) were with other relatives, 7% (15) percent in independent living situations, and the remaining 18% (32) lived in other institutions (e.g., mental
Table 4.3. Living situations in which adolescent men and women spent the most time during the past year from the time of the interview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N = 240</td>
<td></td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home with parents of guardian</td>
<td>31.0 (71)</td>
<td>31.1 (42)</td>
<td>30.9 (29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relatives other than parents</td>
<td>9.2 (21)</td>
<td>9.6 (13)</td>
<td>8.5 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend's home</td>
<td>25.3 (58)</td>
<td>24.4 (33)</td>
<td>26.6 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster home</td>
<td>.4 (1)</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>1.1 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group home</td>
<td>9.6 (22)</td>
<td>10.4 (14)</td>
<td>8.5 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correction facility</td>
<td>3.9 (9)</td>
<td>5.2 (7)</td>
<td>2.1 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent living situation</td>
<td>6.6 (15)</td>
<td>6.7 (9)</td>
<td>6.4 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with other youths)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the streets</td>
<td>5.2 (12)</td>
<td>5.2 (7)</td>
<td>5.3 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other institution</td>
<td>7.0 (16)</td>
<td>5.9 (8)</td>
<td>8.5 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g. mental hospital, youth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shelter)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other adult (non relative)</td>
<td>1.7 (4)</td>
<td>1.5 (2)</td>
<td>2.1 (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Sample size do not equal total sample size due to non-responses.
hospitals, youth shelters), on the streets, in a correctional facility, with other adults (non-relatives), or in foster homes.

Since the adolescents are coming from educated families, and the majority of the adolescents are not living at home, one might ask why are adolescents deciding to runaway. Although reasons why adolescents run away are well documented, adolescents in the current research were asked to respond to a check list for reasons for runaway behavior (Table 4.4). The check list variables were measured with a one to five point Likert scale. Originally, 1 represented "very important," 2 "important," 3 "somewhat important," 4 "not very important," and 5 "not at all important." The check list presented in Table 4.4 represent summing those adolescents who gave responses to #1, #2, and #3 only. Sixty-one percent (128) indicated that "parents being too strict" was a very important, important, or somewhat important reason for running away. Sixty-two percent (128) reported "looking for excitement" as a reason for leaving home. Sixty percent (123) reported being "kicked out or barred from home" as a reason for leaving home. Fifty percent (101) indicated being "in trouble and afraid to go home" as a reason for leaving home. Another fifty percent (102) reported physical abuse as a reason for leaving home. Sexual abuse was indicated as a reason for running away by 38% (33) of the adolescent women. Fifty-five percent (113) indicated that "violence in the home" was a reason for running away. From this it can be seen that most of the adolescents in the current research runaway because of some type of violence in the home or due to being barred from home.

Some researchers have suggested that when adolescents perceive little loss in family relations, they may run away more often than the adolescent who
Table 4.4. Percentage of adolescent men's and women's reasons for running away

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for Running (very important, important, or somewhat important)</th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N =</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%   No.</td>
<td>%   No.</td>
<td>%   No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents too strict</td>
<td>61.2 (128)</td>
<td>58.7 (71)</td>
<td>64.8 (57)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse</td>
<td>49.5 (102)</td>
<td>45.0 (54)</td>
<td>55.8 (48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse</td>
<td>25.2 (51)</td>
<td>15.5 (18)</td>
<td>38.4 (33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence in the home</td>
<td>55.1 (113)</td>
<td>54.6 (65)</td>
<td>55.8 (48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent mentally ill</td>
<td>24.2 (48)</td>
<td>21.2 (24)</td>
<td>28.2 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents did not care about me</td>
<td>54.6 (113)</td>
<td>56.2 (68)</td>
<td>52.3 (45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In trouble and afraid to go home</td>
<td>49.5 (101)</td>
<td>46.7 (56)</td>
<td>53.6 (45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble at school</td>
<td>42.3 (88)</td>
<td>46.7 (57)</td>
<td>36.0 (31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not passing at school</td>
<td>32.9 (68)</td>
<td>33.6 (40)</td>
<td>31.8 (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble with friends</td>
<td>27.8 (57)</td>
<td>25.4 (30)</td>
<td>31.0 (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal trouble</td>
<td>38.2 (78)</td>
<td>48.3 (58)</td>
<td>23.8 (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking for excitement</td>
<td>61.8 (128)</td>
<td>64.5 (78)</td>
<td>58.1 (50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Went with a friend</td>
<td>55.9 (114)</td>
<td>52.9 (63)</td>
<td>60.0 (51)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kicked out or barred from home</td>
<td>60.0 (123)</td>
<td>63.6 (77)</td>
<td>54.8 (46)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
perceives a loss in family relations (Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). It is obvious that the runaways in the current research are running from an abusive environment.

Table 4.5 represents runaway episodes and amount of time spent on the streets for adolescent men and women. In terms of how many times adolescent men and women left home, 25% (24) reported running away between three and ten times, 37% (36), however, had run away more than ten times. When asked about the amount of time they have been on the streets, adding up all the times they had run away, 43% (53) reported being on their own for over 12 months. When asked how many days have they been away from their legal resident prior to the interview, 31% (64) had been away from their legal residence from one to ten days, 23% (48) had been away for 11 to 50 days, and 46% (95) reported being away from their legal residence for more than 50 days.

Once on the streets, adolescents were asked about their perception of parental support. The current research found significant sex differences in terms of perceived support from parents (Table 4.6). Twenty-seven percent more adolescent women than men reported that their parents found fault in them when they did not deserved it. Eighteen percent more adolescent women than men reported that their parents blamed them for all their problems, and 14% more adolescent women than men reported their parents being dissatisfied with the things they do.

Frequency of sexual intercourse is widely discussed in the literature today due to the risk of contracting the AIDS virus. The average sexual encounter among homeless and runaway adolescents was 21 times in the two months prior to their interview (see Table 4.7). Due to the skewedness of the variable (the range is from
Table 4.5. Percentage of adolescent men and women runaway episodes and amount of time on their own away from home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times ran</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>20.4 (20)</td>
<td>20.0 (11)</td>
<td>20.9 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once</td>
<td>8.2 (8)</td>
<td>12.7 (7)</td>
<td>2.3 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twice</td>
<td>10.2 (10)</td>
<td>5.5 (3)</td>
<td>16.3 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 times</td>
<td>6.1 (6)</td>
<td>3.6 (2)</td>
<td>9.3 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 times</td>
<td>9.2 (9)</td>
<td>9.1 (5)</td>
<td>9.3 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 10 times</td>
<td>9.2 (9)</td>
<td>7.3 (4)</td>
<td>16.6 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 10 times</td>
<td>36.7 (36)</td>
<td>41.8 (23)</td>
<td>30.2 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time spent on their own</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(after leaving home)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than one week</td>
<td>10.7 (13)</td>
<td>9.2 (7)</td>
<td>13.0 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 4 weeks</td>
<td>14.8 (18)</td>
<td>11.8 (9)</td>
<td>19.6 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 3 months</td>
<td>12.3 (15)</td>
<td>10.5 (8)</td>
<td>15.2 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 6 months</td>
<td>8.2 (10)</td>
<td>7.9 (6)</td>
<td>8.7 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 12 months</td>
<td>10.7 (13)</td>
<td>11.8 (9)</td>
<td>8.7 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 18 months</td>
<td>13.9 (17)</td>
<td>10.5 (8)</td>
<td>19.6 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 1 1/2 years</td>
<td>29.5 (36)</td>
<td>38.2 (29)</td>
<td>15.2 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenght of time away</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from legal residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this episode</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>9.7 (20)</td>
<td>8.9 (11)</td>
<td>10.7 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 5 days</td>
<td>12.1 (25)</td>
<td>9.8 (12)</td>
<td>15.5 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 10 days</td>
<td>9.2 (19)</td>
<td>9.8 (12)</td>
<td>8.3 (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 - 20 days</td>
<td>10.1 (21)</td>
<td>10.6 (13)</td>
<td>9.5 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 50 days</td>
<td>13.0 (27)</td>
<td>15.4 (19)</td>
<td>9.5 (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 50 days</td>
<td>45.9 (95)</td>
<td>45.5 (56)</td>
<td>46.4 (39)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
Sample size may not equal total sample size due to non-responses.
Table 4.6. Percentage of adolescent men's and women's perceived parental support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perception</th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N = 240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents would help if I got into serious trouble</td>
<td>48.9 (66)</td>
<td>45.2 (38)</td>
<td>54.9 (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents find fault in me when I don't deserve it</td>
<td>67.9 (93)</td>
<td>57.6 (49)</td>
<td>84.6 (44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents care about me</td>
<td>64.8 (83)</td>
<td>62.3 (48)</td>
<td>68.6 (35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents are dissatisfied with the things I do</td>
<td>74.3 (101)</td>
<td>68.7 (57)</td>
<td>83.0 (44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents blame me for all their problems</td>
<td>42.0 (55)</td>
<td>35.4 (29)</td>
<td>53.1 (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents treat me unfairly</td>
<td>64.7 (88)</td>
<td>61.9 (52)</td>
<td>69.2 (36)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
Sample size may not equal total sample size due to non-responses and questions not asked on first questionnaire.

0 to 240), reporting the median present a more accurate picture of adolescents sexual encounters. A median score of 8 times in two months was reported by the adolescents. It was also found that these adolescents are not protecting themselves when engaging in sexual intercourse. Only 11% (14) of the adolescent...
Table 4.7. Percentage of adolescent men's and women's sexual behavior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N =</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experience sexual intercourse</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td>(124)</td>
<td>93.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of times one had sexual intercourse two months prior to their interview</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>(16)</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 10</td>
<td>43.6</td>
<td>(54)</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 - 20</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>(20)</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 30</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>(11)</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 - 40</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 - 50</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 - 60</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 - 70</td>
<td>.8</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71 - 80</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81 - 90</td>
<td>.8</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 - 100</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 - 250</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condom use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>(69)</td>
<td>53.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seldom</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>(27)</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almost ever time</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>(16)</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every time</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>(14)</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of birth control used?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>(61)</td>
<td>42.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condom</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>21.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam, jelly and/or diaphragm or other</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pill</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>(36)</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4.7 Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How worried about the possibility of contracting AIDS</th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very concerned</td>
<td>55.1 (75)</td>
<td>53.6 (45)</td>
<td>57.7 (30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A little concerned</td>
<td>20.6 (28)</td>
<td>22.6 (19)</td>
<td>17.3 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very concerned</td>
<td>8.1 (11)</td>
<td>6.0 (5)</td>
<td>11.5 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not concerned at all</td>
<td>16.2 (22)</td>
<td>17.9 (15)</td>
<td>13.5 (7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
Sample size may not equal total sample size due to non-responses and questions not asked on first questionnaire.

men and women used a condom every time they had sexual intercourse. In addition, only 4% (5) used foam, jelly, diaphragm, or other method and 29% (36) used the pill. When asked if they were concerned about contracting the AIDS virus, only 54% (45) of the adolescents men and 58% (30) of the adolescent women were very concerned about contracting the virus.

In summary, the descriptive statistics indicate that homeless and runaway adolescent men and women are leaving home with multiple problems. The average age of youths on the streets is 16 1/2 for adolescent men and 16 for adolescent women. Thirty-five percent (83) of the adolescents dropped out of school. Only 31% (72) of the adolescent spent most of the past year home with their parents, Over 50% of adolescent men and women reported left home due to some type of
violence or incompatibility with parents. The average number of times adolescents ran away is 3 1/2 times for adolescent men and 3 times for adolescent women. The average amount of time spent away from home is between 7 and 12 months for adolescent men and between 4 and 6 months for adolescent women. In addition, the adolescents lack of concern about contraceptive use and contracting the AIDS virus can only add to any problems they encounter on the streets. The longer these adolescents are on the streets, the higher the chance of them being victimized. Furthermore, the more homeless individuals are victimized, the less likely they will have a place to harbor for help and social support (Simons et al., 1989). Due to the adolescents' young age, the number of times they hav runaway, time on the streets, and educational problem, they are vulnerable for victimization on the streets.

Operationalization of Variables

This section will discuss the variables utilized in the path models, six scales will be discuss including the reliabilities for each scale, how the variable AIDS was coded into a continuous variable, and will also discuss the remaining four single indicators in the research.

Family Abuse

The family abuse variable measures the extent to which adolescents are physically and sexually abused at their legal residence. This measure was developed from items from Straus and Gelles (1990) measures of family violence, and three items used by Whitbeck and Simons (1990) in measuring sexual abuse. The eight items adapted from Straus and Gelles' (1990) measures of family violence asked the adolescents to give the frequency of violence inflicted upon them by a
parent, foster parent, or an adult relative. Respondents were asked how often these adults had thrown something at them in anger, pushed, shoved, or grabbed in anger, slapped them, spanked them, hit them with something, beat them up, threatened them with a gun and/or a knife, or assault them with a gun and/or a knife. The Whitbeck and Simons measures of sexual abuse ask respondents whether a parent, foster parent, or adult relative had made verbal requests for sexual activity, touched or attempted to touch them sexually, or forced them to engage in sexual activity against their will. Response categories for both Straus and Gelles' and Whitbeck and Simons' scales ranged from 1 = "never" to 4 = "more than 3 times." The Cronbach's alpha scores for the family abuse scale were .86 for the overall sample, .86 for the adolescent men, and .86 for the adolescent women. The Cronbach's alpha is used to assess the internal consistency of items in a scale by calculating how intercorrelated the items are. The higher the Cronbach's alpha, the more reliable the measure instrument (Cramines and Zeller, 1979). Due to the Cronbach's alpha being "lower bound" and providing a conservative estimate of a measure reliability. The true reliability of the instrument is never lower than the computed Cronbach alpha. The Cronbach's alpha scores for the Whitbeck and Simon sexual abuse scale is .94, .94, .92 for the overall sample, adolescent men, and adolescent women, respectively.

**Deviant Peers**

The deviant peers variable measures how affiliation with deviant peers predicts victimization of adolescents. Deviant peers were measured by twelve items adapted from the Whitbeck and Simons' (1990) measures of deviant peer group that ask respondents if a close friend has ever run away, sold drugs, used drugs, been
suspended from school, dropped out of school, shoplifted, sold sexual favors, 
aggravated assaulted someone, been arrested, or committed suicide. Originally, 1 
represented "Yes" and 2 "No." The variable was recoded to indicate a positive 
linear relationship (from no to yes) in the model. Response categories ranged from 
1 = no to 2 = yes. The Cronbach's alpha scores for the deviant peers' scale were 
.86 for the overall sample, .88 for the adolescent men, and .83 for the adolescent 
women.

**Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1**

This variable is used to identify adolescents having problems supporting 
themselves while on the street. Those adolescents who cannot obtain legitimate 
work may be forced to use deviant techniques to support themselves. For example, 
Yates et al. (1988) found that only 25% of runaways in their sample had legitimate 
jobs. Deviant subsistence strategies #1 were measured by summing seven items 
that asked respondents how often they have engaged in selling drugs, panhandling, 
getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, burglary, theft, and prostitution to support 
themselves while on the streets. Response categories ranged from 1 = "never" to 5 
= "always." The Cronbach's alpha scores for the Deviant Subsistence Strategies 
Scale #1 were .78 (overall sample), .79 (adolescent men), .74 (adolescent women).

**Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2**

This scale is utilized in the current research because prostitution is a variable 
in the endogenous variable AIDS in Model #3, thus it cannot also be in the deviant 
subsistence strategies scale. Therefore, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 were 
measured by summing six items that asked respondents how often they have
engaged in selling drugs, panhandling, getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, burglary, and theft to support themselves while on the streets. Response categories ranged from 1 = "never" to 5 = "always." The Cronbach's alpha scores for the deviant subsistence strategies scale #2 were .77 (overall sample), .78 (adolescent men) .71 (adolescent women).

**Victimization**

Victimization was measured by summing five items involving criminal victimization. Respondents were asked how many times they were beaten, robbed, raped, threatened with a weapon, and assaulted with a weapon while on the streets. Response categories ranged from 1 = "never" to 4 = "more than three times." The Cronbach's alpha scores for the victimization scale were .77 (overall sample) .78 (adolescent men) .77 (adolescent women).

**Depression**

Depression was measured by summing five items that asked respondents to choose which of four statements described them most of the time. The categories ranged from 1 to 4, where 4 was high on depression. The categories included questions on being sad, satisfied, discourage, disappointed, and sleep. For example, the question on being sad ranged from 1 = "I do not feel sad" to 4 = "I am so sad or unhappy I can't stand it." The Cronbach's alpha scores for the depression scale were .77 (overall sample) .78 (adolescent men) .77 (adolescent women).
**AIDS-risk**

The possibility of contracting AIDS due to prostitution and intravenous drug use was measured by recoding two variables (whether the adolescents had ever sold sexual favors to support themselves while on the street, and if they had ever injected drugs) into a continuous variable. Prostitution was recoded where 0 = "never" and 1 = "ever prostituted." Drug injection was recoded to "No" = 0 and "Yes" = 1. If an adolescent did not engage in both prostitution and drug injection, the code was 0. If an adolescent engaged in prostitution but not drug injection, or vice versa, the code was 1. The variable was coded in this manner due to the literature being inconsistent in which variable is most important. Thus, if an adolescent engaged in both prostitution and drug injection, the code was 2. The categories ranged from 0 = not at risk for AIDS to 2 = high risk for AIDS.

Since the remaining four variables (length of time away from home, aggravated assault, rape, AIDS-risk, and suicide ideation) are single indicators, reliability coefficients are not warranted.

**Length of Time away from Home**

Length of time away from home was measured by a single item that asked respondents how many days he/she had been away from their his/her residence. Response categories ranged from 1 = "1 day" to 6 = "over 50 days."

**Aggravated Assault**

Aggravated assault was measured by a single item that asked respondents if they had ever been assaulted with a weapon while on the street. Response categories ranged from 1 = "never" to 4 = "more than 3 times."
Instances of rape were measured by a single item that asked respondents if they had been sexually assaulted while on the street. Response categories ranged from 1 = "never" to 4 = "more than 3 times."

Suicide ideation was measured by a single item that asked respondents which of the following statements described them most of the time. The response categories ranged from 1 = "I don't have any thoughts of harming myself" to 4 = "I would kill myself if I could."

Analytic Procedures

Four models are proposed to look at life-threatening situations while on the streets. The first two models utilize logistic regression for the dependent variables aggravated assault and rape. The second models utilize path analysis for the dependent variables AIDS-risk and suicide ideation.

Logistic Regression

Logistic regression is utilized to regress a dichotomous dependent variable on a set of independent variables (Aldrich and Nelson, 1984; Fox, 1984). Although the dependent variables aggravated assault and rape range from 1 to 4, in the current study, each is unevenly distributed and the use of regression based on ordinary least squares are inappropriate (Agresti and Finlay, 1986). An alternative to the variables being unevenly distributed is to recode the categories ranging from 0 to 1. For instance, using the dependent variable aggravated assault, 0 would
mean never assaulted and 1 would mean being assaulted. The same would be true for rape. Due to having dichotomous dependent variables, logistic regression is used. Although logistic regression will not give causal sequences, it does generate if there is a relationship between the dependent variable and each independent variable controlling for the other independent variables.

Path Analysis

Path analysis is a technique that uses linear regression models to test specific theories of causal relationships among a set of variables (Agresti and Finlay, 1986). The primary advantage of path analysis is that it involves looking at causal relationships. Moreover, in the case where the causal relationship is uncertain path analysis can be used to find the logical consequences among the variables (Penhazur, 1982). Path analysis has three aspects in its analysis: the path diagram, the equations, and the decompositions of effects (Bollen, 1989). The path diagram is a pictorial representation of the equations that shows the relations between the variables. The equations are relating to correlations or covariances to the parameters that are to be estimated by substituting sample correlations or covariances from a population to obtain parameters estimates. The third aspect, the decomposition of effects, provides direct, indirect, and total effects of one variable on another variable.

The two models utilizing path analysis are AIDS-risk and suicide ideation. For the AIDS-risk model, family abuse is proposed to set in motion a negative chain of events such as staying away from home for a length of time and affiliating with deviant peers, which, in turn, will lead homeless and runaway adolescents to engage in deviant subsistence strategies to support themselves while on the streets.
These events place homeless and runaway adolescents at risk for contracting the AIDS virus. As for the suicide ideation model, being sexually abused at home sets a negative chain of events such as engaging in deviant subsistence strategies to support oneself while on the streets, which, in turn, puts the adolescents at risk for further victimization. Due to the previous life situations, adolescents are at risk of depression and lastly, suicide ideation.
CHAPTER 5: RESULTS

In the previous chapter, data collection methods, descriptive statistics, operationalization of model variables, and analytical procedures were discussed for the current study. This chapter will present results of adolescents' violent environment, along with correlation matrices, logistic regression, and path analyses.

Adolescents' Violent Environment

Table 5.1 reports percentages of adolescent men and women who were physically and/or sexually abused by a parent, foster parent, or adult relative. Adolescents in the current sample came from very abusive home environments. Sixty-eight percent (159) of the adolescents reported something thrown at them in anger, 79% (186) had been slapped, 68% (159) had been hit with an object, 49% (115) had been beaten up, 12% (28) assaulted with a knife or a gun, and 19% (45) had been raped by a parent, or adult relative. In addition, 36% (34) of the adolescent women were raped by a parent or adult relative.

Rates of physical abuse among homeless adolescent men and women greatly exceed rates of a national probability sample of young people being abused. Table 5.2 compares the current sample and Straus and Gelles' (1990) National probability sample on intra-family violence. First there is a need to define the violence indicators in the table. According to Straus (1990), "minor violence" includes throwing something at other family members, pushing, grabbing, shoving, slapping or spanking. "Severe violence" includes kicking, biting, punching, beating up someone, choking, threatening with a knife or a gun, using a knife or gun, or
Table 5.1. Percentage of adolescent men and women who were physically and / or sexually abused by parent, foster parent, or adult relative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N =</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threw something at you in anger</td>
<td>68.2 (159)</td>
<td>68.1 (94)</td>
<td>68.4 (65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushed, shoved, or grabbed you in anger</td>
<td>82.1 (193)</td>
<td>83.6 (117)</td>
<td>80.0 (76)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slapped you</td>
<td>79.1 (186)</td>
<td>78.2 (111)</td>
<td>80.6 (75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanked you</td>
<td>75.7 (178)</td>
<td>76.6 (108)</td>
<td>74.5 (70)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hit you with an object</td>
<td>67.7 (159)</td>
<td>66.0 (93)</td>
<td>70.2 (66)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beat you up</td>
<td>49.4 (115)</td>
<td>52.2 (72)</td>
<td>45.3 (43)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened you with a gun or knife</td>
<td>21.5 (50)</td>
<td>20.3 (28)</td>
<td>23.2 (22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assaulted you with a gun or knife</td>
<td>12.0 (28)</td>
<td>11.5 (16)</td>
<td>12.6 (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made a verbal request for sexual activity</td>
<td>22.0 (52)</td>
<td>10.6 (15)</td>
<td>38.9 (37)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touched or attempted to touch you sexually</td>
<td>22.1 (52)</td>
<td>9.9 (14)</td>
<td>40.4 (38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged in sexual activities against your will</td>
<td>19.1 (45)</td>
<td>7.8 (11)</td>
<td>35.8 (34)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.
parent burning or scalding a child. "Very severe violence" include hitting someone with an object, such as belts or hairbrushes. Straus and Gelles utilized this category because hitting with a hairbrush or a belt is viewed as "traditional" physical punishment, but some children are suffering severe injuries due to being hit with objects. The results in Table 5.2 indicate that the most significant differences in the violence parents inflict on their children, ages 0 to 17, are severe and very severe violence. Fifty-seven percent more of the homeless and runaways were kicked, bitten, punched, beaten up, choked, threatened with a knife or gun, had a knife or gun used on them, or their parent(s) burned or scalded them than the national probability sample (67.7% vs. 11%). In the current study, when comparing very severe violence, 45% more homeless and runaway adolescents were hit with objects than Straus and Gelles' national probability sample (47.3% vs. 2.3%). When comparing 15 to 17 year-old adolescents, there were significant differences for all three of the violence indicators. Fifty-eight percent more homeless and runaway adolescents were inflicted with minor violence (92.8% vs. 34%), 61% more homeless and runaway adolescents with severe violence (68.5% vs. 7%), and 51% more homeless and runaway adolescents with very severe violence (53.4 vs. 2.1%) than Straus and Gelles' national probability sample. Compared nationally, the homeless and runaway adolescent men and women in the current study are coming from very abusive home environments.

When abuse within the family contributes to running away (Patterson, Dishion, and Bank, 1984; Patterson and Stouthamer-Loeber, 1984) and delinquency (Patterson, Debaryshe, and Ramsey, 1989; Patterson, Dishion, and Bank, 1984; Patterson and Stouthamer-Loeber, 1984), adolescents end up on the streets
learning to survive the best way they know how. They enter street life and soon find that legitimate mean for employment may be blocked or low paying and this may lead them to adapting deviant survival techniques and associating with deviant peers. Table 5.3 presents Deviant Subsistence Strategies that homeless and adolescent men and women engage in to support themselves while living on the
Table 5.3. Percentage of adolescent men and women who engaged in deviant subsistence strategies to support themselves on the street

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N = 240</td>
<td></td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td>% No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold drugs</td>
<td>35.9 (84)</td>
<td>46.4 (64)</td>
<td>20.8 (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panhandle</td>
<td>29.3 (68)</td>
<td>30.1 (41)</td>
<td>28.1 (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Got food from dumpsters</td>
<td>10.9 (25)</td>
<td>9.6 (13)</td>
<td>12.8 (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoplift</td>
<td>64.2 (147)</td>
<td>68.1 (92)</td>
<td>58.5 (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broke in and took things from house, store, etc.</td>
<td>34.8 (80)</td>
<td>43.7 (59)</td>
<td>22.1 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Took money or something else from someone by force</td>
<td>24.8 (58)</td>
<td>32.6 (45)</td>
<td>13.5 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold sexual favors</td>
<td>12.5 (29)</td>
<td>9.6 (13)</td>
<td>16.7 (16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.

streets. Forty-six percent (64) of the adolescent men compared to 21% (20) of the adolescent women reported selling drugs, 44% (59) adolescent men compared to 22% (21) adolescent women broke in a house or store, 33% (45) adolescent men compared to 14% (13) adolescent women took money or something from someone by force, and both groups had a high rate of shoplifting (64% (147) overall) to
support themselves while living on the streets. In terms of prostitution, 7% more adolescent women than adolescent men engaged in prostitution to support themselves on the streets (17% (16) vs. 10% (13)).

Due to engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies the adolescents also place themselves for further abuse. After they leave their abusive home environment, and engage in streets life and deviant survival strategies to support themselves, they find themselves victimized again. Table 5.4 present percentages of victimized adolescent men and women while on the streets. The results indicate that more adolescent men are physically assaulted and more adolescent women are sexually assaulted while on the streets. Nine percent more adolescent men were robbed than adolescent women (26.8% (37) vs. 17.9 (17)), 28% more adolescent men were beaten up (52.2% (71) vs. 34.7% (33)) and threaten with a weapon (60.9% (84) vs. 33.3% (32)) than adolescent women, and 20% more adolescent men were assaulted with a weapon (43.3% (59) vs. 23.3% (22)) than adolescent women. Twenty-seven percent more adolescent women were sexually assaulted than the adolescent men (36.8% (35) vs. 9.5% (13)). Thus women are 3 3/4 times more likely sexually assaulted on the streets than adolescent men, and adolescent men are almost 1 1/2 times more likely assaulted on the streets than adolescent women.

Correlation Results

The final step in this chapter is to present the findings of the correlation matrices. Table 5.5 reports the overall correlations for the models aggravated assault, rape, AIDS-risk, and suicide ideation. Table 5.6 and 5.7 reports correlation results for the adolescent men and women, respectively.
Table 5.4. Percentage of adolescent men and women who were victimized while on the streets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent Total</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Men</th>
<th>Percent Adolescent Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N =</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>N (%)</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>N (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbed</td>
<td>23.2 (54)</td>
<td>26.8 (37)</td>
<td>17.9 (17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaten up</td>
<td>45.0 (104)</td>
<td>52.2 (71)</td>
<td>34.7 (33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threaten with a weapon</td>
<td>49.6 (116)</td>
<td>60.9 (84)</td>
<td>33.3 (32)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault with a weapon</td>
<td>35.1 (81)</td>
<td>43.4 (59)</td>
<td>23.2 (22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propositioned for sexual favors</td>
<td>36.6 (85)</td>
<td>29.9 (41)</td>
<td>46.3 (44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexually assaulted</td>
<td>20.7 (48)</td>
<td>9.5 (13)</td>
<td>36.8 (35)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Columns do not add to 100.

Whenever there are correlations between predictor variables, multicollinearity is always an issue. Multicollinearity develops when two or more independent variables are highly interrelated (Agresti and Finlay, 1986; Norusis, 1988). Most researchers calculate a zero-order correlation coefficient among independent variables to test multicollinearity. Any large correlation among the variables would tend to increase estimates of the standard error. While most researchers disagree...
on the precise cutoff point for multicollinearity (Schroeder, Sjoquist, and Stephan, 1986), others suggest that multicollinearity is a problem when correlations are higher than .7 for small samples and .85 for large samples (Berry and Feldman, 1985). The current research has variables correlating as high as .9985 (Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 for adolescent men), .8413 (aggravated assault and victimization for adolescent men) and .6267 (victimization and rape for adolescent women). The reason for the high correlations is due to more than one scale utilizing the same items. For instance, the .9985 correlation is due to Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 and #2 having identical items in the scales with the exception that Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 includes prostitution, and while the Deviant Subsistence Strategies scale #2 does not. The .8413 correlation is due to aggravated assault being included in the victimization scale. The same is true for the .6267 correlation due to the rape variable being included in the victimization scale. Part of the lack of consistency on a cutoff point may be due to multicollinearity existing with correlations lower than .7, as in the current research. Therefore, although multicollinearity was discovered in the correlation matrices, none of the relationships were postulated in the models. In addition, the cutoff point for multicollinearity in the current research is .6. Thus none of the items in the four models have correlations as high as .6, .7, or .85.

For the adolescent men in the sample (Table 5.6), the following postulated variables were significantly correlated with aggravated assault: family abuse ($r=.3391$), length of time away from home ($r=.2745$), affiliation with deviant peers ($r=.3915$), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 ($r=.4193$). In other words, the more adolescent men are abused (physically and sexually) at home the more they are at risk for aggravated assault on the streets. The same is true for length of time
Table 5.5. Zero-order correlation coefficients of exogenous and endogenous variables for overall sample

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* Significant at .05 level
** Significant at the .01 level
### Table 5.6. Zero-order correlation coefficients of exogenous and endogenous variables for adolescent men

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>SD</th>
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<td>22.3451</td>
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<td>SD</td>
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* Significant at .05 level
** Significant at the .01 level
away from home, affiliating with deviant peers, and engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 thus will increase the adolescent male's risk of aggravated assault.

Regarding the rape model, only family abuse ($r=.2063$) and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 ($r=.1770$) were significantly correlated with rape for adolescent men. That is, the more adolescent men are abused at home, the more they are at risk of being raped on the streets. Also, the more he engages in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to support himself on the streets, the more he is at risk of being raped.

With regard to the AIDS-risk model, family abuse ($r=.3487$), affiliation with deviant peers ($r=.2335$), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 ($r=.5283$) are significantly correlated with AIDS-risk for adolescent men. Thus, the more likely adolescent men are abused at home or affiliates with deviant peers or engages in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 to support themselves while on the streets, the more they are at risk for contracting the AIDS virus.

The last dependent variable is suicide ideation. Sexual abuse ($r=.2360$), depression ($r=.3978$), and victimization ($r=.2446$) are all significantly correlated with being at risk for committing suicide for adolescent men: the more adolescent men are sexually abused at home, the more they are at risk of committing suicide while on the streets. The same is true for victimization and depression: the more adolescent men are victimized on the street or is depress while living on the streets, the more they are at risk of committing suicide.

Other postulated variables that significantly correlated with each other were family abuse and deviant peers ($r=.3676$), family abuse and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 ($r=.5073$) and #2 ($r=.5055$). Length of time away from home was
significantly correlated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 \( (r=.2337) \) and #2 \( (r=.2374) \). Affiliation with deviant peers was significantly correlated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 \( (r=.4173) \) and #2 \( (r=.4235) \). Lastly, sexual abuse and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 significantly correlated with victimization \( (r=.2537; r=.5426) \) respectively.

For adolescent women in the sample (see Table 5.7), the following postulated variables were significantly correlated with aggravated assault: family abuse \( (r=.2185) \), affiliation with deviant peers \( (r=.2823) \), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 \( (r=.4887) \). Thus, adolescent women who are abused at home, or affiliate with deviant peers, or engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, are at risk for aggravated assault.

The following postulated variable correlated with rape for adolescent women: family abuse \( (r=.2714) \), affiliation with deviant peers \( (r=.3824) \), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 \( (r=.3236) \). This indicates that the more an adolescent female is abused at home, the more she is at risk of being raped on the streets, and the more she affiliates with deviant peers or engages in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 while on the streets, the more she is at risk of being raped on the streets.

In terms of the AIDS-risk model, AIDS-risk was significantly correlated with family abuse \( (r=.2639) \), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 \( (r=.4140) \): adolescent women who are abused at home are at risk of contracting the AIDS virus along with those who engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 to support themselves while on the streets.

Lastly, suicide ideation was significantly correlated only with depression \( (r=.4257) \) for adolescent women. Thus the more adolescent women are depressed
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 5.7.</th>
<th>Zero-order correlation coefficients of exogenous and endogenous variables for adolescent women</th>
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* Significant at .05 level  
** Significant at the .01 level
the more they are at risk of committing suicide. Other postulated variables that significantly correlated with each other were family abuse with deviant peers \((r=.2830)\), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 \((r=.3465)\) and #2 \((r=.3395)\). Affiliation with deviant peers was significantly correlated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 \((r=.3836)\) and #2 \((r=.3967)\). Sexual abuse was significantly correlated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 and victimization \((r=.3721)\). Lastly, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 was significantly correlated with depression \((r=.2025)\) and victimization \((r=.5696)\).

In summary, many of the same variables are significantly correlated between aggravated assault, rape and AIDS-risk. Aggravated assault was significantly correlated with family abuse, affiliation with deviant peers and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 for both adolescent men and women, but length of time away from home was significantly correlated with aggravated assault for adolescent men only. Also, although family abuse and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 significantly correlated with rape and AIDS-risk for both adolescent men and women, only affiliation with deviant peers was significantly correlated with rape and AIDS-risk for adolescent women. The biggest differences were found in the suicide ideation model, where suicide was significantly correlated with sexual abuse, victimization, and depression for adolescent men, while only depression was significantly correlated with suicide ideation for adolescent women.

The next step is to employ multivariate analysis on the dependent variables. According to Patterson (1982), inept parents will abuse their children more than parents with good management skills, thus the current study used family abuse as an indicator of inept parenting. The family abuse variable is an indicator of how sexually and physically abused the adolescents are. It is believed that a
combination of sexual and physical abuse may have more deleterious effects than the two separate. In addition, there may be cases where sexual (or physical) abuse may be a stronger predictor than sexual and physical abuse combined. Therefore, an effort was taken to test total abuse (family abuse) and sexual and physical abuse. Logistic regression was utilized for the dependent variables aggravated assault and rape and path analysis was utilized for the dependent variables AIDS-risk and suicide ideation.

Logistic Regression

**Aggravated Assault**

The first dependent variable to be tested is aggravated assault. The hypotheses for aggravated assault are as follows:

- Adolescents who are abused (sexually and physically) at home are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

- The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

- The longer adolescents are away from their legal residence, the more they are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

- The more adolescents engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for aggravated assault while on the streets.

Tables 5.8 and 5.9 provide the results of the logistic regression for the dependent variable aggravated assault for adolescent men and women, respectively. The first column presents the logistic regression coefficient, the second column the standard error, the third column the natural antilog, and the
probability (statistical significance) is listed in the final column. When interpreting logistic regression coefficients it is best to express the coefficient in terms of its natural antilog (Agresti and Finlay, 1986). The natural antilog indicates how much the odds of moving from the independent variable to the dependent variable when one unit increase is raised in the independent variable.

Out of the four hypotheses proposed, three were supported for adolescent men. As is evident in columns one and four of Table 5.8, length of time away from home (beta = .24, p < .05), deviant peers (beta = .19, p < .02), and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (beta = .13, p < .02) have a significant impact on the probability that a homeless or runaway adolescent man will be involved in an aggravated assault. The table also indicates that with each unit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regression Coefficient</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Natural Antilog</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Abuse</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>1.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of time away from home</td>
<td>.24</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td>1.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviant Peers</td>
<td>.19</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviant subsistence strategies #1</td>
<td>.13</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>1.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
increase in the length of time an adolescent man is away from home, there is a 1.27 increase in odds of being assaulted. In addition, with each unit increase of the affiliation with deviant peers there is a 1.21 increase in odds of being assaulted and a 1.14 increase in odds of being assaulted when an adolescent man engages in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 while on the streets.

As for adolescent women in the sample (Table 5.9), two of the four hypotheses were supported. Deviant peers (beta=.25, p ≤ .05) and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (beta=.22, p ≤ .01) were significantly related to aggravated assault. Furthermore, for each unit increase in deviant peers the odds of being assaulted increases by 1.28 and 1.25 for each unit increase in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 for an adolescent woman.

Table 5.9. Logistic regression with aggravated assault regressed on family abuse, length of time away from home, deviant peers, and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 for homeless and runaway adolescent women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regression Coefficient</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Natural Antilog</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Abuse</td>
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<td>1.00</td>
<td>.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of time away</td>
<td>.13</td>
<td>.14</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from home</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Deviant Peers</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>.13</td>
<td>1.28</td>
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<td>Deviant subsistence</td>
<td>.22</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strategies #1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Rape

The second dependent variable for logistic regression is rape. A review of the hypotheses is as follows:

- Adolescents from abusive families are at risk for rape on the streets.
- The longer adolescents are away from home, the more they are at risk for rape.
- The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for rape.
- The more adolescents engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for rape.

Tables 5.10 and 5.11 provide the results of the logistic regression for the dependent variable rape for adolescent men and women, respectively. Out of the four hypotheses proposed, only one for adolescent men and two for adolescent women were supported. In Table 5.10, only family abuse (beta=.11, p < .04) has a significant impact on the probability that a homeless or runaway adolescent man will be raped while on the streets for a adolescent man. The table also indicates that with each unit increase of family abuse there is a 1.12 increase in odds of an adolescent man being raped. However, when family abuse was replaced by physical abuse (which is an indicator of the family abuse scale) and logistic regression was again run, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (beta=.15, p < .03) was significantly related to being raped for adolescent men when controlling for the other variables (table not shown). Also, with a unit increase in the Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 variable, there is a 1.16 increase in the odds of being raped on the streets for an adolescent man.
Table 5.10. Logistic regression with rape regressed on family abuse, length of time away from home, deviant peers, and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 for homeless and runaway adolescent men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regression Coefficient</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Natural Antilog</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>.06</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of time away from home</td>
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<td>.22</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviant Peers</td>
<td>-.06</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td>.94</td>
<td>.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviant subsistence strategies #1</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5.11. Logistic regression with rape regressed on family abuse, length of time away from home, deviant peers, and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 for homeless and runaway adolescent women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regression Coefficient</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Natural Antilog</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Abuse</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of time away from home</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviant Peers</td>
<td>.20</td>
<td>.10</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviant subsistence strategies #1</td>
<td>.18</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As for adolescent women, deviant peers (beta=.20, $p \leq .05$) and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (beta=.18, $p \leq .02$) were significantly related to being raped while on the streets. Furthermore, for each unit increase in deviant peers the odds of being raped increases by 1.23 and 1.20 for each unit increase in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 for an adolescent woman trying to support herself on the streets.

Path Analysis

**AIDS-risk**

The first dependent variable to be tested in path analysis is AIDS-risk. A review of the nine hypotheses is as follows:

- Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to stay away from home longer when they run away.

- Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to affiliate with deviant peers.

- Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to engage in deviant subsistence strategies #2 to support themselves on the streets.

- Adolescents from abusive families are at risk for contracting AIDS while on the streets.

- The longer adolescents are away from home, the more likely they will engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 to support themselves on the streets.
- The longer adolescents are away from home, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.

- The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.

- The more adolescents are affiliated with deviant peers, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.

- The more adolescents engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for contracting AIDS.

Path analysis is a technique that uses linear regression models to test specific theories of causal relationships among a set of variables (Agresti and Finlay, 1986). The path coefficient generated in path analysis indicates the direct effect of a variable that is hypothesized as a cause of another variable (Penhazur, 1982). Out of the nine hypotheses, four were supported for both adolescent men and women. As Figure 5.1 indicates, abuse within the family was strongly associated with deviant peer group affiliation for both sexes (adolescent men, beta = .39, p ≤ .001; adolescent women, beta = .28, p < .01). Family abuse was also directly strongly associated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 while on the streets for adolescent men more than adolescent women (adolescent men, beta = .43, p ≤ .001; adolescent women, beta = .24, p ≤ .05). Deviant peer group affiliation was directly strongly associated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 for both sexes (adolescent men, beta = .24, p ≤ .01; adolescent women, beta = .30, p ≤ .01). In turn, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 was directly strongly associated with being at risk for AIDS while on the street for adolescent women more than adolescent men (adolescent women, beta = .48, p ≤ .001; adolescent men, beta = .37, p ≤ .01). The only sex differences found in the model was that length of time
Figure 5.1. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent men and women on AIDS-risk with family abuse. Coefficients for adolescent men are above the lines; coefficients for adolescent women are below the lines and in the parentheses.
away from home was weakly associated Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 for adolescent men (beta=.14, p ≤ .07), but not for adolescent women.

The Coefficient of Determination, or R square, is .28 and .19 for adolescent men and women respectively. This means that 28% of the variance of the variable AIDS-risk was explained by the variables family abuse, length of time away from home, deviant peers, and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 for the adolescent men, while 19% is true for the adolescent women.

However, when the exogenous variable, family abuse, was replaced with sexual abuse (an indicator of family abuse), there are some statistical differences. In other words, the physical abuse scale was subtracted from the family abuse scale leaving only the sexual abuse scale. The reliability for the sexual abuse scale was .94. The rational for the separation is Although the two models (see Figure 5.1 for family abuse as the exogenous variable and Figure 5.2 for sexual abuse as the exogenous variable) explain similar amount of the variance in AIDS-risk for both sexes (adolescent men, R² = .28 with family abuse and R² = .29 with sexual abuse; adolescent women, R² = .19 with family abuse and R² = .23 with sexual abuse), there are two significant differences in the models. The results in Figure 5.2 indicate that length of time away from home is strongly significantly associated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 (beta = .19, p ≤ .01) when physical abuse was subtracted from the model. In addition, when sexual abuse is an exogenous variable, it is directly associated with AIDS-risk while on the streets for adolescent women more than adolescent men (adolescent women, beta = .25, p ≤ .05; adolescent men, beta = .17, p ≤ .06). This relationship is not significant in the model with family abuse (see Figure 5.1).
Figure 5.2. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent men and women on AIDS-risk with sexual abuse. Coefficients for adolescent men are above the lines; coefficients for adolescent women are below the lines and in the parentheses.
Suicide Ideation

The last dependent variable to be tested is suicide ideation. A review of the ten hypotheses proposed to ascertain direct effects on suicide ideation include:

- Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to engage in deviant subsistence strategies to support themselves on the streets.
- Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to be victimized on the streets.
- Adolescents from abusive families are more likely to be depressed on the streets.
- Adolescents from abusive families are at high risk for suicide while on the streets.
- The more adolescents engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, the more they are at risk for victimization.
- The more adolescents engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more likely they will be depressed.
- The more adolescents engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to support themselves on the streets, the more they are at risk for committing suicide.
- The more adolescents are victimized on the streets, the more they will be depressed.
- The more adolescents are victimized on the streets, the more they are at risk for committing suicide.
- The more adolescents are depressed on the streets, the more they are at risk for committing suicide.

Out of the ten hypotheses, five were supported for adolescent men and four for adolescent women. As Figure 5.3 indicates, sexual abuse within the family was
directly strongly associated with Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 for both sexes (adolescent men, beta = .39, p ≤ .001; adolescent women, beta = .30, p ≤ .01). Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 was also directly strongly associated with victimization while on the streets for adolescent men and adolescent women (adolescent men, beta = .52 p ≤ .001; adolescent women, beta = .50 p ≤ .01). Lastly, depression was directly strongly associated with suicide ideation for both sexes (adolescent men, beta = .35, p ≤ .001; adolescent women, beta = .45, p ≤ .001). The biggest significant sex difference in the model is that sexual abuse is directly associated with victimization for adolescent women (beta = .22, p ≤ .01), but not for adolescent men. However, victimization was directly strongly associated with suicide ideation for adolescent men (beta=.23, p ≤ .05), but not for adolescent women. Sexual abuse is strongly associated with suicide ideation for adolescent men (beta = .22, p ≤ .01) and weakly negativity associated with adolescent women (beta = -.18, p ≤ .09). Overall the Coefficient of determination is .24 and .23 for adolescent men and women respectively. In other words, 24% of the variance of the variable suicide ideation was explained by the variables sexual abuse, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, victimization, and depression for the adolescent men, while 23% is true for the adolescent women. However, the model does not work for adolescent women. Only the depression variable has a statistical significant effect on suicide ideation at the .05 level or lower. Moreover, none of the variable (sexual abuse, victimization, and Deviant Subsistence Strategies) explain much of the variance in depression for adolescent men and women (adolescent men R² = .003; adolescent women R² = .046). Possible reasons for the lack of variance explained may be because some adolescents who runaway from home are so releived to be away from their home environment that even the violence on the streets is not that
Figure 5.3. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent men and women on Suicide ideation. Coefficients for adolescent men are above the lines; coefficients for adolescent women are below the lines and in the parentheses.
bad. In addition, there may be some self-medicating going on where the adolescents are depressed, but life on the streets is not really bad. Thus, the adolescents are not fully aware of their true feeling.

Path Analysis: Reduced Models

This section consists of the results of reduced models for homeless and runaway adolescent men and women on AIDS-risk and suicide ideation. Because there were path coefficients that were not significant at the .08 level, overidentified restrictions are introduced into the recursive models. An overidentified model specifies that fewer parameters be estimated than would be necessary to perfectly reproduce the matrix of correlations among all variables. For instance, although an exogenous variable may be specified not to have a direct effect on an endogenous variable, the exogenous variable might affect the endogenous variable indirectly (Penhazur, 1982). An overidentified model testing procedure was employed on the path models. In other words, variables that showed no significant effect on other variables were removed from the model leaving variables that showed significant relationships to see how much of the variance among the variables a reduced model would explain. It should be noted that by eliminating paths not less than or equal to .08, some other marginal data may be lost.

AIDS-risk with Family Abuse

Examining the results of the model with family abuse as the exogenous variable reveals that five paths remained in the equation which were significant at or below the .07 level for adolescent men (see Figure 5.4), and four paths remained in
the equation that were significant at or below the .01 level for adolescent women (see Figure 5.5).

For adolescent men, family abuse significantly predicted affiliation with deviant peers (beta = .386, p ≤ .001). The following variables significantly predicted Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2: family abuse (beta = .430, p ≤ .001), length of time away from home (beta = .138, p = .07), and deviant peers (beta = .236, p ≤ .01). Furthermore, for the dependent variable AIDS-risk, only Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 was a direct predictor (beta = .528, p ≤ .001).

Results for adolescent women are similar to those for adolescent men with one exception, that is, length of time away from home does not have a direct effect in the model and is thus removed (see Figure 5.5). The family abuse variable was a significant predictor of affiliation with deviant peers (beta = .283, p ≤ .01). In addition, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 was significantly predicted by family abuse (beta = .244, p ≤ .01) and deviant peers (beta = .332, p ≤ .001). For the dependent variable AIDS-risk, only Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 was a direct predictor (beta = .414, p ≤ .001).

Since an overidentified model testing procedure was employed in the model, a chi-square was calculated. The difference in chi-squares with 4 degrees of freedom (X^2 = 3.04) was not statistically significant for adolescent men and a chi-square with 5 degrees of freedom (X^2 = .970) was not statistically significant for adolescent women, indicating no difference between the full model and the reduced model. Consequently, the results in the reduced model can be present without any loss of information. Tables 5.12 and 5.13 presents the decomposition of effects constructed from the reduced model.
Figure 5.4. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent men on AIDS-risk with family abuse, the reduced model.
Figure 5.5. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent women on AIDS-risk with family abuse, the reduced model.
Table 5.12 reports results of the decomposition of effects with family abuse as the exogenous variable on AIDS-risk for adolescent men and women. For adolescent men, family abuse does not have a direct effect on AIDS-risk, but is indirectly related. Family abuse has an indirect and total effect through Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 of .275. Length of time away from home has an indirect and total effect on AIDS-risk through Deviant subsistence Strategies #2 of .073. Furthermore, the deviant peers variable had an indirect and total effect on AIDS-risk through Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 of .125. Of all variables, family abuse has the largest indirect effect of .275. For adolescent women, family abuse and deviant peers were the only two variables indirectly related to AIDS-risk and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 with coefficients of .140 and .137 respectively.

Overall, comparison of the full model with the reduced model shows that the coefficients of determination for the adolescent men stayed the same with both explaining 28% of the variance (full model $R^2 = .277$; reduced model, $R^2 = .279$). The reduced model for adolescent women lost 2% of its predictive power (full model $R^2 = .191$; reduced model, $R^2 = .171$). In other words, 2% more of the variance in AIDS-risk was explained by the family abuse, deviant peers, length of time away from home, and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 variables. However, although the full model explained 2% more of the variance, the reduced model indicates that 17% of the variance in AIDS-risk was due to the relationship between Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 and AIDS-risk.

**AIDS-risk with Sexual Abuse**

Figures 5.6 and 5.7 are path analyses with standardized regression coefficients for the reduced model for adolescent men and women on AIDS-risk with
Table 5.12. Decomposition of effects for model variables with family abuse on AIDS-risk for adolescent men and women. Adolescent women are in the parentheses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total covariation</th>
<th>Direct effects</th>
<th>Indirect effects through length of time away from home</th>
<th>Indirect effects through deviant peers</th>
<th>Indirect effects through Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2</th>
<th>Total effects</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>(.140)</td>
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<td>.528 ***</td>
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<td>(.414 ***)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>(.414 ***)</td>
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</table>

** Significant at .01 level.

*** Significant at .001 level.
exogenous variable sexual abuse, respectively. The major difference in the model using sexual abuse compared to the model with family abuse for adolescent men is that there is not a path from sexual abuse to deviant peers, but there is from family abuse to deviant peers. This relationship suggests that the effect of family abuse on deviant peers is more likely due to physical abuse within the family.

Variables that significantly predicted direct effects on Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 were family abuse (beta = .381, p ≤ .001), length of time away from home (beta = .191, p = .01), and deviant peers (beta = .320, p ≤ .001). The dependent variable AIDS-risk shows that only Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 was a direct predictor (beta = .482, p ≤ .001).

Results for adolescent women are similar to the model with family abuse for adolescent women in that sexual abuse was a significant predictor of affiliation with deviant peers (beta = .219, p ≤ .05), and sexual abuse (beta = .193, p ≤ .05) and deviant peers (beta = .358, p ≤ .001) were significant predictors of Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2. Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 was also a significant predictor (beta = .357, p ≤ .001) of AIDS-risk for adolescent women.

When comparing the differences between the full model using the sexual abuse variable and the reduced model, the chi-square with 4 degrees of freedom ($X^2 = .716$) was not statistically significant for adolescent men and a chi-square with 4 degrees of freedom ($X^2 = 3.16$) was not statistically significant for adolescent women, indicating no statistical difference in the full model over the reduced model. In addition, when comparing the full model with the reduced model, the coefficients of determination for the reduced model explained .4% more of the variance for adolescent men (full model $R^2 = .287$; reduced model, $R^2 = .291$) and
Figure 5.6. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent men on AIDS-risk with sexual abuse, the reduced model.
Figure 5.7.  Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent women on AIDS-risk with sexual abuse, the reduced model.
1.5% more of the variance for adolescent women (full model $R^2 = .232$; reduced model, $R^2 = .247$). In other words, more of the variance was explained by the reduced model over the full model. Although these percentages may at first look insignificant, the Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 variable explains more of the variance in the model than all of the variables combined.

Table 5.13 reports results of the decomposition of effects with sexual abuse as the exogenous variable on AIDS-risk for adolescent men and women. For the adolescent men, sexual abuse directly (.122) and indirectly through Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 (.184) effects AIDS-risk. The direct and indirect effects were summed for a total effect of .306. Length of time away from home and deviant peers variables both indirect predictors of being at risk for AIDS through Deviant subsistence Strategies #2, with coefficients are .092 and .154 respectively. In addition, the total effect of the variables length of time away from home and deviant peers was also .092 and .154 respectively, leading to the conclusion that there were no direct effects, and thus the total effects equals the indirect effects.

**Suicide Ideation**

Figures 5.8 and 5.9 are path analyses with standardized regression coefficients for the reduced model using suicide ideation for adolescent men and women, respectively. Variables that directly and significantly predicted suicide ideation for adolescent men were sexual abuse (beta = .179, $p \leq .05$), victimization (beta = .144, $p \leq .08$) and depression (beta = .358, $p \leq .001$). In addition, sexual abuse was a predictor of Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (beta = .386, $p \leq .001$), just as Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 was a predictor of victimization (beta = .543, $p \leq .001$).
Table 5.13. Decomposition of effects for model variables with sexual abuse on AIDS-risk for adolescent men and women. Adolescent women are in the parentheses.

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<th>Indirect effects through length of time away from home</th>
<th>Indirect effects through deviant peers</th>
<th>Indirect effects through Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2</th>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(.344 **)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(.097)</td>
<td>(.359)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Deviant peers</td>
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<td>Deviant Subsistence</td>
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<td>Strategies #2</td>
<td>(.414 **)</td>
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** Significant at .01 level.
*** Significant at .001 level.
Figure 5.8. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent men on Suicide ideation, the reduced model.
Results for adolescent women (Figure 5.9) indicate that only depression has a significant direct effect on suicide ideation (beta = .458, p ≤ .001). However, sexual abuse has a significant effect on Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (beta = .296, p ≤ .01), and both sexual abuse and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 have significant effects on victimization (sexual abuse, beta = .224, p ≤ .01; Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, beta = .501, p ≤ .001).

When comparing the differences between the full model and the reduced model, a chi-square with 3 degrees of freedom ($X^2_3 = 3.17$) was found to be not statistically significant for adolescent men and a chi-square with 4 degrees of freedom ($X^2_4 = 5.67$) was found to be not statistically significant for adolescent women, indicating no difference in the full model and the reduced model.

However, when comparing the coefficients of determination of full model with the reduced model, both adolescent men and women lost predictive power. Adolescent men lost 6.1% (full model $R^2 = .287$; reduced model, $R^2 = .226$) and adolescent women lost 1.9% (full model $R^2 = .232$; reduced model, $R^2 = .213$). In other words, more of the variance was explained by the full model, but not a statistical difference.

Table 5.14 reports result of the decomposition of effects on suicide ideation for adolescent men and women. For adolescent men, only Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 through victimization (.078) had an indirect effect on suicide ideation. However, both sexual abuse (.179) and victimization (.144) had direct effects on suicide ideation, which means that the total effect that sexual abuse has on suicide ideation was .179 (significant at the .05 level) and victimization was .144 (significant level at .08). Table 5.14 also indicates that there were no indirect effects in the model for adolescent women. The only effects come from the direct effects of
Figure 5.9. Path analysis with standardized regression coefficients for adolescent women on Suicide ideation, the reduced model.
Table 5.14. Decomposition of effects for model variables on suicide ideation for adolescent men and women. Adolescent women are in the paraentheses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total covariation</th>
<th>Direct effects</th>
<th>Indirect effects through deviant subsistence strategies #1</th>
<th>Indirect effects through victimization</th>
<th>Indirect effects through depression</th>
<th>Total effects</th>
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<tr>
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<td>.179 *</td>
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<td>.179 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victimization</td>
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<td>Depression</td>
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<td>.358 ***</td>
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<td>(.426 **)</td>
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@ Significant at .08 level,
* Significant at .05 level,
** Significant at .01 level.
*** Significant at .001 level.
sexual abuse (not significant) and depression (significant at .001 level) on suicide ideation. This is another indication how the only model works for adolescent men.
CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSION

The discussion chapter is divided into four parts consisting of: adolescents' violent environment, aggravated assault, rape, AIDS-risk, and suicide ideation.

Adolescents' Violent Environment

Studies have documented that one of the primary reasons for adolescents to leave home is to escape parental abuse, with adolescent men most often running away because of physical abuse, and adolescent women running away because of sexual abuse (McCormack, Janus, and Burgess, 1986; Simons and Whitbeck, 1992; Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). The current study found that 11% more adolescent women reported running away from home because of physical abuse than adolescent men (56% vs. 45%). Also, 23% more adolescent women reported running away from home because of sexual abuse than adolescent men (38% vs. 15%). Although both adolescent men and adolescent women reported running away because of violence in the home (55% vs. 56%), adolescent women are more likely to be a target of physical and sexual abuse at home than adolescent men. Moreover, compared to Straus and Gelles' National probability sample, homeless and runaway adolescents are 2 1/2 times more likely to have had something thrown at them, pushed, grabbed, shoved, slapped or spanked than nonhomeless or runaway adolescents. They are almost 10 times more likely to have been kicked, bitten, beaten, choked, threaten with a gun or a knife, had a gun or knife used on them, or burned than nonhomeless or runaway adolescents. What is most surprising is that homeless and runaway adolescents are 25 times more likely hit with an object than nonhomeless and runaway adolescents. Compared nationally,
the homeless and runaway adolescents in the current study come from very abusive families. This is consistent with the social learning perspective in that adolescents from families with poor parenting skills, i.e., being too strict, are more apt to be physically punished than adolescents from families that engages in good parenting techniques, i.e., monitoring their children and setting house rules. In an effort to escape aversive intrusions adolescents learns to use aversive behaviors. The result may be a lack of family interaction and if interaction occurs it is physical aggression among family members. This lead adolescents to try to control their parents or escape the environment. To escape for many adolescents means to runaway to the streets and some experience a felling of relief because of relinquishing ties to their parents.

Once on the streets reality sets in, and the adolescents have to find ways to survive. Since living on the streets may present economic problems, homeless and runaway adolescents, compared to others not on the streets, lack a safe haven of social network to turn to for support (Simons, Whitbeck, and Bales, 1990). The current study suggest that more adolescent men than women are involved in victim crimes (shoplifting, burglary, robbery, and selling drugs) and more adolescent women than men are involved in victimless crime (prostitution) to support themselves while on the streets. Although researchers and criminologists normally classify drugs under victimless crimes, because adolescents are selling drugs for financial support and for personal use, that aspect of the crime is classified as a victim crime due to the potential harm to the buyer. The current study is consistent with Robertson's (1989) study on homeless men selling drugs, Yates et al.'s (1990) study on survival sex and Simons and Whitbeck's (1991) prostitution study. While adolescent men are involved more in crime with victims than adolescent women, it's
not surprising that they are also victims of crimes such as robbery, simple assault and aggravated assault, more often than adolescent women. As for adolescent women, although a large percentage is not engaging in prostitution or survival sex to support themselves on the streets, they are raped more often than adolescent men. This may not only be a function of living on the streets which places them at risk of further victimization, but also the structure of society shows that nonhomeless and runaway women are victims of rape far more than the men. In other words, the behavior mirrors society's rape problem.

Aggravated Assault

Recall that aggravated assault was measured by a single item that asked respondents if they had ever been assaulted with a weapon while on the street. The statistical significant logistic regression coefficients for aggravated assault are positive, suggesting that the more homeless and runaway adolescent men and women are assaulted, the more they are to affiliate with deviant peers and engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, in order to support themselves while on the streets. The natural antilog (how much the odds of moving from deviant peers or Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to aggravated assault when there is one unit increase in affiliation with deviant peers or Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1) indicates that the odds of adolescent women being assaulted is slightly more than those of adolescent men for deviant peer affiliation (1.28 vs. 1.21) and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 (1.25 vs. 1.14). However, the longer homeless and runaway adolescent men are away from home, the more they are assaulted while on the streets. This relationship was not significant for adolescent women.
The results are consistent with other research in certain aspects. Lauritsen et al. (1991) found that adolescent men are at more risk of assault because of their life style and deviant peer group affiliation than adolescent women. The current study found that adolescent women are assaulted slightly more often than adolescent men when affiliating with deviant peers and engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, but assault has more deleterious effects for adolescent men because of the length of time they stay away from home, than adolescent women. With 49% adolescent men away from their legal residence for over a year compared to 35% of adolescent women, the men are at further risk of aggravated assault, not only because of time away from home but because of deviant group affiliation and selling drugs, panhandling, getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, engaging in burglar or theft, or prostitution (Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, see p.67, Table 5.3).

The results are also consistent with social learning in that homeless and runaway adolescents learn from their aversive events at home to either control their environment or escape. Since they have escaped and congregated with adolescents like themselves on the streets, they may feel that they can control their situations. In addition, once with deviant peers, they are at risk of being victimized again because of their living situation, and at times by their peers. In other words, affiliating with deviant peers is related to adolescents from families with poor parenting techniques and adolescents engaging in deviant survival techniques are related to them trying to control their aversive situation. Both are behaviors adolescents learned at home.
Rape

Recall that rape was measured by a single item that asked respondents if they had been sexually assaulted while on the street. The only statistically significant logistic regression coefficient for rape for adolescent men is positive, suggesting that the more homeless and runaway adolescent men encounter family abuse at home, the more likely they are to be raped on the streets. The natural antilog indicates that the odds of adolescent men being raped increases by 1.12, the more adolescent men have experienced family abuse at home. However, when physical abuse was added to the model and family abuse withdrawn, Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 was significantly related to being raped. Therefore, the more adolescent men sold drugs, panhandled, got food out of dumpsters, shoplifted, engage in burglary or theft, or prostitution to support themselves while on the streets, the odds of being raped increased by 1.16.

For adolescent women, the statistically significant logistic regression coefficients for rape are positive, suggesting that the more homeless and runaway women affiliate with deviant peers, being raped is a great possibility, and the more they engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 to support themselves while on the streets, the greater the possibility of being raped. In other words, the more adolescent women affiliated with deviant peers, the higher their risk of being raped. In addition by being placed in a position where they have to sell drugs, panhandle, get food out of dumpsters, shoplift, engage in burglary of theft, or prostitute themselves for economic support on the streets adolescent women are at risk of rape.

The results are somewhat consistent with other research suggesting that sexually abused adolescent women are running away because of the abuse (see
Finkelhor et al., 1986; Simons and Whitbeck, 1991). However, sexual abuse within the home is not a direct cause of adolescent women being raped on the streets, but the direct effects are because of affiliation with deviant peers and survival strategies. In other words, although abuse within the family may be a reason to runaway from home, the peers adolescent women choose and the survival techniques they adopt place them at risk of being raped.

In summary, adolescent men are more at risk of being raped when they come from physically and sexually abusive home environments, and they are at risk of rape due to their deviant survival techniques when controlling for sexual abuse within the home. As for adolescent women, affiliation with deviant peers places them at greater risk of being raped as well as their deviant survival technique for economic support while on the streets. Therefore, it is the adolescent women who are most at risk of being raped because most homeless and runaway adolescents stay in groups for protection and adopt some of the same survival strategies.

AIDS-risk

Recall that the possibility of contracting AIDS is due to prostitution and intravenous drug use, that is, whether they had ever sold sexual favors to support themselves while on the street, and/or if they had ever injected drugs intravenously. The current findings are consistent with social learning theory and abusive parenting techniques. The social learning approach to the victimization of homeless adolescent men and women proposes that coercive, aggressive, harsh and abusive parental disciplinary techniques cause deviant behavior among adolescents. Furthermore, when aggressive interchanges within the family increase, so does the likelihood of abuse. Children, in turn, attempt to find ways to control their parents
or to escape. These learned patterns of interaction are then carried to the streets and thus reinforced the longer these adolescents live on the streets.

**AIDS-risk with Family Abuse**

For adolescent men, abuse within the family was directly related to affiliating with deviant peers and engaging in Deviant subsistence Strategies #2 while on the streets. Physically and sexually abused adolescent men are now affiliating with other adolescents who also have run away from home, sold drugs, used drugs, been suspended from school, dropped out of school, shoplifted, sold sexual favors, aggravatedly assaulted someone and/or been arrested. These new runaways also sell drugs, panhandle, get food out of dumpsters, shoplift, burglarize, and steal in order to support themselves while on the streets.

Length of time away from home (recall 46% of adolescent are on the streets for over 50 days, Table 5.4, p. 51) and affiliation with deviant peers are also strongly directly related to engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 for homeless and runaway men. The longer they are on the streets without legitimate employment and have deviants peers, the more likely they are to view engaging in deviant survival techniques as their best alternative to survival. This is not to say that all adolescent men who cannot support themselves in a legitimate fashion deviate from society's norms, but that at the present time they may believe that they are using the best alternative they have.

Furthermore, engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 directly relates to being at risk of contracting the AIDS virus. Thus, in summary, homeless and runaway adolescent men, because of the abuse within their families, escape and gravitate toward other deviant adolescents, and because of the abuse within their
families they learn to survive on the streets by interacting with other homeless and runaway adolescents. In addition, the more adolescent men are abused at home and the more they affiliate with deviant peers, the more likely it is that they will engage in deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 to support themselves while on the streets. It is also true that adolescent men who are physically and sexually abused at home, or stay away from home for an extended prior of time, or affiliate with deviant peers and engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies once on the streets, the more they are at risk of contracting AIDS. What this means is that those adolescent men who engage in selling drugs, panhandling, getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, burglary, and theft to support themselves and are prostituting themselves and/or inject drugs intravenously are very highly likely to contract AIDS. With 35% of the variance in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 explained by family abuse, length of time away from home, and deviant peers, and 28% of the variance in AIDS-risk explained by Deviant subsistence Strategies #2, this has deep importance for future research and policy implementation to help homeless and runaway adolescents on the streets. Curbing the survival strategies among adolescent men in another direction is paramount for future health considerations.

The only difference found for adolescent women was that length of time away from home was not related to contracting the AIDS virus. Therefore, abuse within the family directly relates to affiliation with deviant peers and engaging in Deviant subsistence Strategies #2 while on the streets; affiliation with deviant peers directly relates to engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2; and Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 directly relates to being at risk of contracting the AIDS virus. What this means it that adolescent women, like adolescent men, are at greater risk of contracting AIDS because of abuse within the family, gravitating toward other
deviant adolescents, learning to survive on the streets by interacting with other homeless and runaway adolescents, and engaging in selling drugs, injecting drugs intravenously, panhandling, getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, burglary, theft and engaging in prostitution. With 22% of the variance in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 explained by family abuse and deviant peers, and 17% of the variance in AIDS-risk explained by Deviant subsistence Strategies #2, this is a great health concern for both adolescent women and men.

**AIDS-risk with Sexual Abuse**

According to the current literature, high rates of multiple voluntary and involuntary sexual experiences and sexual victimization place homeless and runaway adolescents at high risk for sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS. Because the sample of sexually abused adolescents exceeds the national average, the AIDS-risk model was run using sexual abuse as the exogenous variable. Although the AIDS-risk model with family abuse is similar to the AIDS-model with sexual abuse, there are some differences, and this section focuses on the differences between the two models.

There are two significant differences that are discussed for adolescent men. First, there is not a direct effect of sexual abuse on deviant peers as in the family abuse model. The possible reason for this may be that the abuse suffered by the adolescent within the home is more likely to have been physical abuse rather than sexual abuse. Second, the variance explained increased by 1.2% for the model with sexual abuse over the model with family abuse (sexual abuse, $R^2 = .291$; family abuse, $R^2 = .279$).
There are also two significant differences that are discussed for adolescent women. First, being sexually abused at home directly relates to contracting AIDS on the streets, but not with family abuse. Second, the variance explained increased by 7.6% for the model with sexual abuse over family abuse (sexual abuse, $R^2 = .247$; family abuse, $R^2 = .171$).

In summary, due to poor parenting techniques and abuse within the family, adolescent men are in danger of contracting the AIDS virus while living on the streets directly by engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 (selling drugs, panhandling, getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, burglary, and theft), and indirectly through being physically and/or sexually abused at home, affiliating with deviant peers, and the length of time they are away from home. Adolescent women have similar risks of contracting AIDS with a couple of exceptions. They are at risk of contracting AIDS directly because of Deviant Subsistence Strategies #2 and indirectly because of affiliating with deviant peers and family abuse, but unlike adolescent men being sexually abused at home is both directly and indirectly related to AIDS-risk. Length of time away from home is not related to AIDS-risks, directly nor indirectly, for adolescent women.

**Suicide Ideation**

Suicide ideation was measured by a single item that asked respondents which statements described them most of the time, ranging from, "I don't have any thoughts of harming myself" to "I would kill myself if I could." Research suggests that adolescents who are sexually abused at home are more likely to have attempted suicide than adolescents who are depressed or normal adolescents (de Wilde et al., 1992). Conversely, the current research found that depression is a
bigger predictor of suicide ideation than being sexually abused. Although there are differences in the two studies, for instance, the de Wilde et al. (1992) sample did not consist of homeless and runaway adolescents, while the current study looks at suicide ideation and not attempts; the differences are significant.

Thus, for adolescent men, being sexually abused at home directly relates to engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1. Recall that Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 refers to adolescents selling drugs, panhandling, getting food out of dumpsters, shoplifting, burglary, theft, and prostitution to support themselves while on the streets. This relationship has been well documented in previous sections and thus only the relationship is presented here.

Adolescent men who engage in Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1 are directly in danger of being victimized on the streets. These are adolescent men who sell drugs, panhandle, get food out of dumpsters, shoplift, commits burglary and theft, and or engage in prostitution are likely beaten, robbed, raped, threatened with a weapon, and/or assaulted with a weapon while on the streets. With 29% of the variance in victimization explained by Deviant Subsistence Strategies #1, this is a serious problem for the adolescent men on the streets. In addition to being victimized, engaging in Deviant Subsistence Strategies is indirectly related to suicide ideation through victimization. That is, not only are adolescent men at serious risk of being victimized, but because of their life-style, being victimized increases their risk of contemplating suicide.

Suicide ideation is also directly predicted by sexual abuse, victimization, and depression with depression having the largest effect. That is, although being sexually abused at home and victimized on the streets places adolescent men at serious risk of contemplating suicide, they are at greater risk because of depression.
The findings are also consistent with the social learning perspective where the absence of adequate parenting contributes to abuse and this causes adolescents to run away and they are then placed at risk for further victimization. Inadequate parenting is also related to suicidal teenagers (Lester, 1987), and in the current model inadequate parenting is referred to as sexual abuse and sexual abuse is directly related to suicide ideation.

In terms of adolescent women, they are directly and indirectly at risk of victimization on the streets because of being sexually abused at home. That is, those adolescent women who are sexually abused at home are at serious risk of being beaten, robbed, raped, threatened with a weapon, and/or assaulted with a weapon while on the streets. In addition, over one third of adolescent women who were victimized, were sexually assaulted at home and were engaged in Deviant Subsistence Strategies to support themselves on the streets. Furthermore, in terms of suicide ideation, the only path that is significant is depression. Thus depressed adolescent women are at risk of committing suicide. This is nothing new, but unlike the research by de Wilde et al., being sexually assaulted at home had no effect on depression or suicide ideation on homeless and runaway adolescents. These findings are puzzling. A explanation may inclde that the relationship between sexual abuse and depression and suicide ideation is mediated through a third variable. For instance, Cutler and Nolen-Hoeksema (1991) argue that adolescent women are more depressed than adolescent men because they respond to depressed moods more by self-focusing and ruminating on the causes of their moods. Adolescent men are more distracting in relations to their moods and thus have a shorter depressic reaction. Because of the nature of the sample (homeless and runaway adolescents) the youths on the streets may be relieved to be away
from home that they are distracting their sexual abuse with life on the streets. Therefore, although some adolescents have been sexually abused at home, the freedom and excitement of life on the streets outweigh underlying depressive symptoms. Hence, there is no relationship between sexual abuse and depression for both adolescent men and women.

Overall, for both adolescent men and women, one fifth of the variance in suicide ideation is explained by depression (adolescent men, $R^2 = .226$; adolescent women, $R^2 = .213$). Adolescent men are more apt to contemplate suicide due to being sexually assaulted at home, victimized on the streets and being depressed while the only significant relationship for adolescent women is depression. Therefore, the model does not work for the adolescent women because of the lack of significant paths going to depression and suicide ideation. The results for adolescent men differs from the findings of Levy and Deykin (1989), Shaffer and Caton (1984), and Simons and Murphy (1985) in the previous studies. One reason may be due to the causal ordering of the variables. That is, none of the researchers predicted deviant survival techniques, and being victimized on the streets are predictors of suicide ideation.

Limitations of the Current Study

The limitations of the current study include self-reports and family origins, statistical significance, and generalization. The following is a discussion of the limitations of the current study.

Although researchers have suggested that self-reports of troubled homeless and runaway adolescents are reliable (Hindelang, Hirschi, and Weiss, 1981; Robertson, Ropers, and Boyer, 1985), there is still reason to question data based
solely on adolescents' self-reports. One must keep in mind that survey data based on self-reports always involves some risk of response bias or social desirability bias (Orpen, 1976; Phillips, 1973). This refers to the tendency for a person to agree with a statement that is socially desirable or disagree with a statement that is socially undesirable. For example, a homeless male might give an answer that he thinks the interviewer wants to hear or give an answer that all of his friends gave. The end result is a distortion in the analysis.

The current research has found that adolescents are coming from very abusive families and researchers do not have the opportunity to corroborate the adolescents' stories with other family members. Obtaining family histories would provide additional information that, in turn, will lead to a better understanding of the homeless and runaway population.

The second limitation lies with the statistical significance of the findings. Since the goal in research is to come as close to explaining 100% of the variance in a model, the current study explains low amounts of variance explained in the models. The current study explained from 19% to 28% of the variance in the dependent variables. Therefore, there is a need to try to explain more variance in the homeless and runaway population.

The final limitation is generalization. Since the sample was drawn from a Midwestern city with a population of about 300,000 people, the current study may not reflect the general United States population of homeless and runaway adolescents. For example, are the same victimizations occurring in Kansas City, Missouri, Omaha, Nebraska, or Wichita, Kansas? There also may be a difference in urban versus rural homelessness. Therefore, further studies should also focus on
the homeless population of additional states to see if the results are consistent in different states.

The following two chapters will discuss homeless and runaway adolescents qualitatively and recommend policy issues and recommendations for further research.
CHAPTER 7: ODYSSEY OF HOMELESS AND RUNAWAY ADOLESCENTS

Twice a week over a period of 24 months in 1989 and 1990 and for a total of 12 to 15 hours at a time, research assistants from Iowa State University accompanied staff members from a shelter for homeless and runaway adolescent as they looked for and offered help to adolescents living on the streets of Des Moines, Iowa. Once these adolescents were located and interviewed, the researchers spent time interacting with adolescents and recording field notes by the researchers. The interaction had no specific agenda, all that the researchers needed was a friendly, caring personality and the willingness to become an advocate for homeless and runaways. Sometimes homeless adolescents rode along and helped, with the staff and research assistants, look for other homeless youths. What follows are accounts of these encounters with homeless and runaway adolescents (in the van, on the streets, by the river, at their place of residence, etc.) and video-taped interviews of two adolescents, who talked about their lives as homeless and runaway adolescents living on the streets of Des Moines. In order to preserve confidentiality, the names of the adolescents, agency workers, and research assistants have been changed. For a comprehensive description of the cast of characters on the initial day of contact see Appendix C. The description of the adolescents is an attempt to help the reader visualize, personalize, and individualize each youth. The accounts consist of three parts; (a) abuse in the home, (b) video-taped discussions with homeless adolescents, and (c) victimization on the streets.
Abuse in the Home

More and more adolescents are leaving their legal place of residence because of abuse, and find themselves abused again once they seek shelter on the streets. Five adolescents talked to Margaret (a street-counselor for a homeless and runaway agency) and Stiffy and/or Lester (research assistants from Iowa State University) about their abusive families.

One night while riding in the agency van looking for homeless and runaway adolescents, Margaret and Stiffy stopped to talk to Harvey on a street corner downtown Des Moines. Harvey (a 19-year-old, 120-130 pound, 5 feet 9 inch White American male with blond hair) is a youth who had been in Margaret's homeless programs before and had left because he did not like the rules at the shelter. At this particular time, he had just run away from home again, and was looking for a place to stay for the night. Harvey has been abused by his mother and her boyfriends on many different occasions, and he did not like to get close to people. When Margaret tried to pat Harvey on the back to give him support, he moved away.

Another runaway youth, Howard (a 16-year-old, 110-120 pound, 5 feet 7 inch White American male with short sandy brown hair), told Margaret and Stiffy that, "One day I went home and my mother told me it was time for me to go." He also reported how his mother's boyfriend would beat him, spank him, and abuse him. These types of stories were not uncommon to hear from adolescents on the streets. Junior (a 15-year-old, 140-140 pound, 5 feet 8 inch White American male with short sandy brown hair) and Nico (a 12-year-old, 90-100 pound, 4 feet 11 inch White American male with short sandy brown hair) had similar stories. Junior had just been in Des Moines for three days. He mentioned that the reason for the move was because his parents were abusing him, and his uncle wanted him to stay in Des
Moines where he could be safe. Nico had simply walked up to Margaret's van and told her that he and his friend had just escaped from Meyer Hall (a detention center for young adolescents located in Des Moines, Iowa). The reason for Nico's stay at Meyer Hall was violent episodes at home. Nico's mother had called the police because he abused her. When Margaret asked Nico why he had hit his mother, he replied "she hit me first, kids have rights too." In too many incidents it is the kids' rights that is violated and exploited by the parents, and the kids see running away as a way out.

Both adolescent men and adolescent women are from abusive home environments. For instance, Terin (a 14-years-old, 110-115 pound, 5 feet 2 inch White American female with shoulder length blond hair and gray eyes) was abused at home and had just run away from The Kenya House (a detention center for females located in Des Moines, Iowa) the same day Margaret and Stiffy found her on the streets. Margaret told Terin that she needed to call her case-worker because the police would be looking for her. While trying to talk Terin into going back, Shannon (a 17-year-old, 110-115 pound, 5 feet 5 inch White American female with medium length brunette hair) joined the group. When Margaret asked Shannon to talk to Terin, Shannon started crying and said, "I can't tell her to go back because I ran from there myself." Meanwhile, Margaret, Stiffy, Shannon and Terin rode around looking for other homeless adolescents while trying to talk Terin into going back. It wasn't until Hardell (an 18-year-old, 140-150 pound, 5 feet 8 inch White American male with blond hair) joined the group that someone could tell her what it feels like living on the streets. Howard said

I have been on the streets since I was 11-years-old. I have been in most of the juvenile facilities in Iowa. I have been in jail, robbed and beaten up on the streets, and it is not a
Both Shannon and Terin sat in silence while Howard told the group that he had to go. Later that night, Terin left to stay with Shannon. The next day other adolescents mentioned that Terin went home with a 20-year-old White American male, who sometimes interacted with the homeless youths, and that was the last Margaret heard from her.

Videotaped Interviews

On two separate occasions, a reporter and news anchor from a near-by TV station (Cathy) and Stiffy had videotaped two adolescents who talked about their experiences on the streets. Cathy had set up a time with Margaret to ride on the van to look for homeless and runaway kids on the streets. That night they ran into Earnest, Jr. (an 18-year-old, 140-150 pound, 5 foot 8 inch White American male with short sandy brown hair) on the streets and he agreed to be interviewed. After Stiffy interview Earnest, Jr. for his research project, Cathy asked Earnest, Jr. some open-ended questions about his life in on the street. The interview went as follows:

Cathy: How old are you?
Earnest, Jr.: I'm eighteen.
Cathy: You're eighteen?
Earnest, Jr.: Yea.
Cathy: And, umm, from listening, you ran away from home a couple of times.
Earnest, Jr.: Yea.
Cathy: How many times?
Earnest, Jr.: Umm, I don't know ... between ... I don't know between 10 or 15, 10 to 15 times.

Cathy: Why?

Earnest, Jr.: Most of the time I didn't wanta follow the rules, and I wanted to do what I wanted to do, and, umm, my mom did not like that so I left, you know I just dropped everything I dropped school, I dropped work, and I left.

Cathy: You talked a little bit about their drinking. Does that come to play at all?

Earnest, Jr.: They, umm, they used to drink when I didn't even hardly remember, but my sisters did. Umm, my parents are alcoholics though. They ... they're recovered, but a lot of times they can come out with their alcoholic attitudes. And, umm, that's basically the same thing.

Cathy: What kind of attitudes?

Earnest, Jr.: Umm, I don't know, a lot of stubbornness between both me and my mom, and a lot of times that got me into a lot of trouble cause I take after her being stubborn. Umm, a lot of times that never worked out.

Cathy: So what do you do ... you run away, go out on the streets? How, I mean, how ... what's a typical day? How do you get by?

Earnest, Jr.: A typical day would be, well, first you find a place to sleep whether it's a park or a friend's house. A lot of times for me it was a friend's house. You know, hey, can you let me crash here for the night. And if I couldn't find anybody, depending on the weather, I'll just go somewhere and sleep. Umm, for a while there I had my car and I was sleeping in that with a buddy of mine. Umm, just wherever you can find, you know, wherever you ended up. Then you go through the day, just, I don't know, going around doing what you wanted to do cause you don't have to listen
to your parents or anything like that. Just go out and do whatever.

Cathy: How about Margaret? You said ... you paid her a pretty high compliment earlier. What did you say? Tell me again.

Earnest, Jr.: Well, umm, if it wasn't for Margaret and her program, (I've been in her program twice), and if it wasn't for the last time, I don't think I'll be where I'm at now. You know, because when I was in the program I had an apartment, you know, and I had a place to live and stuff, and I don't know, I guess ... I guess that really helped me out a lot at the time. You know ... whether ... whether I knew it or not, I was real grateful for it.

Cathy: So now what are you doing?

Earnest, Jr.: I live umm, I live at a boarding house, and I pay rent there, and I work. Umm, hopefully soon I will go back to school and finish off, you know, the last couple credits I got and, umm, go with that.

Cathy: Is education important to you at this time? Are there other things that are more important right now?

Earnest, Jr.: Right ... right now, settling down and getting started is really what I'm concerned about, but eventually once I do get settled down, then I can go back to school, you know, finish up what I need to do, then I'll be OK, I'll be set. But right now financially, I'm not that great and I know I need to be stable. I need to get a stable job, full time.

Cathy: So, you think that working and getting a little money under the pocket ...

Earnest, Jr.: Right.

Cathy: ... then you will have the leisure time to go back ...

Earnest, Jr.: Exactly.
Cathy: ... and get some school. Do you have any idea what you want to do after that?

Earnest, Jr.: Well, umm, it's gonna sound strange, I want to become a police officer. Umm, right now, well ... I ... I just got done with a job being a security officer, and, umm, I really enjoyed it. And I been thinking about it a lot and I want to become a police officer, whether I ... whether I become one or not, you know, that's what I want to shoot for.

Stiffy (a research assistant) interviewed a female adolescent who the male street kids said was the most popular adolescent on the streets, when she first ran away 10 months prior to the interview. Cameo (a 17-year-old, 115-120 pound, 5 feet 5 inch White American female with long sandy brown hair) was full of enthusiasm when she first came out on the streets. On one occasion, when a group of people was sitting in the van, one youth had bent over in the front of the fan and Cameo replied "don't use crack." This made everyone in the van laugh. Cameo's enthusiasm diminished over a five month period. She became involved with drugs, her hair started to fall out, she supposedly had caught some sexually transmitted decease from her boyfriend when they were living in a 2 bedroom apartment with 13 other adolescents. Ten months after initial contact and after two attempts at a drug treatment center, Stiffy found Cameo at a relative's house, and interviewed her on video tape. The following is an account of the interview.

Stiffy: How did you end up on the streets?

Cameo: You didn't say this was an interview.

Kay: (a street-counselor for a homeless and runaway agency) It's not.
Cameo: Umm, because I don't like my mom, and me and my mom don't get along and I don't get along with my dad.

Stiffy: So, how's life on the streets? Is it fun?

Cameo: Well, sometimes ... not really.

Stiffy: How come it's not fun?

Cameo: It is until, until it's time to go to sleep, and then when there's nowhere to sleep its not fun. But then once ... then once you sleep and wake up again, it's the same thing, you know. It's OK until it's time to go to sleep again. But I never actually had to sleep on the streets ... only once, and I didn't sleep, I stayed up. But then after everybody else goes home and goes, to bed then you're there by yourself and that's a bummer.

Stiffy: How do the guys treat you on the streets?

Cameo: Like shit. Well, the ones you go with, they all think they can get a little. But some of them, some of them are really cool.

Stiffy: Did you have to put out to stay?

Cameo: No.

Stiffy: No?

Cameo: I didn't.

Stiffy: You didn't.

Cameo: I didn't!

Stiffy: What about the other girls?

Cameo: I don't know if they have to stay, but I know some like just to put out, but I don't know if it was to stay ... You tricked me, you tricked me!
Stiffy: How did I trick you?
Cameo: Just film!
Stiffy: Are you pregnant?
Cameo: No.
Stiffy: So, you lost the baby? (Cameo nods her head yes)
Stiffy: Sorry.
Cameo: That's OK.
Stiffy: What else do you want to say?
Cameo: Nothing, what else do you want to ask?
Stiffy: How do you like treatment programs?
Cameo: It depends ... I only been to one and it sucked.
Stiffy: Which one?
Cameo: Herald Hughes.
Stiffy: You've been to two.
Cameo: No, I was at Herald Hughes both times.
Stiffy: You've been to OPP (Our Primary Purpose) once.
Cameo: No!
Stiffy: Yes!
Cameo: No, no no no, no n--o, I tried OPP, I tried to get in there.
Stiffy: So, what's wrong with the treatment center?
Cameo: That one just sucks I guess I'm not 26, married, have kids, and drink, because I have kids, and 'cause my husband and 'cause my bills.

Stiffy: You have a husband.

Cameo: Now, what I just say? Because I'm not 26 and over, married and have kids. It's like I couldn't relate to those people and then I tried to go to OPP and it didn't work because you have to have an authority figure to put you in there, understand. That make sense to you?

Stiffy: So, are kids off into drugs on the streets? How are they surviving on the streets? Economically, how are they getting money?

Cameo: Lots of different ways. Some of them sell drugs. Some of them, the guys most ... the girls, a lot of the girls ... it's funny because a lot of the girls usually have somewhere to stay ... it's the guys. But then a guy hooks up with a girl and the girl takes him home and then they're OK for the night and when they get tired of that girl, sleeping with that girl, then they'll leave and find a new one.

Stiffy: The girls actually have places of their own?

Cameo: Not maybe of their own, but like their parents, and that they're like always somewhere ... not always, but most of the time there is more of a chance, I can't explain it. A girl has more of a chance to have somewhere to go. They like to hang out there mostly for fun, you know, and they ... at night usually have somewhere to go, one place or another. It's the guys that have the problem.

Stiffy: So, what happens when there are 25 kids in a 2 bedroom apartment?

Cameo: Shit happens.

Stiffy: What goes own?
Cameo: You hardly ever sleep, you hardly ever eat, everybody ... one person gets sick, everybody gets sick. Everybody gets into fights, the apartment gets torn up and you get kicked out.

Although adolescents were frequently kicked out of places, they would soon find other places with the same results occurring; a few months down the road everyone would get kicked out. A few of the places where homeless and runaway adolescents were found in Des Moines include:

- city parks
- by the Des Moines River
- South Ridge Mall
- Merle Hay Mall
- 15th Street and High
- East 14th Street and Euclid Avenue
- 672 17th Street
- 706 East 9th Street
- 1902 Woodlawn Avenue
- etc...

Victimization on the Streets

Although some adolescents may say that they are having too much fun on the streets at go home, it is still a violent environment. In other words, when adolescent men and women become a part of street life, they soon find that living one's private life in public greatly increases the risk of serious victimization
(Hindelang, Gottfredson, and Garafola, 1978; Windle, 1989). Spending time on the streets also increases the likelihood of affiliation with deviant peers who serve as socialization agents for antisocial behaviors including the exploitation of one another (Whitbeck and Simons, 1990). The following are accounts of the victimization that adolescent men and women unfortunately encountered while on the streets in Des Moines.

Two homeless White American males found life on the streets not a piece of cake as some adolescents portray it to be. Tony (a 17-year-old, 140-150 pound, 5 feet 5 inch White American with short black hair) had a violent encounter with five Asian males.

One day I was walking and one Asian guy came up to me from behind and started a fight and four other joined in. They cracked some bones in my hand but I'm OK.

Another adolescent male had the same experience as Tony's a month later. Nick (an 18-year-old, 160-170 pound, 5 feet 9 inch White American with long sandy blond hair) was attacked with a base ball bat.

I was walking and some Asians came up from behind and one hit me on the legs with a bat. They also broke my wrist with the bat.

Some adolescents are victimized by non associate, some by their peers and still others are victimized by both peers and non associates. Curtis (a 17-year-old, 140-150 pound, 5 feet 6 inch White American male with short brown hair) had been beaten up twice by two different friends at their place of residence on the streets. The first incident happens when Sam (a 17-year-old, 155-165 pound, 5 feet 8 inch White American male with blond hair and gray eyes) threatened to beat up Curtis
because Curtis was pushing Paquita for flirting with Sam. Curtis then pulled a gun on Sam, but Sam took the gun away and proceeded to beat up Curtis. Exactly one week later, Sunny (a 17-year-old, 160-170 pound, 5 feet 9 inch White American male with long sandy blond hair) had beaten up Curtis in the same apartment but he would not give a reason why. After the second violent act, Curtis left the apartment to live with some friends on the other side of town.

Another incident involved a homeless adolescent woman name Shanell. Shanell (an 18-year-old, 115-120 pound, 5 feet 8 inch White American female with long blond hair and beige eyes) met Stiffy one night downtown Des Moines. During their conversation, Shanell had been on the streets since she was 11 years old. Two weeks before, she had been released from the hospital, where she was sent after being beat up by her boyfriend who had broken some of her ribs. She was with an adolescent woman name Barbara (a 15-year-old, 120-125 pound, 5 feet 2 inch White American female with long brunette hair) who had been on the streets for about three weeks. Shanell wanted to make sure that what happen to her did not happen to Barbara. Two days later, Barbara, with three other peers, and thinking that she was going to one of the girls' mother's house, was taken to Union Park at two o'clock in the morning and beaten up. Barbara had called Stiffy from the hospital and told him what had happened. She said she had been beaten two days before, and was going to be in the hospital for two more days because her face was swollen on one side from the beating. When asked what happened she replied,

Two people held me while Stacy hit me in the face. After I got away, I ran to a neighbor's house to call for help, but I could only see out of one eye. It was about 2 a.m. in the morning.
The word on the streets was that Stacy (a 15-year-old, 90-95 pound, 4 feet 10 inch White American female with long hair) was mad at Barbara for being at the apartment with Stacy's boyfriend. It turns out that Nick had sexual intercourse with Barbara on numerous occasions and that Barbara had left the apartment to stay with her grandmother because, according to Kay (a homeless street counselor), "she was sore from having sex too much." A couple of days later, Stacy entered the apartment and had sexual intercourse with Nick, but she soon left for supposedly the same reason. Two weeks later, both girls ended up at the apartment at the same time. The result was Barbara being beaten up by her peers.

Even pregnant adolescent women are not immune to violence on the streets. Six adolescent females confessed that they were pregnant. Of the six, three reportedly had miscarriages because physical abuse on the streets. Jaquita (a 17-year-old, 100-105 pound, 5 feet four inch White American female with shoulder length blond hair), Queena (a 17-year-old, White American female with long sand blond hair), Paquita (a 18-year-old, 100 pound, 4 feet 10 inch White American female with long blond hair), Fay (a 16-year-old, 125-130 pound, 5 feet 9 inch White American female with long brown hair), Rita Kay (a 18-year-old, 175-180 pound, 5 feet 5 inch White American female with long sandy brown hair), and Cameo all were pregnant by homeless or runaway males. Of the six, Jaquita, Paquita, and Cameo had miscarriages because of physical violence. Jaquita lost her child because her boyfriend beat her; Cameo had beaten Paquita for lying too much, and Paquita lost the child; and Cameo lost her child as a result of being beaten with sticks by two girls who were reportedly friends of Paquita. Physical abuse on the streets devastating, but the problem is increased when pregnancy is higher among homeless adolescents than non homeless adolescent women (Price, 1987).
Some homeless adolescents are beaten by both peers and non-associates. Shannon (a 17-year-old, 110-115 pound, 5 feet 5 inch White American female with medium length brunette hair), who had spent the last year in a detention center for adolescent women, was beaten by two African American males for her black leather coat. According to Shannon,


two black guys came up from behind and one said 'give me the coat, bitch.' I said 'no' and he said it again, and then hit me in my chest and my face. But they didn't get my coat.

On another occasion, Cameo and Paquita, among others, wanted to beat up Shannon because they felt that she lied about them too much. That night Shannon stayed away from the girls until their anger subsided.

Another incident occurred where one of the adolescent women was not only raped on the streets, but beaten up by her peers ten days later Denise (a 16-year-old, 100-105 pound, 5 feet 4 inch White American female with long blond hair and braces) was raped by an African American male. The article in the Des Moines Register, Tuesday, June 26, 1990, reported the incident as follows:

A 16-year-old Des Moines girl was raped at an east-side residence early Monday, according to Des Moines police. The girl met the man in the 1200 block of Sixth Avenue. Police say they have the name of a suspect in the case, but no arrest had been reported by Monday night.

What the article did not say was what had actually occurred. Apparently, Denise's best friend had told two brothers that she could get Denise over to their house for sex for $100.00. They had told Denise that they were going to the park to smoke some dope, but instead they went to the brothers' house. While Denise's best friend
was in another room having sexual intercourse with one of the brothers, the other was raping Denise. He violated her with a pop bottle, a vibrator, and his penis vaginally and anally. Although Denise did go to the hospital and filed a report, nothing became of the case. Ten days later, Denice was beaten twice for lying by Cameo and Paquita. As a result of the beating by Cameo and Paquita, Denise had to go to a dentist to have her braces repaired because the wires had broken.

Most homeless or runaway adolescents stay in groups. Some even give themselves names like "Lost Boys," "Lost Girls," "Young and Wasted," "Young and Wasted Girls," "Renegades," etc. These groups were formed mostly for emotional and physical needs and refuge. However even adolescents in groups encounter life-threatening situations. One night in downtown Des Moines, the Renegades found themselves in a life-threatening situation. Sean (an 18-year-old, 165-175 pound, 5 feet 10 inch White American male with long blond hair) who was the leader of the Renegades, Derek (a 19-year-old, 180-190 pound, 5 feet 10 inch White American male with shoulder length sandy brown hair) who was second in command, Paul (a 17-year-old, 140-150 pound, 5 feet 10 inch White American male with long brown hair) Sunny, and Nick had a run-in with a gang called "The Crips."

Nick explained the incident as follows:

Paul was walking downtown and five Crips members started yelling about his colors. Paul headed to the skywalk for help. He told us [Nick, Sean, Derek, and Sunny] that some Crips were after him, and the five of us went looking for the Crips. As soon as we stepped outside, the Crips were waiting for us and one of them said 'give me the gun' and pointed it at Sunny. The gun misfired, and Sunny got mad, and we started fighting, and the Crips ran. They came back later after fixing the gun and shot at us but no one was hit, and they came by the apartment and shot out a window later that night.
Although none of the males ever got hurt in the incident with the "Crips," the group did disband two months later with most of the members going separate ways.

The current research provides evidence that adolescent men and women come from abusive families and are victims of some form of abuse again while on the streets. Adolescent men and women are leaving home and once on the streets beaten, raped, and shot at by both their peers and non-associates. Whether an adolescent is alone or with a group, while living on the streets, abuse seems to find them. Maybe one day the homeless and runaway adolescents with either survival on the streets becoming productive citizens or go home to an improved non-abusive family environment and stay away from life-threatening situations.
CHAPTER 8: POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Street kids and other imperiled youngsters need the same things all children strive on. More than anything, they need love: one-to-one and unconditional from a dependable adult, their very own family of sorts. They need roots, security, protection, commitment, understanding, and a great deal more patience than the most trying of typical kids. They need opportunities and choices (Webber, 1991:240).

Since the first Runaway and Homeless Act of 1974 mandated shelter for 15 days and the implementation of full-service shelters with social workers, crisis counselors, and public health nurse as staff (Rotheram-Borus, Koopman, and Ehrhardt, 1991), the trend has been that shelters have been staffed with just counselors, while the social worker and public health nurses are a part of different agencies. In the 1990s, mistakes by agencies are made when helping homeless and runaway adolescents the assumption is that all adolescents have the same problem and then implement one program to eradicate the problem, i.e., shelters. In any arena where there is a social problem, no one solution can eradicate that problem. There must be multiple solutions to help homeless and runaway adolescents with each adding to the success of the others. Agencies should focus on what that individual’s problem(s) and needs are. Typically, homeless and runaway adolescents have a constellation of problems that may include:

- need for temporary shelter.
- inadequate food and nutrition.
- shortage of clothing.
- sexual victimization, especially among homeless women.
- criminal and legal problems, including police harassment.
- poverty and inadequate financial assistance.
- poor physical health and inadequate medical service.
- drinking problems and alcoholism.
- mental health problems and disorders.
* negative or low self-esteem.
* low self-confidence.
* social isolation and the absence of a supportive social network.
* absence of day activities and programs.
* absence of leisure and recreational opportunities.
* poor work skills and the need for job training.
* employment needs.
* permanent housing needs.
* a valued and personally meaningful social role (Morse, 1992:4-5).
* suicide ideation.
* physical victimization.

According to adolescents on the streets, the one problem they do not need is bureaucratic authorities who are "do-gooder and mind-fuckers" (Webber, 1991:240).

In essence, what they want are:

* readily available food and shelter.
* program counselors that are true and stick to their word.
* program that has shelters to treat them like humans instead of prisons.
* positive role models.
* additional programs that offer assistance.
* counselors on the street looking for youths (Fleming, 1992:32).

Therefore, helping agents must remember that these adolescents may resist them because they are coping with untreated past life experiences. If an agency finds a runaway, the last thing that adolescent wants to hear is that his or her parents have been called and that he or she is going back home. If an adolescent is on the streets, it's a good indication that something is wrong at home. It goes beyond simple lack of communication or parent-teenager disagreements (Janus, McCormack, Burgess, and Hartman, 1987). Family problems may include serious family stress, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, alcohol abuse,
spousal abuse, etc. The chance of an adolescent running away greatly improves if
the family environment is disorganized. In addition, an adolescent may run away
due to rigid rules and poor parenting practices. Having had these conditions at
home, no homeless or runaway adolescent wants to be in a shelter that reminds
him or her of their family rigid rules and poor parenting practices.

It is paramount that the professionals who contact adolescents on the streets,
whether they are police officers, social workers, nurses, or street counselors, should
initially try to meet the adolescents physical needs of food, health care, and shelter if
possible (Janus, McCormack, Burgess, and Hartman, 1987). Then the professional
can determine find out the adolescent's situation on the street: why is he or she on
the street? Since family abuse can take many forms ranging from outright abuse to
neglect, adolescents from dysfunctional families are often better off if they leave
their homes, rather than to stay in a family with few resources to solve the family
problems (Bucy and Obolensky, 1990). Moreover, the longer adolescents are on
the streets, the more they become street smart and learn street survival. When
professionals help these youths they should always take this into consideration.
Putting them in a very structured youth shelter will only result in the adolescent
leaving the program or being kicked out for violation of the rules.

Homeless and runaway adolescent men and women need true advocates to
help them and their situation. Too many times homeless and runaway adolescents
on the streets are told that they need more structure than the present program
implements. Too many times homeless and runaways are told that the shelter from
which they seek help is full. Too many times adolescents are told that they have to
find a job in a couple of weeks, but without transportation, help to obtain
transportation or they are kicked out of the program. Too many times shelters are
looking for the homeless or runaway adolescent who will make the program look good. There needs to be more youth shelters and outreach programs to help homeless adolescents and chronic runaways who may be street smart but have a multiple of other problems. The following policy recommendations are not exhaustive of all the possibilities for helping homeless and runaway adolescents, but are many ways that can help the present situation.

Policy Recommendations

1) Priority should go to the care of those most in need (Robertson, 1992). Some agencies may choose an adolescent with whom they feel they can work as opposed to an adolescent who has been on the streets for a year. An agency based on helping adolescents should never screen their clients to see who can make it in the program to the point that it is discriminating against others. Homeless and chronic runaways on the streets need alternative, safe, residential environments.

2) There should be agencies that have a sub-program that can service those adolescents who are unable to get into their program.

3) Agencies should meet the needs of homeless and runaway adolescents (Fleming, 1992). When adolescents are in shelters, it is the duty of the staff to see that the adolescents have food, clothing, and proper shelter.

4) Agency programs should be tailored to meet the needs of the individual (Robertson, 1992; Fleming 1992). Since every individual has his/her own identity, no adolescent should feel that he/she does not fit in a program.

5) Agencies should establish realistic links with other resources in the community (Robertson, 1992; Fleming 1992), by finding job opportunities at
establishments such as McDonalds, Wendy, and Burger King, for adolescents who are still in school. For adolescents who have GEDs or who have graduated early, employment should be solicited for permanent positions where the adolescent can eventually survive on his/her own. Agency staff should have a working network for these types of positions. The hope is that by finding employment homeless and runaway adolescents can offset prostitution and criminal activities for immediate financial support and peer recognition. There also needs to be some alternative education in order for adolescents to achieve economic independence. In addition, the agency should establish a transportation system for adolescents in terms of school and employment. Other service intervention to help the homeless and runaway adolescents includes:

* Arrange for sufficient shelter beds and allow greater flexibility regarding length of stay.
* Create a continuum of living accommodations for youths having no viable homes to return. These accommodations would include shelter beds, long-term residential housing, and ...transitional living services.
* Use trained staff members and case managers capable of assessing the needs of youth and rendering sophisticated decision about issues such as the implementation of family therapy with possible reunification, referral for psychiatric evaluation, and linkage with other specialized service providers for those with special need.
* Provide a range of family, group, and individual treatment modalities including crisis intervention, short-term family and individual therapy, parenthood training, and treatment for substance abuse disorders.
* Create outreach services in the shelters to treat the youths' physical and mental health needs and link these services with physicians and hospital.
* Offer academic tutoring and vocational counseling.
* Make legal and advocacy services accessible.
* Develop ongoing research and assessment of the program and population (Robertson, 1992:294)
6) Agencies should have staff members with a working knowledge of the unique problems of the homeless and runaway population. This would include knowing the cultural and ethnic realities of the community and its homeless population.

7) Agencies should help build a rapport with homeless and runaway adolescents. In addition, agencies should work with the police to build a relationship with the adolescents. This is important because adolescents are harassed by the police and vice versa. Some police do not believe that an adolescent has been victimized and may not believe their story or take it seriously (i.e., aggravated assault, rape, or suicide attempts). Curbing this type of behavior is essential to relationships among street counselors, police, and homeless and runaway adolescents.

8) The agency should have a policy of helping adolescent rape victims. For example, Rotheram-Borus, Koopman, and Ehrhart (1991:1188) suggest the following for homeless and runaway adolescents who are on rape:

* They [must] involve a minimum of ten [counseling] sessions.
* A major component of the training is assertiveness and coping skills training and acquisition of knowledge and positive attitude toward safe acts.
* The individual's personal risk behaviors are identified, ranked in order of risk, and systematically addressed.
* Ongoing support for behavior change in actively structured (e.g., through group meeting to enhance peer support and social norm for safe acts).
* Refers youths to ongoing comprehensive care as part of the AIDS prevention program. It is assumed that if homeless youths do not know where or when they will receive their next meal or bed they are unlikely to be concerned about developing AIDS 5 to 10 years in the
future...A depressed or suicidal young person is unlikely to worry about safe sexual or drug behavior.

9) Agencies should concentrate on strengthening the nurturing and supportive functions of the family (Simons and Murphy, 1985.430). Some adolescents may think about suicide because of their current family relationship.

10) Agencies should provide immediate relief from the stress homeless and runaway adolescents have experienced while living on the streets. Since some adolescents may be into drugs while on the streets, relief must counter the euphoria they seek via drugs and alcohol (Janus, McCormack, Burgess, and Hartman, 1987).

11) Homeless and runaway adolescents need multidimensional treatment for their manifestation of any chronic post-traumatic stress disorder, drug problem, mental health problems, etc.

12) Staff at any agency should promote self-confidence and self-esteem within the adolescents.

13) Agencies should try to implement free recreational programs with other agencies (i.e., YMCA, YWCA, etc.).

14) Agencies helping homeless and runaway adolescents should help the adolescent to confront his/her problems as well as to disclose his/her problems. For an agent to expect any homeless or runaway adolescent to do this he or she must disclose to the agent. The homeless or runaway adolescent needs to feel mutual respect between him/her and the agency staff.

15) Agencies should be encourage to engage in ongoing research to evaluate the efficiency of the interventions being used and make adjustments for the future.
Summary of Recommendations

In summary, agencies, in an effort to be advocates for homeless and runaway adolescent men and women on the streets, should help those most in need, have a program that is structured to service those adolescents unable to get into their program, meet the needs of homeless and runaway adolescents in the program and on the streets, be flexible to tailor a program to meet the needs of the individual, establish realistic links with other resources in the community, have staff members with a working knowledge of the unique problems of the homeless and runaway population, build a rapport with homeless and runaways adolescent as well as with the police, have a policy of helping adolescents who are raped, assaulted, suicidal, or at risk of contracting the AIDS virus, provide immediate relief from the stress homeless and runaway adolescents have experience while living on the streets, have multidimensional treatment plans for their manifestation of any chronic post-traumatic stress disorder, drug problem, mental health problems, ect., promote self-confidence and build self-esteem within the adolescents, implement free recreational programs with other agencies, i.e., YMCA. YWCA, and help the adolescent confront their problems as well as disclose their problems. It is no easy task to help all homeless and runaway adolescents on the streets, but every little bit helps. No one solution will eradicate a social problem.

Future Research

In dealing with any social problem, implementing one solution most likely will not eradicate problem. Therefore, future research should involve multiple mitigating circumstances among homeless and runaway adolescents. The following are
suggested research considerations, but by no means should future research be limited to the following suggestions.

1) Use a blend of quantitative and qualitative research strategies. This will give more insight on the problems faced by homeless and runaway adolescents.

2) Study group comparisons between the chronically homeless and runaway adolescents with the rest of the homeless and runaway population.

3) Collaborate data collection with additional states. For instance, four Midwestern states (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, because of their location to each other) can collaborate on data collection in an effort to increase our knowledge and prevalence of homeless and runaway adolescent population.

4) There should be an attempt, with the adolescents' permission, to contract parents and/or siblings for interviews. There should also be some monetary compensation for the interview. The only drawback of this type of research would be that the adolescent might give fake telephone numbers and addresses. If adolescents agree, research has shown that when most adolescents runaway from home they generally stay in the same area (Crystal, 1986; Ferran and Sabatini, 1985), thus interviews are possible.

5) Research should focus on the psychological adjustments adolescent go through after leaving an abusive home environment for an abusive street environment.

6) Research should focus on the mental health problems homeless and runaway adolescents encounter as a result of leaving an abusive family environment for an abusive street environment.

7) Research should focus on surveying and interviewing homeless and runaway adolescents living in the streets, parks, by rivers, in alleys, etc., in an
attempt to go beyond clinical, juvenile detention facilities, and youth shelter data samples.

8) Future research should concentrate on discovering other variables not considered in the current study. For example, suicide ideation was explained by victimization, sexual abuse, and depression for adolescent men while only depression explained suicide ideation for the adolescent women. Therefore, other variables may use to find other relations for both adolescent men and women on suicide.

With the addition of the previous eight research recommendations a more detailed and salient history of the adolescents is the objective. From this information policies can be introduced to help eradicate the problem of homeless and runaway adolescents incur.

The final chapter includes the summary and conclusion of the current study.
CHAPTER 9: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This chapter will focus on summarizing the major points in the previous chapters and render implications for future research.

While reviewing the history of homeless and runaway adolescents, there has been a shift from adolescents running away because they are from inadequate home environments, as in the 1930s and 1940s to adolescents having personality problems and psychopathologies, as in the 1950s and 1960s. Since the 1970s, the shift has moved back to inadequate home environments, thus the theoretical focus of the current study is on how ineffective parenting techniques set in motion negative future results for adolescents.

Theoretically, Patterson and associates' social learning approach was applied, which emphasizes that ineffective parent techniques relate to antisocial children and delinquency. Although all parents should engage in effective parenting techniques, homeless and runaways adolescent men and women do not always have that option, because they are coming from ineffective parenting households. Ineffective parenting can range from lack of or poorly defined house rules to physical, sexual, and or emotional abuse. When abuse occurs in a parent-child relationship, among the possible outcomes are escape or reciprocal abuse, or both. Large numbers (61%) of adolescent men and women are leaving their homes because their parents are too strict, but having strict parents is not the only reason for this behavior. They are also leaving because of abuse. The current study found that, contrary to popular belief, more adolescent women are running away from home because of physical and sexual abuse, although both adolescent women and men are equally running away because of violence in the home.
In the current study, the individual (homeless and runaway adolescents) was the unit of analysis. Four models were hypothesized in the research. The dependent variables include aggravated assault, rape, AIDS-risk, and suicide ideation. Aggravated assault was measured by a single question asking if the adolescent had been assaulted with a weapon while on the streets. Rape was measured by asking if the adolescent had been sexually assaulted while on the streets. AIDS-risk was measured by prostitution and intravenous drug use. Suicide ideation was measured by asking four statements to see if the adolescent has thought about committing suicide.

The data were collected in a variety of ways ranging from finding adolescents in parks and by rivers, to agencies finding and setting up interviews, to snowball sampling.

Results did confirm what previous the literature concludes with some additions. Adolescents who are thrust into street life while not being prepared for such an environment develop emotional, financial, and physical problems. Once on the streets adolescents have to find ways to survive. They have to survive in a world were victimization becomes a regular part of life's experiences. It is a life where 20% are robbed, almost 50% are beaten, 50% are threatened with a weapon, 35% are assaulted with weapons, and 37% of adolescent women are raped while living on the streets.

They soon find that with life on the streets is, freedom to do whatever one wants and with whomever, including sexual intercourse. Homeless and runaway adolescent men and women engage in high levels of sexual intercourse while on the streets. Some adolescents have reported having sexual intercourse once or twice a
day or 60 times in two months, with over half not using condoms or any other type of birth control or contraceptives.

Unfortunately, the future may be the last thing on the adolescent's mind when faced with more pressing problems such as where he or she is going to sleep that night, or what he or she will eat or what area is best to stay away from in order to stay safe.

Victimization is hard to escape once on the streets. Homeless and runaway adolescent men and women soon find themselves assaulted with a weapon (aggravated assault), raped, at risk of contracting AIDS, and some contemplating committing suicide while on the streets. They get up when they want, get a job when they want, go home (street home) when they want, go to bed when they want, but they cannot decide when they are victimized or by whom. Adolescent men and women assaulted with a weapon directly relates to their peer group and their deviant survival techniques utilized to survive on the streets. Although adolescent women are the targets for most of the physical and sexual abuse at home, it is not same on the streets. Adolescent men are at most at risk of being assaulted with a weapon and the adolescent women, just like the rest of the women in society, are raped more. Both adolescent men and women are at risk of contracting AIDS due to being abused at home and the survival techniques they use; the only exception is that it is worse for the adolescent men the longer they are on the streets. In addition, although both adolescent men and women contemplate suicide, with adolescent men doing so because of being sexually assaulted at home, victimized on the streets and being depressed while the adolescent women contemplate suicide because of depression. This differs from previous findings and warrants future research to test the reliability of the current study.
In conclusion, although living on the streets puts all homeless people at risk of victimization, the personal resources homeless adolescent men and women bring to their adaptation to life on the streets, and their choice of survival techniques affect their vulnerability for serious victimization. The current study indicated that a history of physical and/or sexual abuse and adopting deviant subsistence strategies exacerbated risk of aggravated assault, rape, contracting AIDS, and indirectly contemplating suicide, for adolescent men only. A history of family abuse strongly affected peer group affiliation, deviant subsistence strategies, and victimization on the streets. Such background places adolescent men and women at greater risk for aggravated assaults, rapes, contracting AIDS, and for adolescent men, suicide. The findings supported a social learning explanation of serious victimization of homeless and runaway adolescents. Abusive family background put into motion a negative chain of events that promoted high risk interactions and behaviors.

Homelessness is a monstrosity that leaves enduring scars. Repeated victimization can produce emotional and physical problems, extreme passiveness, and isolation. Since research is the gift to policy, future research should concentrate on discovering other variables not considered in the current study and collecting data from small and larger towns and cities. Getting the most salient information is a key to helping the homeless and runaway adolescents.
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school?" "How much longer do you have?" "What are you?" and "Aren't you finished yet?" I'm finished.

Most of all I give thanks to my beautiful wife, Catherine Elizabeth French Terrell, and our wacky and crazy children, Cameo Elizabeth and Nathaniel Rasean Terrell. To our children, thanks for the emotional drive you both have been giving me to finish school. To my wife, Catherine, words can not express how I feel about you and the support you have given me at Iowa State University. I think I will let my actions after graduation do the talking for me.
RUNAWAY YOUTH SURVEY

ID#________________________

Date_____________________

Youth Characteristics

1. 1 ___ Male    2 ___ female

2. What is your age? (check one).
   1 ___ 11 or younger    5 ___ 15
   2 ___ 12                6 ___ 16
   3 ___ 13                7 ___ 17
   4 ___ 14                8 ___ 18 or older

3. What is your Race/Ethnic origin (check one)?
   1 ___ American Indian/Alaskan Native
   2 ___ Asian or Pacific Islander
   3 ___ Black/Negro -- not of Hispanic origin
   4 ___ White -- not of Hispanic origin
   5 ___ Hispanic

4. What is the last school grade you completed (check one)?
   1 ___ Grade 5 or less    5 ___ Grade 9
   2 ___ Grade 6            6 ___ Grade 10
   3 ___ Grade 7            7 ___ Grade 11
   4 ___ Grade 8            8 ___ Grade 12 or more

5. What is your current school status (check one)?
   1 ___ Attending school (public or private)
   2 ___ Suspended
   3 ___ Expelled
   4 ___ Dropped out
   5 ___ Graduated from high school
   6 ___ Attending alternative school/home bound program
   7 ___ G.E.D.
6. Where did you stay last night?

1 ___ Street
2 ___ With friends
3 ___ With relatives other than parents or step parents
4 ___ With non-custodial parent
5 ___ With natural parent (and step parent)
6 ___ With step parent only
7 ___ Shelter
8 ___ Foster home
9 ___ Residential facility
10 ___ Other

Living Situation/Family

7. Indicate the living situation in which you spent the most time during the past year. (check one)

1 ___ Home with parent(s) or legal guardian
2 ___ Relative’s home
3 ___ Friend’s home
4 ___ Foster home
5 ___ Group home
6 ___ Correctional Institution
7 ___ Independent living situation (self or other youth(s) under 19)
8 ___ On the run/Street
9 ___ Runaway/crisis house (other than the reporting center)
10 ___ Other institution (e.g. boarding school/mental hospital)
11 ___ Other adult (19 or older)

What is the family structure in your primary household?

8. Father Figure (check one)
1 ___ Nature father
2 ___ Adopted father
3 ___ Stepfather
4 ___ Foster father
5 ___ Other relative(s)
6 ___ Other adult male
7 ___ None

9. Mother Figure (check one)
1 ___ Nature mother
2 ___ Adopted mother
3 ___ Stepmother
4 ___ Foster mother
5 ___ Other relative(s)
6 ___ Other adult female
7 ___ None
10. In addition to father or mother figure, indicate the number of other unrelated adults as part of the household. (If none indicate zero "0." Answer both questions.)

______ Male

______ Female

11. How many sibling were living in the household? (check one)

1 ___ 0
2 ___ 1
3 ___ 2
4 ___ 3
5 ___ 4
6 ___ 5
7 ___ 6 or more

Which best describes the type of employment of your parents or step parents in the home in which you have spent the most time?

12. Father Figure
(check all that apply)
1 ___ Full time
2 ___ Part time
3 ___ Seasonally employed
4 ___ Unemployed
5 ___ Retired
6 ___ Fully disabled
7 ___ Public assistance
8 ___ No father figure

13. Mother Figure
(check all that apply)
1 ___ Full time
2 ___ Part time
3 ___ Seasonally employed
4 ___ Unemployed
5 ___ Retired
6 ___ Fully disabled
7 ___ Public assistance
8 ___ No mother figure

14. Which best describes the education of your mother or step mother? (home in which you have spent the most time)

1 ___ Grade school or less
2 ___ Some high school
3 ___ Completed high school
4 ___ Completed high school and received some other training (some college or trade school)
5 ___ College graduate
15. Which best describes the education of your father or step father? (home in which you have spent the most time)

1 ___ Grade school or less
2 ___ Some high school
3 ___ Completed high school
4 ___ Completed high school and received some other training (some college or trade school)
5 ___ College graduate

16. What is the occupation of your mother or step mother mentioned above? (please specify) ____________________________

17. What is the occupation of your mother or step mother mentioned above? (please specify) ____________________________

18. Which of the following best describes the area where your parents or step parents were living when you left?

1 ___ City of over 100,000
2 ___ Suburban community in the city over 100,000
3 ___ Town or small city of 10,000 to 50,000
4 ___ Small town of 2,500 to 10,000
5 ___ Rural non-farm or farm
19. Prior to running away have you ever (answer all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>2-3 times</th>
<th>More than 3 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Talked with a child-welfare worker</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Talked with a school counselor</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Talked with a probation officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Talked with a mental health counselor</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Talked with a substance abuse counselor</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Talked over running away with an adult</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Talked over running away with a friend</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Called a National or local crisis line</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Been in a foster home</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Been in a residential drug or alcohol</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Been in juvenile detention</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Been in a residential group home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Lived with a relative other than your</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parents</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. What were the conditions under which you came to the project? (check one)

1. Runaway
2. Homeless
3. Contemplating running away
4. Came for a non-runaway related reason

21. Were you barred from home or told to leave?

1. Yes
2. No
22. If you answer yes to #21, who barred you from home? (answer 2 if apply)

1 ___ father
2 ___ step father
3 ___ mother
4 ___ step mother
5 ___ foster father
6 ___ foster mother
7 ___ other

23. If runaway or homeless is checked above, how many days have you been away from your legal residence when you came to the project this time? (check 1 day if 24 hours or less) (check one)

1 ___ 1 day
2 ___ 2-5 days
3 ___ 6-10 days
4 ___ 11-20 days
5 ___ 21-50 days
6 ___ over 50 days
7 ___ Not away from legal residence

24. What is the distance between your living situation and the project? (check one)

1 ___ Less than one mile
2 ___ 1 to 10 miles
3 ___ 11 to 50 miles
4 ___ More than 50 miles

25. Your living situation and the project are: (check one)

1 ___ In the same community or county
2 ___ Elsewhere in the same state
3 ___ In a different state
26. Indicate the number of times other than the current runaway episode that you have been away from home at least overnight without the permission of parents or legal guardian. (check one)

1 ___ None       4 ___ 3
2 ___ 1          5 ___ 4
3 ___ 2          6 ___ 5 to 0
7 ___ More than 10

27. Indicate the number of times other than the current runaway episode that you have been in this particular center before. (check one)

1 ___ None       4 ___ 3
2 ___ 1          5 ___ 4
3 ___ 2          6 ___ 5 to 0
7 ___ More than 10

28. What were your reasons for running away? (mark all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
<th>Not Very Important</th>
<th>Not At All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Parents too strict</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Parents physically abusive</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Parents or other adult sexually abusive</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Violence in home</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Parents mentally ill</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Parents did not care about me</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. In trouble at home and afraid to return</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Trouble at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Not passing at school</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Trouble with friends</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Trouble with legal authorities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Looking for excitement</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Went with a friend</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Barred from home</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
29. How often have you run away? __________________________

30. To support yourself since you have been on the streets, have you ever (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Sold drugs</th>
<th>Never 1</th>
<th>Rarely 2</th>
<th>Occasionally 3</th>
<th>Often 4</th>
<th>Always 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Panhandled</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Got food from dumpsters</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Shoplifted</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Broke in and took things from a store, house, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Took money or something else from someone by force</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Sold sexual favors</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

31. Since you have been on the street have you been (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Beaten up</th>
<th>Never 1</th>
<th>Once 2</th>
<th>2 - 3 times 3</th>
<th>More than 3 times 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Robbed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Sexually assaulted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Threatened with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Assaulted with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Proposition for sexual favors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Proposition to break law (stealing, sell drugs, etc)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Hungry 12 hours or more because you could not buy or otherwise obtain food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RELATIONSHIP WITH PARENTS

32. Parents have their own unique way of relating to their kids. A parent's style of parenting sometimes changes over time depending upon what is happening in his or her life. Please indicate the extent to which the following statements describe your relationship with your parents prior to your running away.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Often</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. They find fault with me even when I don't deserve it</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. They try to help me with my problem</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C. They pretty much let me do what I want</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. They nag me about little things</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. They take an interest in where I am going and who I will be with</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. They hit me or threaten to do so</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. They are unpredictable, sometimes punishing me for something and the next time ignoring it</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. They get angry and yell at me</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. They are clam and fair in the way they discipline me</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. They have beaten me up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. They really care about me</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


33. Has an adult relative or foster parent ever (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>2 - 3 times</th>
<th>More than 3 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Thrown something at you in anger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Pushed, shoved, or grabbed you in anger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Slapped you</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Spanked you</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Hit you with something</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Beat you up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Threatened you with a gun or knife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Assaulted you with a gun or knife</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Made a verbal request to you for sexual activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Touched or attempted to touch you sexually</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Engaged in sexual activities with you against your will</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

34. How often have you used each of the following substances during the last two months?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Never 0</th>
<th>Once 1</th>
<th>Two or Three 2</th>
<th>About Weekly 3</th>
<th>Almost Daily 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Beer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Hard liquor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Marijuana (pot, grass)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Cocaine (coke, crack)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Opiates (heroin, morphine)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Amphetamines (speed, black cadillacs, white cross, crystal)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Hallucinogens (LSD, mescaline peyote, acid)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Tranquilizers (librium, valium)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Barbiturates (downers, quaaludes, sopers, red)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
35. When using alcohol or any drug, have you ever had any of the following problems?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>2 - 3 times</th>
<th>More than 3 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Could not remember later what I had done</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Missed school or work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Used more than I had planned</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Got in a argument</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Got in a fight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Got fired from work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Got an OWI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Arrested for possession, purchase or sale of a controlled substance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Other legal difficulties (e.g. arrests for disorderly conduct, assault, etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

36. How has your use of drugs and/or alcohol changed since you left home?

1. Using much less
2. Using a little less
3. Using about the same
4. Using a little more
5. Using a lot more

FEELINGS

Please place a checkmark by the statement which describes you most of the time.

37. 1. I do not feel sad.
     2. I feel blue or sad.
     3. I am blue or sad all the time and I can't snap out of it.
     4. I am so sad or unhappy that I can't stand it.

38. 1. I get as much satisfaction out of things as I used to.
     2. I don't enjoy things the way I used to.
     3. I don't get real satisfaction out of anything anymore.
     4. I am dissatisfied with everything.
39. 1 ___ I am not particularly discouraged about the future.
   2 ___ I feel discouraged about the future.
   3 ___ I feel I have nothing to look forward to.
   4 ___ I feel that the future is hopeless and that things cannot improve.

40. 1 ___ I don't feel disappointed in myself.
    2 ___ I am disappointed in myself.
    3 ___ I am disgusted with myself.
    4 ___ I hate myself.

41. 1 ___ I don't have any thought of harming myself.
    2 ___ I have thoughts of killing myself but I wouldn't carry them out.
    3 ___ I would like to kill myself.
    4 ___ I would kill myself if I could.

42. 1 ___ I can sleep as well as usual.
    2 ___ I don't sleep as well as I used to.
    3 ___ I wake up 1-2 hours earlier than usual and find it hard to get back to sleep.
    4 ___ I wake up several hours earlier than I used to and cannot get back to sleep.

The next few questions concern your plans for the future.

43. How far would you eventually like to go in school?
   1 ___ Finish high school
   2 ___ G.E.D.
   3 ___ Business/Technical school
   4 ___ Go to college
   5 ___ Finish college
   6 ___ Graduate/professional school

44. What do you think your chances are for getting that far?
   1 ___ Poor
   2 ___ Fair
   3 ___ Good

45. What kind of a job would you like to eventually have? (specify)
46. What do you think your chances are of getting that kind of job?

1 ___ Poor
2 ___ Fair
3 ___ Good

47. A. Each school has a few groups of kids who hang around together, usually because they have something in common. For example, a lot of schools have a group of "jocks," "heads," etc. What groups are there in your school? (Probe for names and descriptions.)

B. Where do you think you fit in? (If "none," which comes closest?)

48. Has a close friend of yours ever:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Runaway</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Sold drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Used drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Been suspended from school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Dropped out of school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Shoplifted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Broke in and took things from a store, house, etc</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Took money or something else from someone by force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Sold sexual favors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Been arrested</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Committed suicide</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Assaulted someone with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Been beaten up or injured by a parent or step parent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Been sexually abused</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O. Other ________________</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
49. My parents' religious beliefs have influenced my life

1 ___ Not at all
2 ___ Positively
3 ___ Negatively

If answer to above is 2 or 3:

50. The influence of my parents' religious beliefs on my life has been

1 ___ Minimal
2 ___ Moderate
3 ___ Quite high
4 ___ Very great

51. My own religious beliefs have influenced my life

1 ___ Not at all
2 ___ Positively
3 ___ Negatively

If answer to above is 2 or 3:

52. The influence of my own religious beliefs on my life has been

1 ___ Minimal
2 ___ Moderate
3 ___ Quite high
4 ___ Very great

53. Indicate the number of other runaway shelters you have been in before. (check one)

1 ___ None 4 ___ 3
2 ___ 1 5 ___ 4
3 ___ 2 6 ___ 5 or more
54. How were you referred to the project? (check one)

1 ___ Self referral
2 ___ Parents or legal guardian
3 ___ Juvenile justice system
4 ___ National switchboard
5 ___ Other regional or local hotline
6 ___ School
7 ___ Other runaway shelter
8 ___ Law enforcement
9 ___ Child welfare/Child protective service
10 ___ Other public agency
11 ___ Other private organization
12 ___ Other adult or relative
13 ___ Media

FOR CASEWORKER

55. Is a public or private referral agency paying the project directly to provide services to the youth?

1 ___ Yes
2 ___ No

56. What do the staff cite as the primary problem? (check one)

1 ___ Relationships with parent figure(s) or other adults in the home
2 ___ Relationships with other children or youth in the home
3 ___ School
4 ___ Juvenile justice system
5 ___ Law enforcement
6 ___ Family crisis (e.g., violence, divorce, remarriage)
7 ___ Other personal problem
57. What do the staff cite as special contributing problems? (check as many as apply)

Family situation
1 ___ Sexual abuse by parent figure
2 ___ Physical abuse by parent figure
3 ___ Neglect by parent figure
4 ___ Parent figure has drug/alcohol problem
5 ___ Homosexual parent
6 ___ Parental unemployment
7 ___ Domestic violence
8 ___ Physical or sexual abuse by other family member
9 ___ Family mental health problem
10 ___ Other emotional conflict at home
11 ___ Wants to live in household of other parent figure
12 ___ Physical or sexual abuse by nonfamily member
13 ___ No parental figure
14 ___ None of the above

58. Youth situation
1 ___ Depressed
2 ___ Possibly suicidal
3 ___ Bad grades
4 ___ School attendance/truancy
5 ___ Cannot get along with teachers
6 ___ Learning disability
7 ___ VD
8 ___ Pregnant or suspects pregnancy
9 ___ Alcohol abuse
10 ___ Other health problem/handicap
11 ___ Poor self image
12 ___ In trouble with justice system
13 ___ Prostitution
14 ___ Homosexual/sexual identity issue
15 ___ Custody change
16 ___ None of the above

59. Missing persons status. (check all that apply)

1 ___ An official missing persons reports was filled on the youth's behalf.
2 ___ The youth has been abducted by a parent.
3 ___ The youth has been abducted by a stranger.
4 ___ None of the above.
APPENDIX B: YOUTH SURVEY
YOUTH SURVEY

ID#______________________
Date______________________

Youth Characteristics

1. 1 _____ Male 2 _____ female

2. What is your date of birth? ____________________________

3. What is your Race/Ethnic origin (check one)?
   1 _____ American Indian/Alaskan Native
   2 _____ Asian or Pacific Islander
   3 _____ Black/Negro -- not of Hispanic origin
   4 _____ White -- not of Hispanic origin
   5 _____ Hispanic

4. What is your current school status (check one)?
   1 _____ Attending school (public or private)
   2 _____ Suspended
   3 _____ Expelled
   4 _____ Dropped out
   5 _____ Graduated from high school
   6 _____ Attending alternative school/home bound program
   7 _____ G.E.D.

5. What is the last school grade you completed (check one)?
   1 _____ Grade 5 or less 5 _____ Grade 9
   2 _____ Grade 6 6 _____ Grade 10
   3 _____ Grade 7 7 _____ Grade 11
   4 _____ Grade 8 8 _____ Grade 12 or more
**Living Situation/Family**

6. Indicate the living situation in which you spent the most time during the past year. (check one)

1. Home with parent(s) or legal guardian
2. Relative's home
3. Friend's home
4. Foster home
5. Group home
6. Correctional Institution
7. Independent living situation (self or other youth(s) under 19)
8. On the run/street
9. Other institution (boarding school, mental hospital, youth shelter, etc.)
10. Other adult (19 or older)

What is the family structure in your primary household?

7. Father Figure (check one)  
1. Nature father
2. Adopted father
3. Stepfather
4. Foster father
5. Other relative(s)
6. Other adult male
7. None

8. Mother Figure (check one)  
1. Nature mother
2. Adopted mother
3. Stepmother
4. Foster mother
5. Other relative(s)
6. Other adult female
7. None

Which best describes the type of employment of your parents or step parents in the home in which you have spent the most time?

9. Father Figure (check all that apply)  
1. Full time
2. Part time
3. Seasonally employed
4. Unemployed
5. Retired
6. Fully disabled
7. Public assistance
8. No father figure

10. Mother Figure (check all that apply)  
1. Full time
2. Part time
3. Seasonally employed
4. Unemployed
5. Retired
6. Fully disabled
7. Public assistance
8. No mother figure
11. Which best describes the education of your mother or step mother? (home in which you have spent the most time)

1 ___ Grade school or less  
2 ___ Some high school  
3 ___ Completed high school  
4 ___ Completed high school and received some other training (some college or trade school)  
5 ___ College graduate

12. Which best describes the education of your father or step father? (home in which you have spent the most time)

1 ___ Grade school or less  
2 ___ Some high school  
3 ___ Completed high school  
4 ___ Completed high school and received some other training (some college or trade school)  
5 ___ College graduate

13. What is the occupation of your mother or step mother mentioned above? (please specify)  

14. What is the occupation of your mother or step mother mentioned above? (please specify)  

15. Have you ever (answer all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never 1</th>
<th>Once 2</th>
<th>2-3 times 3</th>
<th>More than 3 times 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Talked with a child-welfare worker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Talked with a school counselor</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Talked with a probation officer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Talked with a mental health counselor</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Talked with a substance abuse counselor</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Talked over running away with a friend</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Talked over running away with an adult</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Called a National or local crisis line</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Been in a foster home</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Been in a residential drug or alcohol treatment program</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Been in juvenile detention</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Been in a residential group home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Lived with a relative other than your parents</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. To support yourself on the streets, have you ever (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never 1</th>
<th>Rarely 2</th>
<th>Occasionally 3</th>
<th>Often 4</th>
<th>Always 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Sold drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Panhandled</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Got food from dumpsters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Shoplifted</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Broke in and took things from a store, house, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Took money or something else from someone by force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Sold sexual favors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Other</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. While on the street have you ever been (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>2 - 3 times</th>
<th>More than 3 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Beaten up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Robbed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Sexually assaulted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Threatened with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Assaulted with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Proposition for sexual favors</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Proposition to break law (stealing, sell drugs, etc)</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Hungry 12 hours or more because you could not buy or otherwise obtain food</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. While on the street have you ever **seen** someone (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>2 - 3 times</th>
<th>More than 3 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Beaten up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Robbed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Sexually assaulted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Threatened with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Assaulted with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Proposition for sexual favors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Proposition to break law (stealing, sell drugs, etc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Get food from dumpster</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
19. Has a parent, foster parent, or an adult relative ever (mark all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Never 1</th>
<th>Once 2</th>
<th>2 - 3 times 3</th>
<th>More than 3 times 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Thrown something at you in anger</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Pushed, shoved, or grabbed you in anger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Slapped you</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Spanked you</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Hit you with something</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Beat you up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Threatened you with a gun or knife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Assaulted you with a gun or knife</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Made a verbal request to you for sexual activity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Touched or attempted to touch you sexually</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Engaged in sexual activities with you against your will</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
20. Now we would like to ask how you feel about the financial situation of the family in which you spent most of your time during the past year. If you spent last year in a foster home or a group home, skip to question 21. For each of the following indicate how much you agree or disagree with the statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. My family has enough money to afford the kind of home we would like to have
B. We have enough money to afford the kind of clothes we should have
C. We have enough money to afford the kind of car we need
D. We have enough money to afford the kind of medical and dental care we need
E. We have enough money to afford the kind of leisure and recreational activities we want to participate in

21. How often have you used each of the following substances during the last two months?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Once or Twice</th>
<th>Two or About Weekly</th>
<th>Almost Daily</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never 0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Beer
B. Hard liquor
C. Marijuana (pot, grass)
D. Cocaine (coke, crack)
E. Opiates (heroin, morphine)
F. Amphetamines (speed, black cadillacs, white cross, crystal)
G. Hallucinogens (LSD, mescaline peyote, acid)
H. Tranquilizers (librium, valium)
I. Barbiturates (downers, quaaludes, sopers, red)

22. Have you ever injected yourself with drugs? Yes ___ No ___
23. If you answered "yes" to question 22, how often have you shared needles when shooting drugs? (circle number that applies)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>Twice</th>
<th>Three</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Daily</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

24. When using alcohol or any drug, have you ever had any of the following problems?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Once</th>
<th>2 - 3 times</th>
<th>More than 3 times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Could not remember later what I had done
B. Missed school or work
C. Used more than I had planned
D. Got in a argument
E. Got in a fight
F. Got fired from work or suspended from school
G. Got an OWI
H. Arrested for possession, purchase or sale of a controlled substance
I. Suffered from severe shaking
J. Heard voices when no one was there
K. Seen things that weren't there
L. Other legal difficulties (e.g. arrests for disorderly conduct, assault, etc)
25. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. I sometimes feel bothered by how much I use drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. My friends think I use drugs excessively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. My relatives think I use drugs excessively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. I haven't always been able to stop using drugs when I wanted to</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. I have gone to a member of my family for help about my use of drugs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>F. I have lost friendships because of my drug use</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Sometimes after using drugs I have been confused for a period of time</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. I have been told by a doctor to stop using drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I. I have sought professional help because of my use of drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26. Have any of the following relatives ever had problems with alcohol or drugs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relative</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Mother</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Father</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Brother</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Sister</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

27. Have you ever been admitted to any of the following because of your use of drugs?

1. ___ Hospital
2. ___ Chemical dependency unit
3. ___ Emergency room
4. ___ Aftercare program

FEELINGS

Please place a checkmark by the statement which describes you most of the time.

28. 1. ___ I do not feel sad.
2. ___ I feel blue or sad.
3. ___ I am blue or sad all the time and I can't snap out of it.
4. ___ I am so sad or unhappy that I can't stand it.
29. 1 I get as much satisfaction out of things as I used to.
    2 I don't enjoy things the way I used to.
    3 I don't get real satisfaction out of anything anymore.
    4 I am dissatisfied with everything.

30. 1 I am not particularly discouraged about the future.
    2 I feel discouraged about the future.
    3 I feel I have nothing to look forward to.
    4 I feel that the future is hopeless and that things cannot improve.

31. 1 I don't feel disappointed in myself.
    2 I am disappointed in myself.
    3 I am disgusted with myself.
    4 I hate myself.

32. 1 I don't have any thought of harming myself.
    2 I have thoughts of killing myself but I wouldn't carry them out.
    3 I would like to kill myself.
    4 I would kill myself if I could.

33. 1 I can sleep as well as usual.
    2 I don't sleep as well as I used to.
    3 I wake up 1-2 hours earlier than usual and find it hard to get back to sleep.
    4 I wake up several hours earlier than I used to and cannot get back to sleep.
34. Each of the following statements describe feelings which you may or may not have. Decide how you feel and choose one of the following responses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. I feel I am a person of worth, at least on an equal basis with others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B. I feel that I have a number of good qualities</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. All in all, I am inclined to feel that I am a failure</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. I am able to do things as well as most other people</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. I feel I do not have much to be proud of</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. I take a positive attitude toward myself</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. On the whole, I am satisfied with myself</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>H. I wish I could have more respect for myself</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I. I certainly feel useless at times</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>J. At times, I think I am no good at all</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

35. Has a close friend of yours ever:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Runaway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Sold drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Used drugs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Been suspended from school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Dropped out of school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Shoplifted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Broke in and took things from a store, house, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Took money or something else from someone by force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Sold sexual favors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Been arrested</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Committed suicide</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Assaulted someone with a weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Been beaten up or injured by a parent or step parent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Been sexually abused</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
36. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

A. My parents would help me if I were to get into serious trouble.  
B. My parents find fault with me even when I don't deserve it.  
C. My parents really care about me.  
D. My parents are dissatisfied (unhappy) with the things I do.  
E. My parents blame me for all their problems.  
F. I wish my parents would treat me more like other kids' parents treat them.  
G. I feel that my parents treat me unfairly.  
H. If someone hits me first I let him/her have it.  
I. When someone makes a rule I don't like, I want to break it.  
J. When I get mad, I say nasty things.  
K. If people annoy me, I tell them what I think of them.  
L. When someone is bossy, I do the opposite of what he/she asks.  
M. If I have to use physical violence to defend my rights I will.  
N. I haven't done well in school.  
O. I am not very good at reading.  
P. I haven't gotten along well with teachers.  
Q. I have often gotten in trouble at school for arguing, fighting or not following the rules.  
R. I am not very good at math.  

37. Are you aware of any gangs that exist in the Des Moines area?  
   1 No  2 Yes  

38. Have you ever been threatened or harassed by the members of a Des Moines gang?  
   1 No  2 Yes, once or twice  3 Yes, several times  

39. Have you ever been asked to join a gang?  
   1 No  2 Yes
40. Are you presently the member of a Des Moines gang?
   1 No ___  IF "NO" SHIP TO QUESTION 45
   2 Yes ___

41. If yes, please indicate the extent to which the following items describe important reasons for belonging to this group?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Not Important</th>
<th>Some What Important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. My friends are members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. I can depend on other members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. We get high together</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. I feel safer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E. I can make money doing things like selling drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. I like the excitement of fighting with other groups and gangs</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. I take pride in belonging to the group</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Members care about and help other</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

42. How long have you been a member?
   1 ___ less than six months
   2 ___ six months to a year
   3 ___ over a year

43. What is the name of your gang? ________________________________

44. Does your gang have chapters in other cities?  1 No ___  2 Yes ___

45. Have you ever experienced sexual intercourse?  Yes ___  No ___

46. About how often have you had sexual intercourse in the past 2 months?
    ____________________________
47. When you had intercourse how often did you or your partner use a condom?
   1 ___ Never
   2 ___ Seldom
   3 ___ Almost every time I had sexual intercourse
   4 ___ Every time I had sexual intercourse

48. What type of birth control do you or your partner use?
   1 ___ None
   2 ___ Condom
   3 ___ Foam, jelly and/or diaphragm or other barrier method
   4 ___ Pill

49. How worried or concerned are you about the possibility of getting AIDS?
   1 ___ Very concerned
   2 ___ A little concerned
   3 ___ Not very concerned
   4 ___ Not concerned at all

50. Have you ever runaway from home?  ___ Yes  ___ No

If "Yes", how many times have you run away? ________

If you are currently away from home without the permission of your parents or guardians and have been gone for 24 hours or more, please answer the following questions:

51. Which of the following best describes the area where your parents or step parents were living before you left.
   1 ___ City of over 100,000
   2 ___ City of 50,000 to 100,000
   3 ___ Town or small city of 10,000 to 50,000
   4 ___ Small town of 2,500 to 10,000
   5 ___ Rural non-farm or farm

52. Were you "barred" from home or told to leave?
   1 ___ Yes  2 ___ No
53. Counting all the times you have runaway from home, how much time would you say you have spent living on your own?

1 ___ Less than one week  
2 ___ 2 - 4 weeks  
3 ___ 1 - 3 months  
4 ___ 4 - 6 months  
5 ___ 7 - 12 months  
6 ___ 12 - 18 months  
7 ___ Over 1 1/2 years

54. How many days have you been away from your legal residence this time?

1 ___ 1 day  
2 ___ 2 - 5 days  
3 ___ 6 - 10 days  
4 ___ 11 - 20 days  
5 ___ 21 - 50 days  
6 ___ over 50 days

55. The living situation you left is:

1 ___ In Des Moines or a suburb of Des Moines  
2 ___ Elsewhere in Iowa  
3 ___ In a different state in the Midwest  
4 ___ Outside the Midwest

56. How many different cities have you stayed in overnight since you have been on the streets, counting all the times you have run away in the past year.
57. What were your reasons for running away? (mark all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
<th>Not At All Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Parents too strict</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Parents physically abusive</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Parents or other adult sexually abusive</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Violence in home</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Parents mentally ill</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Parents did not care about me</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. In trouble at home and afraid to return</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Trouble at school</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Not passing at school</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Trouble with friends</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Trouble with legal authorities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Looking for excitement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Went with a friend</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Barred from home</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C: CAST OF CHARACTERS
Barbara (on the streets)
Long brunette hair
15-year-old White American female
5 feet 2 inches, 120-125 pounds
She was wearing blue jeans, white T-shirt and brown shoes.

Cameo (on the streets)
Long sandy brown hair
17-year-old White American female
5 feet 5 inches, 115-120 pounds
She was wearing black paints, black sweater, black shoes and a jacket with two ear-rings in both ears and one in her nose.

Cathy (anchor and reporter for news station)
Medium length blond hair
28-31 years-old White American female
5 feet 3 inches, 115-120 pounds

Curtis (stayed in abandon building at 1702 Woodlawn)
Short sandy brown hair
17-year-old White American male
5 feet 6 inches, 140-150 pounds
He was wearing light colored jeans that were cut just below the buttock's area on both sides, a brown shirt and tennis shoes without socks.
**Denise** (on the streets)
Long blond hair with braces
16-year-old White American female
5 feet 4 inches, 100-105 pounds
She was wearing light blue jeans, a gray sweater pink shirt, white socks, and white shoes.

**Derek** (member of the Renegades, staying at YMCA)
Shoulder length sandy brown hair
19-year-old White American male
5 feet 10 inches, 180-190 pounds
He was wearing blue jeans, socks with tennis shoes, his colors and brown shirt.

**Earnest, Jr.** (stayed at the YMCA)
Short sandy brown hair
18-year-old White American male
5 feet 8 inches, 140-150 pounds
He was wearing blue jeans, black booths, black gloves, black hat, blue/black sweater, gray trench coat, and glasses.

**Fay** (stays with a non-relative)
Long brown hair
16-year-old White American female
5 feet 9 inches, 125-130 pounds
She was wearing blue jean overalls and a white sweater, no shoes.
Harden (put at A-l motel by homeless program)
Short sandy brown hair
16-year-old White American male
5 feet 7 inches, 110-120 pounds
He was wearing blue jeans, blue jean jacket, T-shirt, black sweat top, and tennis shoes with no socks.

Harvey (stayed on the streets)
Blond hair
19-year-old White American male
5 feet 9 inches, 120-130 pounds
He was wearing a black T-shirt, blue sweater, blue jean jacket, blue jean pants, and Reebok tennis shoes.

Howard (stayed at YMCA)
Blond shoulder length hair
18-year-old White American male
5 feet 8 inches, 140-150 pounds
He was wearing a tan shirt, blue jeans, blue jean jacket, a black hat, and tennis shoes.

Jaquita (stayed in abandon building at 1702 Woodlawn)
Shoulder length blond hair
17-year-old female
5 feet 4 inches, 100-105 pounds
She was wearing a multi-color shirt and paints set, and tennis shoes.
Junior (staying with uncle)
Short sandy brown hair
15-year-old White American male
5 feet 8 inches, 140-150 pounds
He was wearing blue jeans and tennis shoes only.

Nick (stayed at 672 17th street)
Long sandy blond hair
18-years-old White American male
5 feet 9 inches, 160-170 pounds
He was wearing blue jeans, cut off, only

Nico (runaway from Meyer Hall)
Short brown hair
12-year-old White American male
4 feet 11 inches, 90-100 pounds
He was wearing a T-shirt, red and black checker shirt, blue jeans, socks and tennis shoes.

Paquita (staying at the YWCA)
Long blond hair
19-year-old White American female
4 feet 10 inches, 100 pounds
She was wearing a blue sweater, leather jacket, blue jeans and tennis shoes.
Paul (Renegade, stayed with teen-age friends)
Long brown hair
17-year-old White American male
5 feet 10 inches, 140-150 pounds
He was wearing a white T-shirt, blue jeans, blue jean jacket and tennis shoes.

Queena (stayed at the YWCA)
Long sandy blond hair
17-years-old White American female
She was wearing a gray and white sweater, jean jacket, blue jeans, and tennis shoes.

Rita Kay (seven months pregnant, stayed at the YWCA)
Long sandy brown hair
18-year-old White American female
5 feet 5 inches, 175-180 pounds
She was wearing short white paints, white shirt, and tennis shoes.

Sam (stayed on 15th and High)
Blond hair, gray eyes
17-year-old White American male
5 feet 8 inches, 155-165 pounds
He was wearing a brown leather jacket, blue jeans, brown and white poker dot shirt, and black shoes.
Sean (Leader of the Renegades, staying with a friend)
Long blond hair with a beard
18-year-old White American male
5 feet 10 inches, 165-175 pounds
He was wearing a multi-color T-shirt, black and beige paints, black shoes, black trench coat, black and white cloth tied around his legs, 4 ear-rings in his left ear, 2 in his right and 1 in his nose, and a watch with about 12 different color rubber bands on his wrist.

Shanell (stays at 17th street apartment)
Long blond hair with beige eyes
18-year-old White American female
5 feet 8 inches, 115-120 pounds
She was wearing a black halter top, black jeans, blue jean jacket, and tennis shoes.

Shannon (runaway from the Kenya House)
Medium length brunette hair
17-year-old White American female
5 feet 5 inches, 110-115 pounds
She was wearing blue jeans, tan sweater, blue jean jacket, two pairs of socks (one pair black and the other pair blue), and tennis shoes.
**Stacy** (staying at 15th and High)
Long blond hair
15-year-old White American female
5 feet, 90-95 pounds
She was wearing blue jeans, black T-shirt and tennis shoes

**Sunny** (on the streets)
Long sandy blond hair
17-year-old White American male
5 feet 8 inches, 160-170 pounds
He was wearing a blue jacket, blue T-shirt, blue jeans, and tennis shoes.

**Terin** (runaway from the Kenya House)
Shoulder length blond hair with gray eyes
14-year-old White American female
5 feet 2 inches, 110-115 pounds
She was wearing blue jeans, purple sweater, brown leather jacket, and tennis shoes.

**Tony** (stayed on 15th and High)
Short black hair
17-year-old African American
5 feet 5 inches, 140-150 pounds
He was wearing army paints and shirt with tennis shoes.