

PREVENTIVE METHODS AIMED AT SIBLINGS TO CRIMINAL JUVENILES

A LITERATURE REVIEW

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Pryssander, L. Preventive methods aimed at siblings to criminal juveniles. A literature review. *Degree project in Criminology 15/30 högskolepoäng*. Malmö University: Faculty of Health and Society, Department of Criminology, 2018.

Abstract: The aim with this systematic literature review is to investigate the intervention methods and/or models available to deal with siblings for serious criminal youths. The study also aims to compare the methods pros and cons. The results are produced by using the databases Libsearch and ProQuest. Chosen literature has been read and analysed several times, and two themes was selected to describe the articles focus and connection to the study's aim and research questions. The chosen themes are 1) intervention methods, and 2) advantages with MST. Despite a small amount of research in the field, the result indicates that the family therapy method Multisystemic Therapy (MST) is a dominant method in the field. Except only focusing on the criminal individual in MST, the sibling is involved and directly or indirectly affected. Unlike individual therapy (IT) involving only the criminal juvenile, the risk of the sibling beginning to commit crimes significantly decreases with MST. Research in this area needs to be expanded and methods and ways of working can be improved.

Keywords: family therapy, crime, interventions, Multisystemic therapy, siblings

FÖREBYGGANDE METODER RIKTADE MOT SYSKON TILL KRIMINELLA UNGDOMAR

EN LITTERATURGENOMGÅNG

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Pryssander, L. Förebyggande metoder riktade mot syskon till kriminella ungdomar. En litteraturgenomgång. *Examensarbete i Kriminologi 15/30 högskolepoäng*. Malmö universitet: Fakulteten för hälsa och samhälle, institutionen för Kriminologi, 2018.

Abstrakt: Syftet med denna systematiska litteraturöversikt är att undersöka vilka förebyggande metoder och/eller modeller som finns för att bemöta syskon till grovt kriminella ungdomar. Studien syftar dessutom på att jämföra metodernas olika för- och nackdelar. Resultaten i denna studie är framtagna genom att använda databaserna Libsearch och ProQuest. Vald litteratur har lästs och analyserats upprepade gånger, och två teman valdes för att beskriva artiklarnas fokus, och koppling till studiens syfte och frågeställningar. Valda teman är 1) intervention metoder, och 2) fördelar med MST. Trots en bristande mängd forskning på området så pekar resultatet på att familjeterapi Multisystemisk Terapi (MST) är den dominerande metoden. Förutom fokus på den kriminella individen i MST så involveras syskonet och påverkas direkt, eller indirekt i MST. Till skillnad från individuell terapi (IT) där endast den kriminella ungdomen involveras så sjunker risken att syskonet börjar begå brott markant med MST. Forskningen inom detta område behöver utökas och metoder och arbetssätt går att förbättra.

Nyckelord: brott, familjeterapi, interventioner, Multisystemisk terapi, syskon, ungdom

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1 INTRODUCTION

Most researcher focus on intervention methods and/or models to answer towards criminal juveniles. There is also a lot of research focusing on the peers, parents, and school among the offending juveniles. It is important to study and support these central persons and institutions around the offending juvenile. In this paper, the attention is going to be different. The intention is to focus on one other important group of individuals around the serious offending juvenile. With aim in studying what types of models and/or methods there are to response toward this group today, this essay will focus on the older and younger siblings to juvenile offenders. The siblings often share both genes and social environment. These two factors could be described as a sum of all the greatest risk factors of getting involved in antisocial behaviour. This study will try to answer the question about how todays interventions towards the youth offender's siblings are made. How does the society work preventive so that he or she does not become a criminal as well? Does that sort of work even exist, and if it does, is it effective? There will also be a short description in how siblings socially influence each other and how interventions towards one sibling can spill over and act preventive towards the other siblings too. With systematic literature review as method; the research field is going to be studied to see what methods and/or models that are formed and used today and what pros and cons they have. This sort of crime prevention should be seen in a long perspective. That means that it could go many years before the effect can be seen. It is important to take that category of prevention seriously. They might not give a direct effect but if crimes in general should be able to reduce, the long-term interventions are an important factor. Therefore, research in the criminological field with focus on long-term prevention is always a current area to study.

1.1 Aim and research question

The aim of this systematic literature review is to study different methods and/or models that are used to respond to serious youth offender's siblings; to prevent that they also start to evolve a criminal path. The research questions that this review is based on are:

- What methods and/or models are there to respond to serious youth offender's siblings, to prevent that they also become criminals?
- What pros and cons are there with the different methods and/or models?

1.2 Ethics

No ethical review was made before this literature review was started. Since this is a literature study, there is no specific ethical principles to relate to. The four most important ethical principles that Vetenskapsrådet (2017) recommend considering in scientific studies are: 1) informed consent, 2) confidentiality requirement, 3) the requirement that control how, and 4) to what aim the collected data is being used. In this study no one's integrity is being risked, no one needs to give their informed consent to participate in the study, no classified documents are being handled and the data that are being used are already published. Therefore, no more focus will be directed at those ethical principles. Though, when doing a literature review, it is important to refer to the sources in a correct way. Both systematically, and reproduce the different studies results in a correct way. In this

study, Harvard reference system is being used to ensure that the references are being mentioned in a correct way. The reference list in the end will make it easy for others to find the referred literature to control the statements made in the paper. The results that are mentioned in this review has been read several times to make sure that they are reproduced in a fair way.

2 BACKGROUND

According to some researchers there are different types of criminality in the adolescents. One example is the type of “testing the limits”, often called adolescent limited (AL), that seems to be more like a phase that will end when the adolescent enters adulthood (Laub & Sampson, 2006; Moffitt, 1993). Then there are those adolescents with an early onset, who commits more serious types of crimes which does not seem to desist when entering adulthood. They are in a high risk of evolving into chronic criminals who get stuck in lifetime persistent criminality paths (ibid.). It should be noticed that only about five percent of all adolescents who commit serious types of crimes are getting a treatment that is evidence proved (Greenwood, 2008; Henggeler & Schoenwald, 2011).

Background risk factors for these chronic individuals could be antisocial behavioural parents, low socioeconomic statues, and low self-control (Farrington, 2002). There are many of these risk factors that the criminal juveniles share with specific individuals in their closest environment - their siblings (Rowland, Chapman & Henggeler, 2008). The siblings have one further risk factor - a criminal brother or sister. Knowing these facts, it would not be strange to prioritize interventions towards these older and/or younger siblings. There are a gathering of methods and models to address the problem with criminal juveniles (Moffitt, 1993; Laub & Sampson, 2006). Could it also be an effective crime prevention method to address interventions towards their siblings?

2.1 Siblings, and siblings influence

To understand the importance of intervention models and/or methods to respond towards siblings to a criminal, we should first look at some research on sibling relations and the influence that sibling can have towards each other. Most siblings share both genes and/or social environment. That gives them considerably more shared risk factors than other individuals have (Rowland, et al., 2008). Siblings often spend much of their time together in a period where parents influence get less and less important (McHale & Crouter, 1996). That period refers to the late childhood and/or early adolescent. According to Bank, Burraston, & Snyder (2004), siblings play a much larger role than expected. The impact by siblings can be larger than parental impact or peer impact (Pomery et al., 2005; Windle, 2000).

In a study by Kendler et al. (2014) the results show that the closer in age the siblings are, the greater is the risk of violent criminal behaviour in the sibling. By that means siblings to already violent criminal youth. Another study by Eckstein, Šerek & Noack (2017) show that older brothers and sisters' behaviours seems to influence younger sister's behaviour, but not younger brother's behaviour. The authors argue that it might depend on younger sisters need of support, and that they are searching for it within older siblings. But since that study have been performed in a small area in Germany, there should be more research to support these results before generalizing too much. Siblings are important when it comes to shape each other's behaviour, both positive and negative (Rowland et al.,

2008). Low, Shortt and Snyder (2012) indicate that adolescent offenders influence their siblings and train them in different behaviours and techniques that the siblings later take after. For example, there are studies who show that if one sibling is abusing a substance, there is a much higher risk that their sibling also will start to abuse substances (Rajan et al., 2003; Griffin et al., 2002). And it seems like the combination of bad parenting skills, and siblings who fight much could be a trigger for early onset among youths (Bank et al., 2004).

2.1.1 Environment

In criminology and sociology the environment around an individual is divided into different types. There is shared environment and unique environment (Wright et al., 2014). They can be both geographic and social. Shared environment are siblings who share home and neighbourhood, go to the same school, having the same teachers, or having the same peers. Unique environment instead is the places and persons that the individual does not share with their siblings. For example, their own friends, teachers that their siblings not have, or if they live with different parents or caregivers.

2.2 Theoretical framework

More than one theory could explain different stimulating perspective in this topic. For example, social learning theory could give a view in the discussion since siblings could learn from each other. Therefore, the non-criminal sibling could be in the risk zone to follow their criminal siblings' path (Bandura, 1963). The theoretical perspective that is going to be in centre in this essay is the social bond theory. Since siblings got a bond to each other, and research show that this bond sometimes is stronger than the bond to parents and/or peers in the late childhood/early adolescence (McHale & Crouter, 1996). Social bond theory is constructed by Travis Hirschi (1969). The keystones in the theory is attachment, commitments, participation, and belief (see Figure 1). When these bonds are strong, the individual will desist from criminality and other antisocial behaviour. They got too much to lose if they disappoint any of these bonds. The weaker the bonds are, the higher is the risk of committing crimes. It should also be mentioned that the bonds can be positive and negative. For example, you can have a strong bond to a criminal sibling. That makes it negative. If the sibling is a non-criminal and you got a strong social bond, then it is positive.

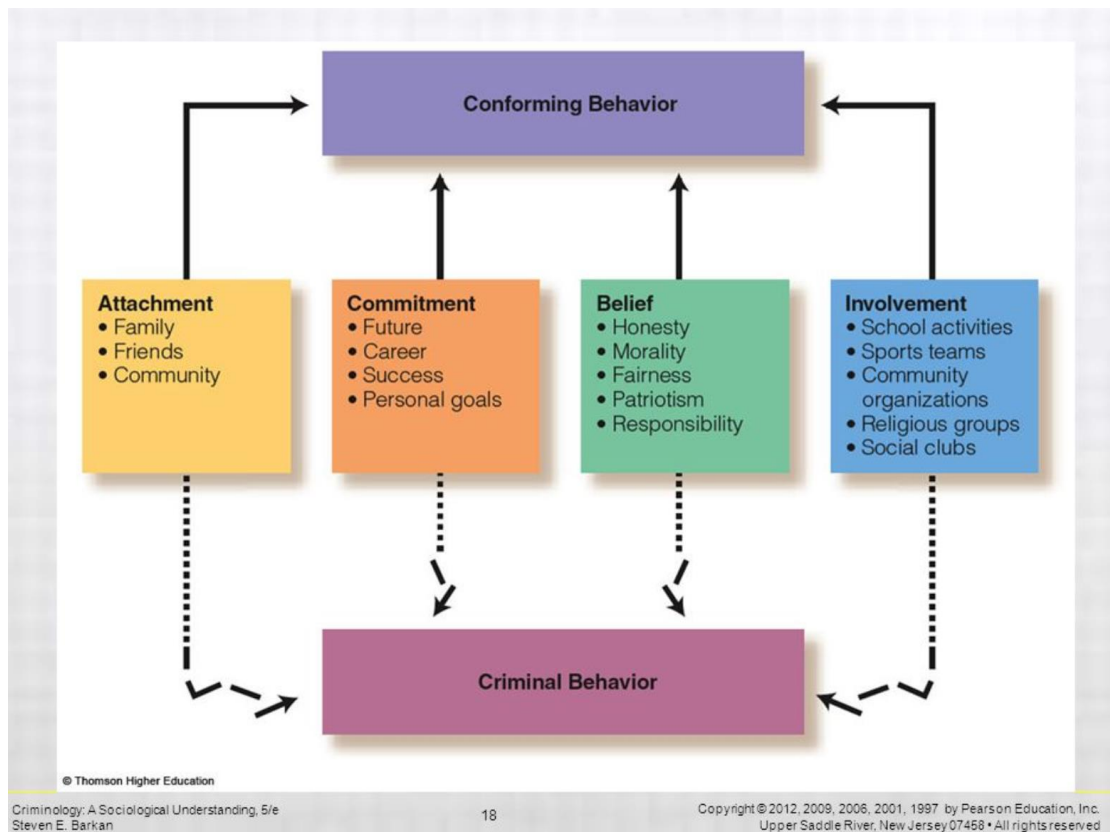


Figure 1: a model of the four social bonds, and what weak versus strong social bonds leads to.

3 MATERIAL AND METHOD

This part of the paper is intended to describe the method of this literature study. Pros and cons, and further analysis is going to be discussed in the discussion part of the paper.

3.1 Systematic literature review

Systematic literature review has been used as method in this study. The definition of this method is a research question with purpose to sum the primary research in that field. It is important to be able to select and evaluate the studies that are supposed to be included, to make sure that the reviews quality is high (Harris et al., 2013). A systematic literature review is an effective way to see what is missing in a specific research field (Friberg, 2017). It is important to make sure that the literature is scientific secured and peer-reviewed (Östlundh, 2017). A peer-reviewed source is read by other experts or researchers in the field. In this study, all the articles that are part of the study is peer-reviewed. Because of the peer review-filter, there were a minor loss of articles in most of the searches.

3.1.1 Search in databases

Databases that were used was Libsearch, and ProQuest. Libsearch is a platform were Malmö University's library has collected most of their resources. Books, articles and more can be found there. Libsearch is connected to many different databases. This was a great start, but on Malmö University's webpage, they recommend the use of specific databases when a deeper study of a subject is wanted (Malmö university, 2018). Therefore, some searches were made in other

databases too. ProQuest was used because it includes more than one database which opens to a broader search field. For example, ProQuest include the database Sociological abstracts which focus on sociology. This seemed to be an interesting area to find information about different intervention methods/models. There is of interest in this study to find both individual, and society profits with family interventions were siblings are involved. First, introductory information searches were made in some different databases to see which keywords could be useful, and to get an overview of the research field (Östlundh, 2017). The keywords that gave the most useful results were *antisocial behaviour, behaviour, crime, crime prevention, delinquency, family, family-based therapy, family therapy, intervention, juvenile offenders, models, path, prevention, serious juvenile offender, siblings, strategies, successful models, teenagers, and treatment*. Other keywords that was tested, but who were not as successful, was, *crime prevention method, persistence juvenile, response to siblings, sibling's crime offending, youth offending, and youth crime*. When the test searches were done, the real searches for the systematic literature review was started. To precise the searches even further, the word AND were used between the keywords. Sometimes the word OR were also used. When the test searches were done, and the systematic search was made, AND was much useful. OR gave no significant proven results, so that was only used in the test search. In the end of the systematic searches, the keywords *multisystemic therapy, functional family therapy* and *individual therapy* were added in a couple of searches. This was because they were the preventive models that repeatedly was shown in the results list during the searches. By using them in the searches it opened a possibility to find more information about these methods that might had been missed in the previous searches. However, only one article was added into the study from these searches (see appendix 1). Also, only the process in Libsearch that led to that specific article is being presented in appendix 1. Since no other searches with the keywords *multisystemic therapy, functional family therapy* or *individual therapy* gave any results these processes are excluded from appendix 1. However, the first search that gave result was in Libsearch with the keywords *family therapy AND crime AND prevention AND siblings*. It gave 5 matches. First, the title was reviewed based on the exclusion and inclusion criteria's (see next section). Second, abstracts were read if the criteria's agreed. Totally two articles were picked from this specific search (see appendix 1). All searches that was made, even if they were useful or not, are presented in appendix 1. Date of search, number of matches, number of read abstracts, and chosen articles to the result are all presented in appendix 1. The chosen articles reference lists were also controlled in hope to find more useful literature. This is called secondary literature search (Östlundh, 2017). Unfortunately, no relevant articles were found this way. But it could be a useful way of finding literature that has been missed in the database search. However, even if the literature did not fit the criteria to be included in the study, some articles that were found this way were much useful in the background part of the essay. In the end totally six articles are presented in the result of this study.

3.1.2 Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Juvenile crime is a common phenomenon in the criminology field (Moffitt, 1993; Laub & Sampson, 2006). In this literature review the focus is not going to be on interventions towards the general juvenile criminality, that many adolescences are doing. The focus is instead going to be on interventions towards the siblings to youths who are having an early onset, not stopping to commit crimes when entering adulthood, and are committing more serious crimes. These youths are in

the risk zone of becoming chronic criminals (Laub & Sampson, 2006; Moffitt, 1993). It is also a higher risk that their siblings follow their patterns (Snyder et al., 2005). It is probably not necessary to put in interventions towards siblings who has brothers or sisters who are committing adolescence limited crimes. Many youths are doing that without serious consequences in the future.

In test search in the databases, several matches were about sibling victimization and incest crimes. This kind of articles is not going to be included to this literature review. This paper is about siblings who follow their siblings' criminal paths. Instead articles and literature about family therapy, sibling relationships, and sibling influence is going to be included. To limit the search results and make sure that the articles included in the study is current; articles published between year 2008 and 2018 are going to be accepted to present in the results part of this literature review. Also, articles and other literature that was written in other language than English or Swedish were also excluded from this study. That is because an equitable translation of the results cannot be guaranteed from those articles who are written in another language.

3.2 Analysis

The results in the systematic literature review is going to be analysed based on a method described by Field (2017). First, all chosen articles is read several times to get a good picture of what the articles is about and what they want to say with their results. The studies are being read with an open mind, and the aim is to get the whole image of the studies. The second step in the analysis process will be to identify different themes in the articles results. All articles will be compiled so it is easy to get an overview of the main points of the study. If many themes are similar, the next step in the process will be to put the themes together and create a new theme involving them both. The last step is to create a readable text were the different articles main points are being presented with help of the themes.

In this study, after reading the articles, the chosen themes were: 1) intervention methods and 2) advantages and disadvantages. Theme number one, intervention methods, is selected with the aim to answer research question number one about which different methods there are to respond to the siblings of juvenile criminals. Theme number two is picked to answer research question number two about advantages and disadvantages in mentioned methods.

3.3 Validity and reliability

According to Pati and Lorusso (2018) the study will gain higher trust and reliability if inclusion and exclusion criteria are identified. With that in mind, the inclusion and exclusion criteria were formed in the beginning of the process.

A well described literature review will gain a high replicability (Bryman, 2018; Friberg, 2017). That means that if the review is correctly described there will be a high possibility for other researchers to repeat the study and get the same or close to almost the same results. To make sure that the replicability remains high, results table and search table are being presented in the essay. A high validity can be reached by forming a clear aim, clear research questions, and search for relevant sources to include to the study (Friberg, 2017).

4 RESULTS

First, the results will be presented in a result table. The results will then be further presented in themes and later also discussed in the results discussion.

Results table

Author(s) and Publication year	Type of source	Method	Results
Dopp, Borduin, Wagner, and Sawyer (2014)	Original article	Randomized clinical trial. A follow-up study of the study by Henggeler & Borduin, (1990)	The results show that Multisystemic Therapy (MST) give an economic win. Even if the win is small, it becomes a saving for the taxpayers. Instead victims can be helped with these savings. Both taxpayers and victims are the big winners in the long-term perspective of MST.
Johnides, Borduin, Wagner and Dopp (2017).	Original article	Follow-up study to a randomized clinical trial (by Borduin et al. 1995)	Serious criminal juvenile caregivers that participant in MST tend to be less involved in criminality then those who have children involved in Individual Therapy (IT). MST has a significant long-term effect on the caregivers. For example, was the family relation often changed in a positive way during the treatment.
Rowland, Chapman, and Henggeler (2008)	Original article	Multilevel Longitudinal Models (randomized trial)	This study has focus on youth who abuse substances.

			<p>Because of the shared environment and genes, their siblings are also in the risk zone of starting to use these substances. Focus is whether there would be an indirect loss of substance use among the sibling when family interventions with focus on the abusing youth were made. Results showed that there was a bigger loss in substance use among siblings, when using MST and Contingency Management (CM) as interventions than it was in other antisocial behaviour, for example criminality. The good effect on substance use probably depends on the tools that parents were given. These methods could also be applied on siblings to the abusing youth.</p>
Sawyer and Borduin (2011)	Original article	Follow-up study to a randomized clinical trial (by Borduin et al. 1995)	<p>Criminal juvenile who engaged in MST have a chance of 34.8 % to be rearrested. IT youths are having a 54.8 % risk of being rearrested.</p>

			<p>This study by Sawyer & Borduin (2011), are based on The Missouri Delinquency Project that was started in 1995 by Borduin and colleagues. This was the first big step towards making MST an establish method. Borduin et al. (1995) showed that in a period of four years, rearrests involving serious chronic juvenile offenders, were reduced with 63 percent. Later, Schaeffer and Borduin (2005) made a 13.5-year follow-up of that study. The results continued to indicate a reduce in serious criminality within the sample group. Sawyer and Borduin (2011) were also making a follow-up of the Missouri Delinquency Project. This time, a 21.9-year follow-up.</p>
Sexton and Turner (2011)	Original article	Randomized trial	<p>The researcher was studying Functional Family Therapy (FFT). The results show that the therapist must follow the</p>

			guidelines exactly. Because it is first then the outcome will be positive.
Wagner, Borduin, Sawyer, and Dopp (2014)	Original article	Randomized clinical trial. A follow-up study of the study by Henggeler & Borduin, (1990)	The results show that MST is a very effective method when it comes to reduce the risk of crime within the closest in age siblings. The sibling was much as three times less likely to be arrested compared to IT-siblings.

The chosen themes 1) intervention methods and 2) advantages with MST is now going to be presented with respective results analysis.

Intervention methods

Family interventions are an effective way of reaching the sibling and the parents who has the closest contact with their children. Then one both direct and indirect, via the parents, can reach the siblings to the offending adolescent (Rowland et al., 2008). With that said, to answer the first research question of this study: “What methods and/or models are there to respond towards serious youth offender’s siblings to prevent that they also become criminals?”, the conclusion is that there are three methods and/or models that the literature refers to. Those are 1) Multisystemic Therapy, 2) Functional Family Therapy, and 3) Contingency Management. They are all mentioned and referred to in different grades. MST is the most commonly mentioned method, and the other two are barely mentioned. Therefore, it is tough to make any conclusions about them. There is not enough research to base any specific assumptions.

Individual therapy (IT) is a common intervention method to respond to offending juveniles. Research show that Multisystemic therapy (MST) is more effective then IT (Johnides et al., 2017; Wagner et al., 2014). Instead of just focusing specific on the offending juvenile, as in IT, the youths whole family was integrated into the MST. Also, peers, school, and the society around the offending juvenile is involved in MST (Henggeler & Borduin, 1990). This makes MST to a family- and society-based therapy method (Henggeler & Borduin, 1990; Johnides et al., 2017). For example, if the parents been having problems with their parenting, they can be helped with that in MST (Rowland et al., 2008). Johnides et al. (2017) show that the long-term effect of MST is positive for the caregivers to the serious criminal juvenile. They tend to improve the family relation during the MST-treatment (ibid).

Borduin et al. (1995) studied what effects MST will have in a long-term

perspective compared to IT, when it comes to juveniles who have committed and who are having a high risk of committing more serious crimes. Results from that study show that MST is much more effective in preventing serious antisocial behaviour than IT. In the study by Wagner et al. (2014) the results show that MST reduces the likelihood that the closest in age sibling also will commit crime by 3 times. The offender often shares risk factors with their siblings (Dopp et al., 2014; Rowland et al., 2008). MST tend to identify these risk factors (Dopp et al., 2014).

One family intervention program that is not very common yet, but that seems to be emerging is Functional Family Therapy (FFT). MST and FFT is similar, but not identical (Aos et al., 2004). According to Saxon et al. (2011) this model is only giving positive results when it is followed in detail by the therapist. However, not much research can be found on this model and how it affects the criminal juvenile's sibling.

Advantages with MST

Pros with interventions methods are a lot of different things. One is the economic win of the intervention. When it comes to MST the results show that the winners in the long economic perspective is taxpayers and crime victims (Dopp et al., 2014; Sawyer & Borduin, 2011). The taxpayer's money can be invested in other things than an offender, and the crime victims can be offered better rehabilitation. This is a great thing about this intervention model, however in this calculation it is unclear if sibling's potential crimes are taken into count.

One measure that is commonly used, to see is whether individuals stay desist from criminality or not, is the measure of rearrests after an intervention program. According to Sawyer and Borduin (2011) who compares MST with IT there is a 34.8 percent risk of being rearrested when the treatment was MST; in relation to the number 54.8 percent to those who were treated with IT. That is a big difference. Wagner et al. (2014) show the same result in their 25-year follow-up study, but with focus on siblings to juvenile criminals. Their numbers are 43.3 percent probability of being arrests for siblings attending to MST and 72 percent likely to be arrests for those engaging in IT. Because of the strong sibling influence that occurs in early adolescent; this is important numbers that indirect proves a protective factor for the sibling who are engaged in the MST programme.

5 DISCUSSION

The aim with this literature study was to identify models and or ways to respond to criminal juvenile's siblings. In the following section the results are going to be discussed, followed by a method discussion.

5.1 Results discussion

The lack of research in this area made it difficult to select good themes for the result. Therefore, only two themes were selected. To answer the first research question, the list of different methods and/or models that respond towards siblings to criminal juveniles became very short. Family therapy is a growing method that seems to be successful when it comes to serious offending youths (Borduin, Dopp & Taylor, 2013; Johnides et al., 2017; McCart & Sheidow, 2016). But only three different intervention methods were brought up in the studied literature. Because of the importance of the subject, it is surprising. Since of the lack of literature in

two of these three methods it becomes an unbalanced discussion. The second research question in this study aimed to search for pros and cons with the different intervention methods/models. This is going to be analysed in upcoming paragraph.

To shortly sum the results, MST show effectiveness in reducing crime in the siblings to juvenile offenders with at least five times in a long-term perspective (Sawyer & Borduin, 2011; Wagner et al., 2014). Also, FFT seems to work, but only if the guidelines are followed correctly (Sexton & Turner, 2011). Comparing to IT, MST reduces rearrests within the criminal juvenile with 20 percent (Sawyer & Borduin, 2011). According to Wagner et al (2014) MST is also reducing the risk of arrest among siblings to the criminal juvenile. Rowland et al (2008) show a loss in substance use among siblings to criminals engaging in MST. And Dopp et al (2014) mean that there is an economic win to the society in using MST. The biggest pro with MST seems to be that the interventions not only are directed to the criminal juvenile, but also to his or her closest environment (family and school etc). The interventions can therefore directly, or indirectly, reach their siblings to. Specially by their common caregiver. Johnides et al. (2017) show that caregivers involved in MST work on their family relationships more. But do we know that these individuals, the siblings, were going to commit crimes? They are only in a risk zone of becoming criminals, not actually criminals. The outcome does not have to be that they become criminals. Could other factors then the MST play an important role in the outcome of the results? For example, personality or unique social environment. It is not mentioned if the studies that show results of MST in relation to IT take other factors that could affect the results in to count. And there has been some critique against MST (Littell, Popa & Forsythe, 2005). They argue that MST do not have more advantages then other social interventions. At least there is no scientific proof that no other intervention is less suitable then MST. The lack of studies on sibling influence and methods to respond towards the criminal's sibling is obvious. However, siblings' effect each other in different ages and siblings in early adolescence sometimes becomes more important than parents. These facts can be connected to social bond theory. Early interventions can be made to prevent that these risk factors affect the sibling the same way they might affect the offending juvenile. For example, the siblings mostly share their closest social environment with the offending brother or sister - their parents. Interventions can therefore not only be directed towards the offender and the sibling. The interventions should also be directed towards their closest social bond, as in the parents (Johnides et al., 2017). Results from Johnides et al (2017) indicate that parents get a long-term positive evolving from MST. This is assumed to have a spill-over effect on the sibling, since the parents will treat him or her with the new parenting tools they have learned.

Positive and negative social bonds can affect in different ways. If one of the sibling is a criminal and got strong social bonds with his or her siblings, there is a risk of negative outcome for the sibling too. Many institutions and ways to support siblings to juvenile chronic offenders comes to mind. For example: the school could be a perfect place to develop a reaction plan to follow, when the school get knowledge about children in their school that has serious offending siblings. The cooperation between the schools, the police, and social services would be important in that scenario. There is a following question to this though: is it ethical defensible to make interventions towards a person who yet has not committed any crimes and would maybe never commit any crimes; maybe would

not even become a criminal without interventions. How far can we take the interventions before we intrude too much in the individual's integrity? Would further interventions than family therapy, that is not directly aimed at the sibling, be too much of a violation on the sibling's integrity? This could be the reason why the research field is so limited, it is too much of an infraction. Still, there should be a discussion about it and research about it that is broader. And even if it could be difficult to make direct interventions towards the sibling indirect methods, like MST, could be evolved even further. With knowledge produced by Wagner et al. (2014), about the reduce in risk that siblings to criminal juvenile offenders commit crimes when being involved in MST, could be important when constructing a new version of MST. Then siblings could have more focus in the model.

5.2 Method discussion

To reach the results in this paper, systematic literature review was applied. The aim with using a systematic literature review is to get an overview of the research field of an area (Friberg, 2017). When using a systematic literature overview there are both advantages and disadvantages. An advantage is that the replicable is high since the process is described in detail (Bryman, 2018). To this study results table, searches in data bases, and other approaches is made as detailed as possible. Cons with using literature review as a method to this study has been to find research on the specific area that was aimed to be studied. This paper has focus on methods and/or models that are aimed at siblings to serious juvenile criminals. It is difficult to find research with that specific focus. Even if siblings are an important part of MST much of the articles has their focus on the whole spectra in MST or only just the criminal individual. That there is a lack of research can be seen in many of the chosen articles that has been presented in the result, they often have the same authors in different constellations. That is a further reminder of how small the research field is. It is important to have in mind the lack of researchers in the field. Because of the little research, and the few number of researcher representing the research area, the picture of the subject risk to be unilaterally. Chosen articles that are being presented in the results are limited to published year 2008 to 2018. This decision is based on the aim of searching for what methods and/or models that are used today. This could result in an important loss of articles, and other literature. If this study would have been made again, the time limit, 2008-2018, would be reduced because of the small number of articles that was found for the result. Since many of the searches has been made without the timeframe to find material to the background, a more complete picture will hopefully be represented in other parts of the essay.

In ProQuest it was difficult to reach a low number of hits. It took some searches before I reached a relative low number of articles, but still it was a high number (63) of hits. If the study was to be made again more or different keywords would have been added to the searches. For example, *affect*, *intervene*, *strategy* and probably more; this to make sure that the whole field was studied.

6 CONCLUSION

In sum, the results in this systematic literature review shows that the research field of siblings to serious juvenile offenders is limited. Most focus is on the criminal juvenile. But the research on sibling influence show that siblings are important in

development of behaviour. Specially in early adolescence. The most mentioned intervention method is the family therapy method: MST. The result of this study shows a positive outcome from MST when it comes to the risk that a sibling also commits crimes. MST seems to reduce that risk, compared to IT when only focusing on the offending juvenile. The method affects the siblings both direct and indirect. Indirect it affects through shared environments such as school and parents. MST seems to reduce substance abuse within siblings, and there is an economic win with using this method. The results also point at FFT as a working family intervention model. But it seems like the guidelines must be followed exactly to work. Compared to IT, MST have much more overall positive outcomes. But there are some cons. The lack of overall research make it difficult to compare the methods in a fair way.

In further research, focus should be to focus more on MST and other family intervention methods with the siblings in centre. Also, researchers should consider developing old methods like the MST and FFT to possibly make them more effective. With the results of the pros of reduced risk of commit crimes, among siblings to serious criminal juveniles, the MST could engage more focus on the siblings in the therapy. Today MST has a wide focus on a lot of people and institutions around the criminal juvenile. The siblings are only a small part of the picture. New models with sibling to serious youth offenders in mind would be useful to develop. Research on siblings to serious criminal overall should be developed. The research field is too thin. Even if criminology is a subject with a large family-focus, there is surprisingly little research of sibling's influence on each other. Same is for preventive interventions directed towards the sibling to a criminal youth. The discussion about whether it is ethical defensible to make interventions direct towards a person that perhaps not going to become a criminal should get more space.

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Appendix 1

Searches in databases and chosen articles. Before the searches, “peer review” were marked, and searches were only made on articles published between 2008 and 2018.

Database	Keyword(s)	Number of hits	Number of read abstracts	Author and Publication year of chosen articles	Date of search
Libsearch	Family therapy AND crime AND prevention AND siblings	5	3	Dopp et al. (2014) Wagner et al. (2014)	2018-08-07
	Siblings AND models AND delinquency	118			2018-08-07
	Siblings AND models AND delinquency AND intervention	8	3	Rowland et al. (2008)	2018-08-07
	Siblings AND models AND delinquency AND prevention	8	2		2018-08-07
	Siblings AND models AND delinquency AND juvenile offenders	11	3		2018-08-07
	family therapy AND antisocial behavior	512			2018-08-07
	family therapy AND antisocial behaviour AND intervention	262			2018-08-07
	family therapy AND antisocial behaviour AND intervention AND model	95			2018-08-07
	family therapy AND antisocial behaviour AND	18	6	Henggeler & Schaeffer (2016)	2018-08-07

	intervention AND model AND juvenile offenders				
	Multisystemic therapy	2128	<i>This, and following searches in Libsearch was made only to study the research field of MST</i>		2018- 08-09
	Multisystemic therapy AND serious offending juvenile	120			2018- 08-09
	Multisystemic therapy AND serious offending juvenile AND family-based therapy	63			2018- 08-09
	Multisystemic therapy AND serious offending juvenile AND family-based therapy AND interventions	20			2018- 08-09
	Multisystemic therapy AND serious offending juvenile AND family-based therapy AND individual therapy	9	5	Johnides et al. (2017)	2018- 08-09
ProQuest	Siblings AND crime AND family therapy	1309			2018- 08-08
	Siblings AND crime AND family therapy AND prevention	865			2018- 08-08

	Siblings AND models AND delinquency AND prevention	1614			2018-08-08
	Siblings AND models AND delinquency AND juvenile offenders	571			2018-08-08
	Family therapy AND antisocial behaviour AND interventions	7021			2018-08-08
	Juvenile offenders AND siblings AND prevention	615			2018-08-08
	juvenile offenders AND siblings AND prevention AND models AND antisocial behavior	357			2018-08-08
	juvenile offenders AND siblings AND models AND antisocial behavior AND intervention AND delinquency AND crime prevention	260			2018-08-08
	juvenile offenders AND siblings AND models AND antisocial behavior AND intervention AND delinquency AND crime prevention AND family therapy	150			2018-08-08
	serious juvenile offender AND siblings AND	113			2018-08-08

	models AND antisocial behavior AND intervention AND delinquency AND crime prevention AND family-based therapy AND strategies				
	serious juvenile offender AND siblings AND successful models AND antisocial behavior AND intervention AND delinquency AND crime prevention AND family-based therapy AND strategies	66			2018-08-08
	serious juvenile offender AND siblings AND successful models AND antisocial behaviour AND intervention AND delinquency AND crime prevention AND family-based therapy AND strategies AND treatment	63	14	Sexton et al. (2011)	2018-08-08
	Juvenile offenders AND siblings AND prevention AND family AND behaviour	577			2018-08-08
	Juvenile offenders AND siblings AND crime	404			2018-08-08

	prevention AND family AND behaviour AND social support AND interventions				
	Juvenile offenders AND siblings AND crime prevention AND family AND behaviour AND social support AND interventions AND methods	373			2018- 08-08
	(Juvenile offenders) AND siblings AND crime prevention AND family AND delinquent behavior AND social support AND interventions AND methods AND teenagers AND models AND path	39	11	Pinheiro Mota (2017)	2018- 08-08