

P02-257 - **COMPARISON OF COPING MECHANISMS OF ADOLESCENTS INHABITING "TEHRAN CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION CENTER" AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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**Aim:** Comparing coping mechanisms of 15-17 year-old inhabitants of "Tehran Correction and Rehabilitation Center" (named: *delinquents*) and the same age students of Tehran high schools(named: *non-delinquents*).

**Method:** In a cross-sectional descriptive study, all 105 inhabitants of the center (81 males and 24 females) and 372 high school students(181 males and 191 females) who were randomly selected from area 6 of Tehran high schools completed the "Adolescent Coping Scale" which consists of 18strategies and 3styles. Results were analyzed using ANOVA and T-test.

**Results:** *Non-delinquent* males and females used productive style more than reference to others, and reference to others more than non-productive style. *Delinquent* males used productive style and reference to others without significant difference, and also used these two styles significantly more than non-productive style. *Delinquent* females used all three styles without significant difference. *Delinquent* males used all three styles significantly more than *non-delinquent* males. *Delinquent* females used productive style less, non-productive style more and reference to others without significant difference from *non-delinquent* females.

**Conclusion:** In comparison with *delinquent* females, *Delinquent* males have a more comprehensive set of coping skills and can use external resources more effectively. *Delinquent* females use a very dysfunctional collection of coping mechanisms, which may have caused their vulnerability to social pathologies.

**Key Words:** Coping, Delinquency, Conduct Disorder, Adolescence, Antisocial Behavior.