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Perceptions of role performance in a juvenile court setting.

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THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

PERCEPTIONS OF ROLE PERFORMANCE IN A JUVENILE COURT SETTING

by

D. Gregory Campbell

and

Bernard J. LeVasseur

A thesis submitted to the School of Social Work of the University of Windsor in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Social Work

September 1975

Windsor, Ontario, Canada
D. Gregory Campbell

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Bernard J. LeVasseur

1975
Research Committee

B. J. Kroeker  Chairman
F. C. Hansen  Member
Neil Gold  Member
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ABSTRACT

The focus of this research project was to examine the perceptions of role performance of a population of sixty-five social workers, lawyers and police officers involved in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County.

The study revealed that conflict existed extensively in the perceptions of the research population between professional groups as well as among the members of specific professional groups.

The results obtained through the use of a questionnaire led to the following recommendations:

i) that the purpose, philosophy and procedure of the juvenile court be more precisely defined and stated.

ii) that the professionals involved in the juvenile court setting receive training specifically related to the needs and purposes of this court.

iii) that professionals should be trained to practice in a multi-disciplined setting to allow for the minimizing of conflict and the maximizing of the
services of each professional.

iv) that professional roles be clearly defined to prevent gaps or duplication of service as well as to prevent interprofessional conflict.

v) that the adjudication and disposition stages of the juvenile court process be distinctly separated to provide role clarity for the professional and provide the child with the maximum service of the court.

Several suggestions for future research were also made concerning the child's perception of juvenile court dispositions and further exploration into the effect of interprofessional conflict upon service delivery.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the many people who encouraged and assisted us in the completion of this project.

In particular, we wish to thank Professor Neil Gold for his thoughtful contributions to our effort.

We also wish to thank Professor F. C. Hansen for his invaluable time and assistance in developing the research aspects of our project.

We owe an unrepayable debt of gratitude to our chairman, Professor B. J. Kroeker, who continually assisted and prodded us to develop and complete this study and who unselfishly gave of his time whenever it was requested.

We wish to acknowledge our debt to the members of our research population, the lawyers, social workers, police officers and judges of Essex County, whose assistance determined the completion of this project.

We owe a special thanks to our typist, Mrs. Joan Reid, who endured our penmanship, syntax and our demands and still produced an excellent end product.

Finally, we wish to thank our wives Dawna and Sharon who cheered us on in our good times and comforted
us in the darker moments, and to little Colleen we give you back your Daddy.
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The idea for this project developed from the personal experiences of the researchers during their involvement in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County; as social workers representing child care agencies. At no time during our undergraduate university education nor professional employment had our role as participants in the juvenile court process been clearly or formally defined. We had not received any special training in relation to working in a multi-discipline setting such as juvenile court and we had not acquired any real understanding of the educational component or training of the other professionals in the juvenile court setting and thus became convinced that they had a similarly limited perspective on our profession. This was important because education and training play a very important part in determining the focus of each profession's orientation in the juvenile court setting.

The more experienced we became in juvenile court practice the more aware we were of the fact that our lack of clarity concerning our role as well as the roles of the other
professionals had a negative effect upon the consumer of our services, the child. The absence of clear guidelines seemed to promote duplication of services and fanned the flames of conflict between the professionals. We were very concerned that such a situation would confuse the child's perception of the process to which he was being subjected, and negate much of the positive impact that the court might otherwise have upon the child. It was our conviction that in order to achieve optimum performance from each profession, in a multi-discipline setting such as juvenile court, that professional roles had to be clearly defined and be mutually understood. We shared the contention of Audrey D. Smith that

...continued efforts should be made to achieve more effective intraprofessional collaboration for such efforts will ultimately yield greater benefits to clients by maximizing the contribution of each profession.

Another concern that the researchers developed from their experience was that conflict would have a negative effect upon the professionals themselves. The writings of such role theorists as Theodore R. Sarbin and Vernon L. Allen suggest that this is true. They state further that tension, job dissatisfaction, a sense of futility and a loss of self confidence are the consequences of role

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conflict.¹

Thus our concern was twofold; that the existence of conflict between professional groups would have a negative impact on the child, the consumer of the service, and secondly, that conflict would have a negative effect upon the professionals involved in the court and thus hinder the delivery of their services.

Motivated by these concerns, the researchers set out to identify areas of both conflict and consensus between and within four professional groups involved in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County. The researchers were highly convinced that the identification of consensus areas was very important. Should any efforts be made to restructure or reorganize areas in the juvenile court setting based on this project, the identification of consensus areas would prevent the duplication of efforts where they were not needed and would also assist future investigators and researchers to take a more directed approach to problem areas in this setting.

The professionals surveyed were social workers, lawyers, judges and police officers who were involved in the local juvenile court. The social workers were employed

by both the Children's Aid Society and the Roman Catholic
Children's Aid Society of Essex County, while the lawyers
were members of various local law firms. These lawyers
had all appeared in juvenile court as duty counsel or in
situations where they were privately retained. The two
judges presided over the Provincial Court (Juvenile
Division) of Essex County. The police officers were
members of the Youth Branch of the Windsor Police Depart-
ment as well as the Essex Detachment of the Ontario Pro-
vincial Police Force.

The scope of this study was narrowed to focus
on three basic research questions:

1. To what extent did role conflict and role consensus
exist in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex
County?

2. To what extent did the following factors, a) education,
b) formal training specifically related to juvenile court,
c) actual experience in juvenile court, d) age, e) perceived
status, and f) having a formal role definition, contribute
to a respondent's perceived professional effectiveness?

3. What impact did the following variables of, a) legis-
lation, b) court policy, c) professional education, d)
other professionals, and e) on the job experience, have
upon role performance?

To facilitate the answering of these questions,
the researchers reviewed the available literature related
to their topic in Chapter Two. Such areas as early legislation concerning the child offender, the development of juvenile courts in Ontario, the problematic aspects of purpose, procedure and organization of the juvenile court are presented in this chapter.

Chapter Two also outlines some fundamental concepts of "role" and "role conflict" which provide the reader with a framework by which to understand the significance of not only this project but also the other studies which are reviewed.

Finally, studies and articles already completed in the area of professional role and professional role interaction in juvenile court are reviewed and examined in this chapter.

The third chapter of this study presents the research design and the rationale for its selection as well as the instrument used in data collection and the procedure as such.

The fourth chapter of the study presents and analyses the data which was collected. Some implications of the data are also discussed in this chapter.

The implications of the findings of Chapter Four are presented and discussed in Chapter Five.

Conclusions are drawn and recommendations that will hopefully be relevant for educators and employers are made in Chapter Six. This chapter also contains
some recommendations for future research in areas generated by the findings.
CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

In order to facilitate an examination of the literature related to this research, this chapter will be divided into three sections; (i) the philosophy and development of juvenile court, (ii) some problem areas in juvenile court, and (iii) an examination of professional roles in juvenile court.

Part I, dealing with the philosophy and development of juvenile court, will examine some of the early legislation and social philosophy that led to the establishment of the juvenile court. The Juvenile Delinquents Act\(^1\) will be given the greatest degree of consideration in this section. Part II will consider some specific problem areas in the functioning of juvenile court with the purpose of identifying some implications for that court's operation. Part III will examine studies related to the professionals participating in the juvenile court process. This latter part will

\(^1\)Canada, Revised Statutes, The Juvenile Delinquents Act, 1970, 19 Eliz. 2, Ch. J.3 (hereinafter cited as the Juvenile Delinquents Act).
also present some theoretical concepts of role and role conflict, as well as studies concerning professional roles and professional interaction in the juvenile court. A synthesis of role and professional interaction will provide the reader with an improved perspective of the chapters to follow which will deal with professional role conflict and consensus in the juvenile court setting.

PART I

The Philosophy and Development of Juvenile Courts

Early Legislation

In order to understand the philosophy behind the development of juvenile courts it would be helpful to review some aspects of the early legislation concerning the juvenile offender.

The British North America Act1 of 1867 outlines the responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments in areas concerning criminal matters. The Act states that:

The exclusive Legislative Authority of the Parliament of Canada extends to...the Criminal Law, except the constitution of Courts of Criminal jurisdiction, but including the Procedure in Criminal Matters.2

---

1Great Britain, Laws, Statutes, etc., The British North America Act, 1867, 30 and 31 Victoria, Ch. 3.

2The British North America Act, sec. 91.
This section of the **British North America Act** relegates the authority for legislation over criminal matters to the Government of Canada.

Section 92 of the same **Act** outlines the responsibilities of the province and reads as follows:

> In each Province the legislature may exclusively make laws in relation to matters coming within the classes of subjects hereinafter enumerated, that is to say...the administration of Justice in the Province including the Constitution, Maintenance and Organization of Provincial Courts, both of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction.\(^1\)

This section of the **British North America Act** clearly places the responsibility of administering the federal legislation concerning criminal matters in the hands of the Provincial Government. The significance of this division of powers will be discussed in Part II of this chapter.

In spite of the fact that the **British North America Act** was given assent in 1867, the first piece of child welfare legislation in Canada was not passed until 1893. In that year the Provincial Legislature of Ontario passed a statute entitled, **An Act For the Prevention of Cruelty to, and Better Protection of Children.**\(^2\) This Act

---

\(^1\) *The British North America Act*, sec. 92.

while covering many areas of child welfare specifically mentioned the child offender. This Act provided the following for a child: a private hearing, separate detention and treatment from adult prisoners and placement in institutions other than prisons.

The Act determined among other things, that when a child under sixteen years of age was charged with a criminal offense, the proceedings of his trial were to be held in private. In such an instance

The judge shall exclude from the room or place where any child under 16 years of age, or any parent charged with cruelty to his child is being tried or examined all persons other than the counsel and witnesses in the case, officers of the law or any children's aid society and immediate friends or relatives of the child or parent.¹

The Act further set out guidelines for the detention of children charged with or convicted of an offense. It declared that,

...no child under 16 years of age held for trial or under sentence in any goal or other place of confinement shall be placed or allowed to remain in the same cell or room in accompany of adult prisoners.²

In addition to guaranteeing the child separate treatment and detention from adult prisoners, this provincial statute also provided the court with the option

¹An Act For the Better Protection of Children, sec. 30, sub. 4.
²An Act For the Better Protection of Children, sec. 29.
to commit children under fourteen years of age to institutions other than prisons. The Act declares that:

...any court or magistrate in lieu of committing to prison any child under the age of 14 years convicted before him of any offense against the laws of the Province may hand over such child to the charge of any home for destitute and neglected children or industrial school or children's aid society.

Since this was provincial legislation, the direction taken by this act was applicable only in Ontario. However, in 1894 "Canada's first national legislation concerning child offenders was passed." The Statute entitled, An Act respecting Arrest, Trial and Imprisonment of Youthful Offenders, provided for the private detention of juvenile offenders under sixteen years of age and similar to the provincial legislation, it guaranteed the youthful offender a private trial. The preamble to the Act reveals a philosophy of separate detention for youthful offenders stating that:

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1An Act For the Better Protection of Children, sec. 28.


3Canada, Statutes, An Act respecting Arrest, Trial and Imprisonment of Youthful Offenders, 1894, 57-58 Victoria, Ch. 58.

4An Act respecting Imprisonment of Youthful Offenders, sec. 2.

5An Act respecting Imprisonment of Youthful Offenders, sec. 1.
...it is desirable to make provision for the separation of youthful offenders from contact with older offenders and habitual criminals, during their arrest and trial, and to make better provision than now exists for their commitment to places where they may be reformed and trained to useful lives instead of their being imprisoned.¹

The Act further ratified legislation already in existence in Ontario by accepting the philosophy that children under fourteen years of age convicted of an offense should be sent, where possible, to institutions other than prisons.²

The significance of both Federal and Provincial Acts was that people were beginning to express concern that the child offender was not necessarily a criminal and should not be treated as such.

In 1908 the Parliament of Canada passed the Juvenile Delinquents Act. A number of minor amendments were made over the years until 1928 when the Act was restructured and revised by a special committee. It received assent and became law on June 4, 1929. The Juvenile Delinquents Act presently provides the guidelines for dealing with juvenile offenders in Canada.

¹An Act respecting Imprisonment of Youthful Offenders, preamble.

²An Act respecting Imprisonment of Youthful Offenders, sec. 3.
W. T. McGrath, editor of the book *Crime and its Treatment in Canada*, comments that "some amendments have been passed but they are matters of detail and do not effect the general principles of the legislation."\(^1\)

The *Juvenile Delinquents Act* offers a definition of the term juvenile delinquent. A juvenile delinquent as defined in this Act is:

...any child who violates any provision of the Criminal Code or of any Dominion or Provincial Statute or of any by-law or ordinance of any municipality, or who is guilty of sexual immorality or any similar form of vice or who is liable by reason of any other act to be committed to an industrial school, or juvenile reformatory under the provision of any Dominion or provincial statute.\(^2\)

The obvious difficulty that arises from this definition is that the child who commits armed robbery and the child who violates a municipal by-law are both deemed to be delinquents. Interpretation of the severity of the offense is left to the Provincial Magistrate, who is empowered to administer the Act.

McGrath offers some historical background to the development of this definition of delinquency. In 1928 when a committee was preparing amendments to the original


\(^2\) *The Juvenile Delinquents Act*, sec. 38.
Act of 1908 they were faced with a constitutional problem. They wished to define delinquency as a state or condition as had been done previously in the United States. It was difficult to arrive at such a definition because matters concerning crime were exclusively within the jurisdiction of the federal government and matters concerning civil status were exclusively within provincial powers.\(^1\) Their response to this constitutional dilemma was to produce a bill that "treated delinquency as an act and made it an offence, but made it look like a state or condition."\(^2\)

Another problem arising from the division of powers between the federal and provincial governments was that statutes of each government defined the term "child" differently. The Juvenile Delinquents Act, a federal statute, defined a child as being:

...any boy or girl apparently or actually under the age of eighteen years and any such proclamation may apply either to boys only or to girls only or to both boys and girls.\(^3\)

As it stood, this definition conflicted with the provincial statute then in force, An Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to and Better Protection of Children, and it


\(^3\)The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 2, par. (a).
continues to conflict with the more recent provincial legislation. The Child Welfare Act which defines a child as "a boy or girl actually or apparently under sixteen years of age." ¹

Hence, in order to make the definitions contained in both Acts more congruent, an amendment was added to The Juvenile Delinquents Act which served to:

...revoke any direction made with respect to any province by a proclamation under this section and thereupon the expression "child" in this Act means any boy or girl apparently or actually under the age of sixteen years. ²

In relation to criminal offenses, The Criminal Code of Canada further details the definition of "child" with respect to the type of action that may be taken in relation to this code. The Criminal Code of Canada states that a child under seven years of age cannot be convicted of an offense or omission on his part. ³ Further, a child cannot be convicted of an offense or an omission if he is between seven and fourteen years of age and is not aware of the consequences of his actions. ⁴


²The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 2, par. (b).


A child who is fourteen to sixteen years of age can be charged as an adult "but such course shall in no case be followed unless the court is of the opinion that the good of the child and the best interests of the community demand it."\(^1\)

Although the various acts were passed and differences existed in the legislation at the Federal and Provincial levels, these acts were significant in that they represented society's developing awareness of the special needs of the child and its attempts to create situations that would meet the requirements of these special needs.

The Philosophy of Juvenile Legislation

Canadian legislation, both Federal and Provincial, clearly placed the child in a separate category from adults in terms of criminal proceedings. In Ontario, children under the age of sixteen years are subject to the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Delinquents Act which has been created to deal with the unique circumstances of the juvenile. The purpose and philosophy of the Act are best described in section 38 of the statute which states:

This Act shall be liberally construed in order that its purpose may be carried out, namely that the care and custody and discipline of a

\(^1\)The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 9, sub. 1.
juvenile delinquent shall approximate as nearly as may be that which would be given by his parents and that as far as practicable, every juvenile delinquent shall be treated not as a criminal but as a misdirected and misguided child and one needing aid, encouragement, help and assistance.

This section of the Act presents two concepts. First, that the Act be liberally and flexibly interpreted and second, that the state has a parental responsibility toward the child. This latter concept has often been referred to by the latin term *parens patriae*. This term suggests the concept that society has "ultimate parental responsibilities for all children in the community."\(^2\)

Therefore, the *Juvenile Delinquents Act* charges the state with assuming parental responsibilities for all those children who are proven to have committed a delinquency or to have been in a state of delinquency.

A further concept mentioned in the *Juvenile Delinquents Act* concerns the informality of the juvenile court process maintained through the "liberally" interpreted legislation. However, within the same Act the magistrate is cautioned that:

Proceedings under this Act, with respect to the child, including the trial and disposition

\(^1\) *The Juvenile Delinquents Act*, sec. 38.

of the case may be as informal as circum-
stances will permit, consistent with due regard
for a proper administration of justice.\footnote{1}

Although the Act was intended for flexible inter-
pretation, flexibility cannot supersede the basic require-
ment, that the court guarantee to all who come before it
due process of law and the proper administration of
justice.

Finally, the Act ensures that the "trials of children shall
take place without publicity and separately"\footnote{2} from other
accused persons. The statute also stipulates where a
child may be detained until his trial.\footnote{3} Should there be
an adjudication of delinquency, the \textit{Juvenile Delinquents}
\textbf{Act} provides several alternative dispositions for the
court to follow.\footnote{4}

These stipulations were indicative of the legislators
attempts to ensure that the unique needs of the youthful
offenders were met. After the enactment of such legislation
it remained necessary to establish courts for the adminis-
tration of this special code of justice.

\begin{footnotes}
\footnote{1}{The \textit{Juvenile Delinquents Act}, sec. 17.}
\footnote{2}{The \textit{Juvenile Delinquents Act}, sec. 12, sub. 1.}
\footnote{3}{The \textit{Juvenile Delinquents Act}, sec. 13, sub. 1.}
\footnote{4}{The \textit{Juvenile Delinquents Act}, sec. 20, sub. 1.}
\end{footnotes}
The Development of Juvenile Courts in Ontario

The original Juvenile Delinquents Act was passed in 1908 and juvenile courts were established in larger urban centers of Ontario shortly thereafter. In 1929 the scope of the juvenile court was broadened to include concerns that were considered as family matters. This broadening of scope brought such legislation as the Deserted Wives and Childrens Maintenance Act of 1927 under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

In 1934 juvenile courts in Ontario were renamed the Juvenile and Family courts. Each area was responsible for the appointment and support of probation services. Between 1934 and 1952 the municipalities supported the Juvenile and Family Courts entirely but in 1952 the Province assumed financial responsibility for the probation services of each court. In 1968 the Province assumed total responsibility for the maintenance of all the existing Juvenile and Family courts.

In Windsor the Juvenile Court was first established


in 1922. The title remained the same until 1953 when it officially became the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County.¹

Since 1929, many more statutes dealing with the unique problems of youth have been passed. The Education Act,² the Training Schools Act,³ and the Child Welfare Act⁴ are some of the statutes that fall within the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court.

Summary

Since the turn of the century, many changes have occurred in the development of techniques for dealing with youthful offenders. Legislation has been enacted, guaranteeing the unique rights of children to be treated not as adults. The intentions of the Juvenile Delinquents Act are representative of this philosophy. Problems of function are sometimes experienced in the administration of the Act. Part II of this chapter will review some of these problematic areas and present some implications for practice.


PART II

Problem Areas in Juvenile Court

While the juvenile courts do meet a very distinct need in our society, problem areas in the court's functioning do exist. The way the court is organized, its dual purpose, the types of cases dealt with, the child's perspective of the court and procedural problems can all lead to difficulties within the court's process. It would seem appropriate to discuss each one of these areas separately.

The Problem of Federal-Provincial Jurisdictions

The first problem encountered in the organization of juvenile court is the fact that the juvenile court, a provincial institution, must enforce Federal legislation, namely the Juvenile Delinquents Act. The Federal Department of Justice Committee commented on this organizational problem when they reported that the Parliament of Canada:

...has the constitutional power to define delinquency and to declare what the consequences may be when a juvenile is found to be delinquent. However, the administration of justice including the police and the juvenile courts is a provincial responsibility. Above all the preventative agencies of the home, school, church, and recreational facilities, as well as the social services are subject to the legal
control of the provincial legislature.¹

This division of powers becomes a predicament when the province is compelled to enforce statutes and philosophies over which it has no legislative control. Although the provincial legislation concerning child welfare has been updated, the federal legislation, primarily the Juvenile Delinquents Act remains almost unchanged since 1929. Yet it is the philosophy and direction given by this Act that the magistrate at the local level must enforce.

Purpose of Juvenile Court

The juvenile court encounters problems in meeting its purposes. The Juvenile Delinquents Act provides a scope to the purpose of the court. It charges the court with parental responsibility in terms of the "care, custody and discipline"² of the child. At the same time the Act reminds the court that the child is not to be treated as a criminal but rather as a "misdirected and misguided child."³ Section 20 of the Act states further that "action taken, shall in every case, be that which the court is of the opinion the child's own good and the best

²The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 38.
³The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 38.
interests of the community require." The reader should note that the purpose of court is twofold; to represent the best interests of the child and at the same time the best interests of the community. The question arises from this dual purpose as to whose interest should receive priority, the child's or the community's?

Types of Cases: Delinquency vs. Neglect

The juvenile court deals with destitute and neglected children as well as children who have committed "criminal" acts. This broad jurisdictional base, therefore, extends "beyond the violator of criminal law and embraces the actions and family circumstances deemed presently or potentially to be injurious to the welfare of the child or society." Stephen M. Herman wrote that:

...the jurisdictional basis of juvenile court are motivated by two separable purposes: the purpose of crime prevention motivates delinquency jurisdiction and the purpose of social welfare service of the state, traditionally labelled pares patriae motivates dependancy and neglect jurisdiction.

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1 The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 20, sub. 5.


These two categories of cases, delinquency and neglect, are problematic for the juvenile court in that no concise definitions are available to distinguish delinquency from neglect. Thus, the court is faced with the prospect of adjudicating the existence or non-existence of a neglect situation under the guise of a finding of delinquency.

The Child's Perspective: Deterrence vs. Punishment

The concepts of deterrence and punishment may be synonymous with the finding of delinquency. One is led to question how these two concepts effect the child's perception of the court.

We refuse to talk about deterrents in juvenile and family courts yet we believe in deterrents. We play down punishment but the children see the court as a place where punishment is metered out.¹

Is it the purpose of the court to discourage "delinquency" or to prevent "neglect"? The legislation presently in use is not clear concerning this question.

The purpose of juvenile court is vaguely multi-dimensional. It includes protection; treatment of the child; and deterrence from further delinquency. The adjudications of the court are expected to represent the best interests of the child and also the community.

The complexities inherent in this multi purpose approach of the court may produce confusion in the purpose and procedure of the service delivery to the child who is the consumer of the service.

Procedural Difficulties: Flexibility vs. Due Process

Procedural difficulties in the juvenile court are also provoked by the legislature. The Juvenile Delinquents Act clearly states that "proceedings under this Act, with respect to a child, including trial and disposition may be as informal as circumstances permit." This informal orientation is complicated when the same section of the Act cautions the court that due process of law is not to be sacrificed because of the informality.

This guarantee of due process is seemingly negated when the Act states that:

...no adjudication or other action of a juvenile court with respect to a child shall be quashed or set aside because of any informality or irregularity where it appears that the disposition of the case was in the best interests of the child.

It would appear then, that the only true avenue

1 The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 17, sub. 1.

2 The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 17, sub. 1.

3 The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 17, sub. 2.
of appeal would occur when the disposition of the case was clearly not in the best interests of the child. The court is charged with guaranteeing due process of law yet the denial of due process is not, according to the Act, grounds for the appeal of a decision. Interestingly enough, the Act does not define what are the best interests of the child.

The Juvenile Delinquents Act does not stipulate the role of counsel in juvenile court procedure. This absence is crucial when one examines the impact of decisions on recent cases in the courts of the United States. P. B. Chapman, a professor at the University of Western Ontario Law School, stated that:

...during the past decade our neighbours to the south have been forced to recognize, investigate and reform this area of their law. The landmark cases of in re Gault, Kent v. the United States and Whittington v. the United States have caused a re-vivifying stir among the legislators, theorists and practitioners inducing them to cope with the resultant confusion.¹

The decisions in these cases, particularly in re Gault strongly reaffirmed the child's right to counsel and representation. We, in Canada, have had no such landmark cases at present.² The procedural question of whether


a child should or should not have access to legal counsel affects the philosophy of the court. If the child does have a right to counsel then what will the counsellor's role be? Will it be the traditional "adversary" role; or will it be a role specific to the court? At present, the lawyer's role remains in a vague limbo between the two points. It suffices to say that the procedure of juvenile court and the role of counsel may not be entirely compatible. This is an issue to which we will address ourselves in greater depth further on in the chapter.

Finally, much of the direct procedure followed by a particular court is left up to the discretion of the individual magistrates. The power of enforcement given local provincial courts may lead to inconsistency in the application of the current legislation's philosophy.

The purpose, philosophy, and the delivery of service can be influenced by the procedure under which the court operates. This is also true of the professionals who practice in the juvenile courts. Their performance may be negatively influenced by vague, inconsistent procedure.

Summary

In summation, the purpose of this section was to have the reader become aware of the difficulties, lack of consistency, and the vague interpretations that surround
juvenile court purpose, and procedure. These factors are responsible for the dilemma that must be encountered by the professionals practicing in the juvenile court setting. With this orientation, the paper examined several studies related to some of the problems discussed.

PART III

Studies Relating to Professional Roles and Professional Interaction in Juvenile Court

The professional participants in the juvenile court process play a most important role in that system for it is they who interpret and operationalize the legislation in respect to the child.

Much of the existing literature does not encompass the scope of this project in that it does not include all four professional groups interacting simultaneously within the juvenile court setting. The studies we have identified dealt specifically with the interaction of one profession with another. A clear conception of role and role conflict was essential to fully comprehend the significance of this research and the studies reviewed here.

Role Theory

The concept of role can best be approached in terms of the individual's perception of the quality of
his own interaction with others. In his article, "Role, Personality and Social Structure in the Organizational Setting", Daniel J. Levinson makes this point and adds a further dimension:

Role may be defined as the member's orientation or conception of the part he has to play in the organization. It is so to say his inner definition of what someone in his social position is supposed to think and do.¹

This definition also introduces another significant aspect or feature of "role," which is that a person performs as he perceives he is expected to perform in relation to his position. Levinson indicated further that:

In this sense role refers to the ways members of a position act (with or without conscious intention) in accord with or in violation of a given set of organizational norms.²

There is, therefore, some suggestion that role is developed in terms of the norms and expectations of others in the organization.


Two role theorists, Theodore R. Sarbin and Vernon L. Allen, further add to the concept of role expectations by advocating that role expectations are the link between social structure and role behavior. They wrote that:

Role expectations are comprised of the rights and privileges, the duties and obligations of any occupant of a social position in relation to persons occupying other positions in the social structure.¹

Role expectations suggest that the concept of role has an interactional behavior component in that a person in one role interacts with persons in complimentary roles. The interaction between a role and a complimentary role may occur as a result of the expectations of others.

Role expectations also vary along certain dimensions. They can be general or specific, clear or unclear. They can vary along a consensus-conflict continuum, that is, the degree to which other people agree or disagree in their role expectations.²

Role expectations have two component parts. There is the individual's personal conception of what is expected of a person in a specific role and there are expectations concerning the same role held by persons in complimentary


positions. Therefore, a person's behavior may be influenced not only by his own perceptions but also by the perceptions of others.

Another aspect of role expectations is their normative (should or ought) quality. This quality implies approval or disapproval of persons enacting given roles. Role expectations can influence and possibly determine the quality of a person's performance in a particular setting. Role expectations may induce conformity in the person performing the role.  

Role expectations also vary in their degree of clarity. If a role expectation has never been clearly defined for the role performer, a conflict situation may result. The lack of clarity may exist because the occupants of complimentary roles cannot agree upon a particular role definition. Role vagueness can also result from incongruity between a role performer's own expectations for his role and the expectations of others concerning the same role.

The effect of unclear role expectations is that they lead to a sense of personal frustration and strain and they limit a person's problem solving ability. This also may lead to tensions, job dissatisfaction, a sense of futility and lessening of self confidence.  

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When a person finds that his performance is not congruent with other's expectations of his performance, he finds himself in a role conflict situation. "Role conflict occurs when a person finds himself concurrently in two or more positions requiring contradictory role enactment." 1

Role conflict occurring between the professions is called interprofessional role conflict. Role conflict occurring within the members of a particular profession is called intraprofessional role conflict.

An example of interprofessional role conflict would be the lawyer feeling that he should decide upon an appropriate placement for a particular child while the social worker and judge felt that he should not perform this role. Here, the lawyer's perception of his own role would not be congruent with the perceptions of other members in complimentary positions.

An example of intraprofessional role conflict would be the social workers, as a group, not being able to agree that the performance of a particular role or task was appropriate for their profession or another profession to perform.

Having reviewed these basic concepts, the researchers felt they could proceed with a review of the studies that were related to the present research project.

The studies reviewed in major Social Work and Law Journals were separated into two categories: those pertaining to a particular professional role in juvenile court and those pertaining to professional interaction in juvenile court. Studies dealing with professional role are presented first followed by those that discussed professional interaction.

**Professional Roles**

**Role of the Lawyer**

The authors writing about the lawyer's role in juvenile court seem to agree that this role has not been clearly defined in legislation or in practice.

In their paper, "Defense Counsel in Juvenile Court: A Variety of Roles," Inez Dootjes, Patricia Erickson and Richard C. Fox, researchers at the University of Toronto Center of Criminology, described the lack of role clarity for the lawyer in the juvenile court. They alleged that:

The informal structure of the juvenile court system with its broad rehabilitative goals and non adversary philosophy provides an ambiguous model for lawyers working within this framework. The lawyer's role is not ready made but appears to be developed on the basis of his experience in court. The lawyer's own perception of his task and his perception of what other court participants expected of him were also shown to be two contributing factors in role confusion.¹

The lawyer’s role consists of two expectations which may not be congruent and consequently may contribute to this role conflict. The lawyer should act as an advocate on his client’s behalf and yet seek an adjudication that is in the child’s best interests. In his article, "The Attorney and the Dispositional Process," Joseph T. Walsh, a lawyer, commented on this dilemma.

This position makes the attorney’s role more difficult to ascertain: he must strongly defend his client’s constitutional rights and at the same time seek a disposition in the child’s best interests.¹

Dootjes, et al. study of thirty lawyers practicing in the Juvenile Court of Metropolitan Toronto confirmed the existence of confusion in the area of advocacy versus best interests. The study revealed that lawyers thought that the other professionals’ expectations of the legal role were different as the lawyer functioned in the capacity of duty counsel than when he functioned as private counsel. As duty counsel, the lawyers felt they were to be supportive and act as a resource person for the client. As private counsel, the lawyers felt they were to act more as an advocate on the child’s behalf. The lawyers perceived that these expectations came from the judge, the police

and the juveniles.¹

Another reason for the vagueness of the lawyer's role is that traditionally the lawyer has not been involved in juvenile court. P. B. Chapman, law professor at the University of Western Ontario, was alarmed at the frequency of lawyer's absence in the juvenile court process. He was concerned because "nearly all the juveniles subjected to the juvenile court process are not represented by counsel."²

In his article, Chapman commented on the reasons for the traditional absence of counsel in juvenile court. Historically, the probation officer was to act in the child's best interests. Many judges did not think that counsel was necessary as they themselves assumed the role of counsel. Also, many lawyers received little or no training related to their practice in juvenile court. Often times juvenile cases were not sufficiently remunerative to warrant the required degree of time that the lawyer invested in these hearings.³

The informality of juvenile court proceedings


also contributes to conflict concerning the role of the lawyer. H. W. Dunham contended that the legal factors of due process of law such as rules of evidence and the limitations of testimony have been done away with because of the court's belief that the child has a problem and is thus not a criminal. The implication is that counsel's function which entails ensuring his client due process of law is impaired because of the informal orientation and the general philosophy of the juvenile court.

Sol Rubin, counsel for the United States National Counsel on Crime and Delinquency, commented on the meaning of informality in the juvenile court process.

Informal means that the rigidity of a criminal or civil trial is not necessarily appropriate to or required in juvenile court but it does not mean that a hearing is anything short of judicial.

It would seem then that the informality which makes the juvenile court unique among other courts should not be achieved at the risk of sacrificing a client's right to due process of law and adjudication.

In summation, informality, tradition and conflicting expectations among the members in juvenile court have

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all contributed to the vagueness of the lawyer's role. Some authors have made suggestions to increase the clarity of the lawyer's role as well as to improve the service of the court to the child.

Jacob L. Isaacs, author of "The Lawyer in the Juvenile Court," recommended that the juvenile court process be divided into two distinct phases of adjudication and disposition as one way to clarify the lawyer's role. In the adjudication phase, the lawyer would act solely on behalf of his client while in the disposition stage he would be actively involved in treatment planning.¹

Francis J. Allen similarly wrote of the need for two separate phases in his article, "Criminal Justice, Legal Values and the Rehabilitative Ideal." Allen was also convinced of the necessity of proving delinquency before social histories and diagnoses were presented. He wrote:

The essential point is that the issues of treatment and therapy be clearly kept distinct from whether the person committed the acts which authorize the intervention of state power in the first place.²

H. Warren Dunham concurred with the adjudication


requirement stating that:

It seems extremely relevant if only in the interests of fair play to establish the fact as to whether or not a child committed a particular act that would make him delinquent under the existing statute.\(^1\)

The process of establishing innocence or guilt in the adjudication phase would certainly clarify the lawyer's role as he responds to his client's needs and the expectations of other courtroom officials. However, what would the lawyer's role be in the disposition phase?

Isaacs thought that the lawyer could act as the advocate of the child's rights, guardian of the child's welfare and interpreter of the court's decision to the child and his parents.\(^2\)

According to Doatjes, et al. the lawyer could assume the role of *amicus curiae*, or friend of the court, advising judges and parents on points of law or persuading a more social orientation by trying to best meet the child's needs.\(^3\)

In summation, it would seem that confusion concerning the lawyer's role is at least partially due to the

\(^{1}\)H. Warren Dunham, "The Juvenile Court: Contradictory Orientations in Processing Offenders," p. 517.


juvenile court's philosophy, purpose and procedure. Due process of law is handicapped by a guise of informality which has in turn neutralized the effect of the lawyer's intervention and left him groping for some direction which is at least partially congruent with his practice and professional training. In order to clarify the lawyer's role, several authors suggested dividing the juvenile court process into two distinct phases of adjudication and disposition. The researchers agreed with these authors for two reasons. First, not only the lawyer's role would be clarified but clarification might also occur in the roles of the other professional members involved in the court. Second, although such an approach would tend to give the court a more legalistic orientation, the child's rights would be better safeguarded.

Role of the Judge

The literature pertaining to the role of the judge consistently suggested that this role was extremely complex. In his article "A Training Course for Juvenile Court Judges," Eugene H.Burns commented that a juvenile court judge needs background training in law, awareness of the psychosocial dynamics of individuals and families and awareness of the related community services. In the performance of this duty the judge must be able to
blend legal aspects, social factors and clinical findings.\footnote{Eugene H. Burns, "A Training Course for Juvenile Court Judges," \textit{Crime and Delinquency} 8 (April 1962): 186-187.} One becomes more aware of the complexity of the judicial role from Rubin's comments concerning the impact of informality on the judge's role are examined. Rubin believes that the complexity of the judicial role is partially due to the requirement of ensuring due process of the law without the guidelines of criminal procedure.\footnote{Sol Rubin, "Trends in Juvenile Court Philosophy," p. 55.}

Further, the judge is responsible for establishing court procedures and directing the activities of the various professions involved in the juvenile court. The Justice Committee Report stated that:

\begin{quote}
There are a number of areas of activity that require control and direction from the juvenile court judge. It may be necessary to issue policy directives concerning the intake procedures that are to be followed and the criteria that are to govern case selection or screening through intake. Similarly, policies in regard to detention, informal adjustment, court procedure, and after case supervision may require definition by the judge.\footnote{\textit{Justice Committee Report}, p. 153.}
\end{quote}

Considering the many differences, interpretations and perceptions of the judicial role and the dichotomies that prevail when one attempts to synthesize legal and
social functions, the complexity of this role is readily apparent. The judge's role could be interpreted as being primarily legal, primarily social or a combination of legal-social functions. If the judge's role is not clear, what will be the effect of this lack of clarity upon the role performance of other professionals whose roles are supposedly determined by the judge? Also, what would be the effect of this lack of clarity upon the child?

Role of Social Workers and Police

The researchers were not able to locate any literature that dealt specifically with the role of professional social workers and police officers in juvenile court. The former group was also considered to include probation officers.

Professional Interaction

All the studies herein reviewed dealt with the interaction between the social work and legal professions. Although these studies were not identical to the present research project, certain aspects of their content were relevant.

Social Work and Legal Professions

Audrey D. Smith examined the interrelationships between social workers and lawyers in a legal aid setting in Chicago. She indicated that the relationship between these two groups was traditionally antagonistic and suggested that the different backgrounds of each group may have contributed to this state of affairs.
Law is specifically concerned with the individual's legal rights and social work is generally concerned with the welfare of the individual in relation to society. One appeals as a representative of the client to the adversary system of conflict resolution while the other establishes and uses a professional relationship with the client to effect change in the client and his environment.¹

A study undertaken by William C. Brennan and Jefferson H. Ware concurred with the Smith study. Brennan and Ware concluded that differential backgrounds in education, knowledge, terminology and professional orientation played important parts in existing conflicts between the two professions.²

Brennan's and Ware's study, "The Probation Officer's Perception of the Attorney's Role in Juvenile Court," also revealed that probation officers expected lawyers to assume both legal and social welfare roles. At the same time, the social workers also indicated that the lawyers' involvement had a negative effect on the therapeutic nature of the court.³

William C. Brennan, having completed the above


study, joined with Shanti K. Khinduka to examine role
expectations of social workers and lawyers in juvenile
court. These authors developed a twenty-one point list
of activities relevant to the juvenile court. These
activities were divided into three phases: preadjudica-
tion, adjudication and postadjudication. The authors
sought to measure the extent of consensus and conflict
between the responses of the two professions.

Brennan and Khinduka found that conflict existed
in the preadjudication phase because social workers
wanted to perform legal tasks and conflict also existed
in the postadjudication phase because lawyers wanted
to perform therapeutically oriented tasks.¹

Brennan and Khinduka concluded that if these
findings were anywhere near accurate, one could

...reasonably predict a considerable degree
of conflict between social workers and
lawyers as they continue to interact with
each other in a multidisciplinary setting
undergoing rapid change.²

The studies reviewed to this point were highly
suggestive of the existence of interprofessional conflict
between the social work and lawyer professions both within

¹William C. Brennan and Shanti K. Khinduka, "Role
Expectations of Social Workers and Lawyers in Juvenile

²William C. Brennan and Shanti K. Khinduka, "Role
Expectations of Social Workers and Lawyers in Juvenile
Court," p. 198.
and outside of the juvenile court setting. This suggestion of interprofessional conflict also exists as studies concerning the interaction of social workers and judges are considered.

**Social Work and Judicial Professions**

Perhaps the most recent study of professional role interaction in juvenile court was an unpublished thesis undertaken by Samuel M. Freeman of the University of Calgary in 1972. Freeman completed an exploratory investigation of the social work and judicial roles in the Juvenile Court of Edmonton, Alberta. He used a structured interview to study a population of four juvenile court judges and eleven probation officers.

Freeman discovered that role expectations between social workers and judges were not formally or systematically communicated and this poor communication resulted in role conflict and ambiguity within the system.¹

Freeman's study also indicated that the participants had different perspectives about the purpose of juvenile court. Some respondents considered the court to be a judicial system while others felt it was more of a social welfare system.²


Freeman's research implies that there is a need for the professionals involved in juvenile court to clearly define such areas as philosophy of the court, purpose of the court, individual roles and role expectations. These tasks are prerequisites to the aversion of role conflict. Freeman thought that educators should offer professionals more adequate training in interdisciplinary functioning. He concluded that:

Social work stresses the need for interdisciplinary cooperation to best serve the needs of the client. This study indicates that interdisciplinary understanding and cooperation between only two professions in a relatively simple structure is less than adequate.¹

This finding leads to the question: where do the employers' and educators' responsibilities lie for the preparation and training of professionals to function in an interdisciplinary setting?

Police and Other Professions

The Justice Committee on Juvenile Delinquency reported on the quality of interaction between police officers and other professionals in juvenile courts. "In Canada the relationships between the police departments and juvenile courts were generally good."² However, the

²Justice Committee Report, p. 113.
report did suggest that occasionally conflict did exist between police officers and judges stating that:

Sometimes there exists a failure of some police officers to appreciate the philosophy of juvenile court and a lack of understanding by some judges of special difficulties and problems of police work.\(^1\)

The report also revealed that conflict existed between police officers and social workers due to the fact that the social workers occasionally

...downgrade the police officer because he is likely to have less formal education or because he is considered to have an overly punitive attitude. On the other hand the police officer criticizes social workers for their failure to understand the legal implications of police work.\(^2\)

Thus, it is evident that in the performance of their duty in juvenile court, police officers occasionally encounter conflictual situations with other professions.

**Summary**

The literature reviewing professional interaction indicated that conflict did occur among professionals in juvenile court. The literature also suggested that such factors as education, professional focus, experience and most important, clearly defined roles and purpose, determined the extent to which conflict did or did not exist.

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\(^1\) *Justice Committee Report*, p. 113.

\(^2\) *Justice Committee Report*, p. 113.
PART IV

Summary and Conclusions

This chapter examined the philosophy, development and function of the Juvenile Court in Ontario. Many implications were drawn from the literature reviewed.

The researchers felt that The Juvenile Delinquents Act was responsible for much of the conflict that was identified. The Act's vagueness makes interpretation difficult and its incongruent philosophies lead only to confusion. The Act offers minimal direction in the area of participant role performance. The fact that the Provincial Government has no jurisdiction over the Federal legislation it must enforce was also seen as another limitation. The researchers wondered to what extent did the seeming lack of clarity inherent in the Act effect the judges, lawyers, social workers and police officers who worked within the framework of this legislation.

The literature review included studies pertaining to professional interaction particularly between lawyers and social workers. The bulk of the literature reviewed indicated that conflict between the professions in the interdisciplinary setting of juvenile court was not uncommon.

Many authors felt that increased training in interdisciplinary practice was required.

Brennan and Khinduka wrote:
Each profession will have to rid itself of stereotypes of the other and come to a better understanding and acceptance of their differential backgrounds. There is also a need for setting up interdisciplinary training sessions.¹

Brennan and Ware's study of probation officer's perceptions of attorney's roles suggested increased legal training for probation officers and more interaction between probation officers and lawyers to improve the service of the court.² Freeman suggested that educators offer professionals more adequate training in interdisciplinary functioning.³ The Justice Committee reported the necessity of "increased training for every police officer in juvenile work"⁴ and recommended the setting up of interdisciplinary educational programmes between police and social workers and police and judges.⁵ Douglas and Loraine Cook, authors of "The Lawyer and Social Worker: Compatible Conflict," thought that conflict between lawyers and social workers


2 William C. Brennan and Jefferson H. Ware, "The Probation Officer's Perception of Attorney's Role in Juvenile Court," p. 177.


4 Justice Committee Report, p. 115.

5 Justice Committee Report, p. 113.
could be dispelled by mutual enlightenment which would lead to interdisciplinary cooperation.¹

The researchers agreed with the necessity of educating individuals to improve their understanding of their own and others roles in juvenile court, keeping in mind the goal of maximizing service to the consumer, the child.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to examine the extent of role conflict and role consensus among the professions involved in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County. The researcher's had been extensively involved in this court as professional social workers. We thought that although role conflict had never been identified it nevertheless existed. We were concerned that role conflict would negatively effect the service that this court had to offer to the child. With these concerns in mind we addressed ourselves to the question of professional role performance between social workers, lawyers, judges and police officers in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County.

Research Design

The design strategy employed in this project was of an exploratory type. Exploratory studies are:

...empirical research investigations which have as their purpose the formulation of a problem or a set of questions, developing hypotheses, or increasing the investigator's
familiarity with a phenomenon or a setting
to lay the basis for future research....
Relatively systematic procedures for
obtaining empirical observations and/or
for the analysis of data may be used.1

The exploratory research design is sometimes re-
garded as being quite unscientific in its approach. It
did, however, fulfill the purpose of our study in that it
lends itself to "broader issues than those posed in the
erperiment."2 The exploration of broader issues
generated specific questions for future research.

The design employed could be further sub-typed
as being exploratory-descriptive. The purpose of
exploratory-descriptive studies is to "refine and define
concepts and hypothesis. Quantitative and qualitative
descriptions are used. Little concern is given to systematic
representativeness. Various sampling procedures may be used."3

This study was exploratory in that its task was to
clarify the "actual" and "ideal" role perceptions of the
various professionals involved in the Provincial Court

1Philip Fellin, Toni Tripodi and Henry J. Meyer
(eds.) Exemplars of Social Research (Illinois: E. A.

2Claire Selltiz, Marie Johoda, Morton Deutch and
Stewart W. Cook (eds.) Research Methods in Social Rela-

3Fellin, et al., Exemplars of Social Research,
p. 256.
(Juvenile Division) of Essex County. It also sought to identify areas of role conflict and consensus between and within the professions so that procedures designed to correct the conflict may be initiated. This study also sought to open up areas for future research in Juvenile Court to assist the court in improving its present state of functioning.

This study was descriptive in that it sought to describe the relationship between age, experience, previous training, education, role definition and perceived professional effectiveness.

**Operational Definitions**

The broad scope of this project required that concise definitions be provided for some specific items. In this particular study, the following concepts were operationally defined.

**Juvenile Court** was defined as "any court duly established under any provincial statute for the purpose of dealing with delinquents."¹ In this study, Juvenile Court meant that division of the Provincial Court that dealt with juveniles in Windsor, Essex County.

**Judges** were those persons serving in the capacity of Provincial Court Judge as defined by the Juvenile

¹ *The Juvenile Delinquents Act*, sec. 2, sub. 1.
Delinquents Act, section 2(1). In this study, judge referred to those persons who served on the bench of the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) Essex County who were empowered to enforce the Juvenile Delinquents Act.

Police Officers were those Peace Officers employed in the Youth Branch of the Windsor Police Department and those peace officers in the Essex Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police who were involved in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County prior to May 1, 1975 and after January 1, 1960.

Social Workers were those employees of the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society of Essex County and Essex County Children's Aid Society who had been involved in the above mentioned court during the period specified.

Lawyers were defined as those members of the Law Society of Upper Canada who had been involved in the Juvenile Division of the Provincial Court of Essex County prior to May 1, 1975 and after January 1, 1960.

Role Performance was defined as the perceived "actual" and "ideal" performance of a given task by the professionals involved in the Windsor Juvenile Court. "Actual" performance referred to the respondents' perceptions of what they and others actually did. "Ideal" performance referred to the respondents' perceptions of what they and others should be doing.

Interprofessional Role Conflict was defined as
the inability of any two of the four professions to agree between themselves upon any profession's "actual" or "ideal" role performance of a particular task. Interprofessional role conflict was identified by a mean score difference of 1.0 or more between the professions. The data collection instrument provided a six point scale to measure the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance. It was considered that a mean difference of 1.0 on a scale of this nature represented a significant difference in perceptions between the professions.

Intraprofessional Role Conflict was defined as the inability of the members of any given profession to agree among themselves upon their own or other professions' "actual" or "ideal" role performance of a particular task. Intraprofessional role conflict was said to exist when the standard deviation of a professions' mean response score was 1.4 or greater. The rationale for using 1.4 as an indicator of intraprofessional conflict was as follows. First, the researchers determined that such a deviation could not represent a significant degree of agreement among the members of a particular profession, as indicated by a wide spread of responses, as they perceived their own and others "actual" and "ideal" role performance of a given task. Second, further analysis revealed that 99
of 338 standard deviations were 1.4 or greater. The researchers were of the opinion that an examination of these areas would provide for an adequate analysis of the most evident intraprofessional conflict situations.

The researchers discovered that standard deviations including and exceeding 1.4 represented two types of intraprofessional conflict situations. The first type of conflict was a result of a wide range of responses within a professional group. The second type of conflict was more a result of the polarization of responses within a profession. In this type of conflict situation, usually 70 per cent or more of the members of a particular professional group responded at one end of the continuum while the remainder of the responses were polarized at the opposite end of the continuum.

These two types of intraprofessional conflict situations were differentiated and identified in the presentation of data in Chapter IV.

Interprofessional Role Consensus was defined as the ability of two or more professions to agree between themselves any professions "actual" or "ideal" role performance of a particular task. Interprofessional role consensus was determined by a mean score difference of less than 1.0 between the professions.

Intraprofessional Role Consensus was defined as the ability of the members of any given profession to
agree among themselves upon their own profession's or another profession's "actual" or "ideal" role performance of a particular task. Intraprofessional role consensus was indicated by standard deviations of 1.3 or less.

Assumptions

There were four assumptions germane to this study.

1) The Juvenile Court exists primarily for the benefit of the child, therefore the child's welfare is the primary responsibility of the court. The purpose of Juvenile Court is clearly stated in section 38 of the Juvenile Delinquents Act. The Act states:

...that the care and custody and discipline of a juvenile delinquent shall approximate as nearly as may be that which should be given by his parents; and that as far as practicable every juvenile delinquent shall be treated, not as a criminal but as a mis-directed and misguided child and one needing aid, encouragement, help and assistance.¹

2) Unless there is a high degree of interdisciplinary cohesion, the juvenile court cannot adequately achieve its purpose.

3) In order to achieve this interdisciplinary consensus, there has to be a high degree of role clarity among all the professionals involved in the

¹The Juvenile Delinquents Act, sec. 38.
juvenile court.

4) If the juvenile court is dysfunctional in the above areas, the dysfunction will detract from the purpose of the court.

**Research Questions**

There were three specific questions that this study attempted to answer.

1) To what extent did role conflict and role consensus exist in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County, between and within the four professions studied?

2) To what extent did the following factors contribute to a respondent's perceived professional effectiveness: a) education, b) formal training specifically related to juvenile court, c) actual experience in juvenile court, d) age, e) perceived status, and f) having a formal role definition?

3) What impact did the following variables have on professional role performance: a) legislation, b) court policy, c) professional education, d) other professionals, and e) on the job experience?

**The Setting**

The setting for this study was the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County.

There were two judges assigned to this court.
One was employed on a full-time basis while the other was employed on a part-time basis and spent the remainder of his time presiding over the Provincial Court (Criminal Division) of Essex County.

The Juvenile Division of the Essex County Provincial Court is in session two days a week, usually Thursday and Friday. For the remainder of the week this court is used as the Provincial Court (Family Division) of Essex County.

The Population

The population for this study was obtained by purposive sampling methods. Selltiz, et al. stated that:

The basic assumption behind purposive sampling is that with good judgment and an appropriate strategy one can hand pick the cases to be included in the sample and thus develop samples that are satisfactory in relation to one’s needs.¹

The population included all of the available members of the four distinct professional groups previously identified who had been involved in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County prior to May 1, 1975 and after January 1, 1960.

The Windsor Juvenile Court, the Windsor Police Department, the Ontario Provincial Police (Essex Detachment) and both Windsor Children's Aid Societies were

¹Claire Selltiz, et al., Research Methods in Social Relations, p. 520.
contacted. A list of lawyers qualifying for this study was provided by the officials of the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division). With the assistance of these agencies it was determined that the proposed research population would number 85 professionals.

Data Collection Instrument

A uniform questionnaire was distributed to the population members (See Appendix A). The researchers thought that a single questionnaire would provide an element of consistency and would also facilitate the reliability of the data collection procedure. The respondents' anonymity was maintained as the returned questionnaires designated only their profession.

The questionnaire consisted of four distinct sections. Section A was designed to collect information of a general nature such as age, profession and length of experience in juvenile court. The respondents were also questioned on formal training specifically related to juvenile court.

Section B of the questionnaire consisted of fourteen separate tasks specifically related to the juvenile court procedure. Some of these tasks were taken from Brennan and Khinduka's study of "Role Expectations of Social Workers and Lawyers in the
Juvenile Court.\textsuperscript{1}

The researchers thought that some of these tasks were not appropriate for the local court and hence decided to include tasks that were more appropriate to the local setting.

Section B considered the respondents' perceptions of who actually performed each of fourteen tasks. The respondents were asked to rate the degree of appropriateness of each task for each profession on a six point scale.

Section C of the questionnaire asked the respondents to indicate their perceptions of who ideally should perform these fourteen tasks. Again, a six point response scale was used.

Section D of the questionnaire examined five different areas: formal role definition, perceived professional effectiveness, perceived "actual" and "ideal" status of each profession and the influence of specific factors such as legislation, court policy, professional education, other professions and on the job experience, as determiners of the respondent's perceived role.

The literature review suggested that a role must be clearly defined to avoid role conflict. The researchers wished to know what percentage of the respondents thought

\textsuperscript{1}William C. Brennan and Shanti K. Khinduka, "Role Expectations of Social Workers and Lawyers in the Juvenile Court," p. 197.
their role in juvenile court had been clearly defined. The researchers were concerned that the lack of clear role definition would have a negative effect on a respondent's perceived professional effectiveness.

The researchers also sought to establish whether or not there was a relationship between perceived professional effectiveness and perceived status.

Pre-Test

The questionnaire was pre-tested by eight graduate students from the University of Windsor's School of Social Work. These students had all been previously employed by Children's Aid Societies and had all been involved in a juvenile court setting during their employment.

The questionnaire was also pre-tested by ten law students in their final year at the University of Windsor's Law School. These students were employed at The Legal Assistance of Windsor, a law clinic under the auspices of the University of Windsor, Faculty of Law. The pre-testing lead to some revision and clarification of questions.

Data Collection Procedure

After revision, the questionnaires were distributed to the various persons involved. Each questionnaire was accompanied by a covering letter which explained the purpose of the project and the procedure to be followed.
in the completion of the data collection instrument (See Appendix B).

The questionnaires were reviewed by the chief administrators of both Children's Aid Societies and the two police agencies. The administrators assumed responsibility for the questionnaire distribution and collection. The researchers returned to these agencies two to three weeks later to collect the completed questionnaires from the administrators. A thank you letter was sent to the respondents several weeks later (See Appendix C).

The researchers personally delivered the questionnaires to the judges' offices. The judges were asked to return the completed questionnaires by mail to the School of Social Work within three weeks.

The questionnaires were also personally delivered to the lawyers as these members of the population were located throughout the city. The researchers made arrangements to collect the completed lawyer questionnaires three weeks after distribution.

Data Analysis

The questionnaire was constructed so that it could be coded and programmed for computer analysis. The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences was used to prepare the data for computer analysis at the
CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH FINDINGS

In this chapter, the data will be presented in four major sections namely: (i) the characteristics of the population, (ii) areas of role conflict and role consensus between and within the professions, (iii) the effect of the following variables on perceived professional effectiveness: age, education, previous training related to juvenile court, experience in juvenile court, perceived professional status and formal role definitions, (iv) the impact of the following variables on professional role performance: legislation, court policy, professional education, other professionals and on the job experience. Each of these four major areas will be further subdivided in order to facilitate their examination. In each section, the data will be presented and analysed and some inferences about the findings will be drawn.

PART I

Characteristics of the Population

Response

The response rates of the population are presented 65.
apply to any other Juvenile Court settings. Still, the findings were applicable to the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County and this factor was most important.

The second limitation was population. The size of the population limited the validity of the findings. A larger population would have made the findings more generally applicable.

Thirdly, the researchers did not request that the respondents reply only to situations where all four professions were simultaneously involved with a similar case in Juvenile Court. Due to the questionnaire format the researchers assumed that the respondents were replying to a situation in which all four professions were simultaneously involved. The researchers did not attempt to prove that this assumption was correct.

The questionnaire itself could be seen as a limitation as most of the questions were oriented toward the social work profession. This orientation combined with a larger population of social workers may have caused biased responses.

A final limitation was the fact that the researchers were known in the community as professional social workers may have influenced the respondents answers.
University of Windsor's Computer Center. The results of
the questionnaire were carefully coded and double checked
before computer runs were initiated. The data was re-
turned from the computer and a systematic framework was
devised for its analysis. The details of this framework
are further explained in the following chapter.

The variables age, experience, previous training, education, role definition and perceived status were
cross tabulated with the respondents' perceived pro-
fessional effectiveness.

The appropriate tests of association were employed
to determine the strength of the relationship between the
variables. Goodman and Kruskal's coefficient of ordinal
association (Gamma) was employed to test associations
between nominal and ordinal scales. Gamma was also used
to test the strength of association between two ordinal
variables. When two nominal variables were cross tabulated
Cramer's V was used to test the strength of association.

Limitations of Research Design

The following is a list of limitations of the
research design.

The first limitation concerns the generalization
of the results. The researchers were cognizant of the
fact that this research involved only one Juvenile Court,
and they questioned whether or not these findings would
by profession in Table 1.

**TABLE 1.**—The response rates by profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Number of Questionnaires Sent Out</th>
<th>Returns</th>
<th>Per Cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>71.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>81.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>N=85</strong></td>
<td><strong>N=64</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the 85 questionnaires sent out, 64 were returned in completed form which represented a response rate of 75 per cent. This was indicative of a high percentage of response from each profession with the exception that only one of two judges completed the questionnaire. The other did reply, however, in written form. These written comments were greatly appreciated and became influential, especially in the formulation of the limitations of the research project. The sole judicial questionnaire was included in the sub-population of lawyers, in order to ensure the promised anonymity of each respondent. The rationale for this placement rests on the respondent's training, a Bachelor of Law degree, and the fact that prior to his appointment to the bench he was a practicing member of the Ontario Bar Association.
Mean Ages of Respondents

The mean age of the general population was 31.6 years, as shown in Table 2. It can also be seen that police officers were the oldest by nearly six years while social workers and lawyers were almost the same age. The youngest respondent, a social worker, was 23.9 years while the oldest respondent, a police officer, was 55 years of age.

TABLE 2.--The mean ages for each professional group as well as the general population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Mean Age (years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>30.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Officer</td>
<td>36.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Population</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Educational Level of the Respondents

It can be seen in Table 3 that the educational background of the general population was relatively high with 67.8 per cent holding university degrees. Graduate degrees were held by eight respondents, all social workers. Of the 34 respondents who held degrees at the Bachelor's level, 18 were social workers and 16 were lawyers. There were three respondents, all social workers, who held community college diplomas in Social Service. Among the police officers, 10 respondents had
completed High School as well as some specialized university or department sponsored courses; six respondents had completed High School and one respondent had completed less than High School.

TABLE 3.--The educational backgrounds of members of each profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Level Attained</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total Per Cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Degree</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Degree</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>54.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community College Diploma</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School and Specialized Courses</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than High School</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interestingly enough, even though social workers and lawyers had university degree courses to their credit, the police were the only group indicating that some of their members had taken specialized courses relevant to their profession while they were practicing.

The Respondents' Work Experience in the Juvenile Court

The data presented in Table 4 revealed that the
police officers had the most experience collectively. The legal profession had the least experience while social workers were somewhat more experienced (about 1.4 years) than the lawyers.

TABLE 4.—General population's and professional sub-population's experience in juvenile court work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professions</th>
<th>Experience (mean years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Workers</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officers</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Population</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The population presented a varied range of experience in the juvenile court setting. Some respondents had practiced a minimum of one month while others had practiced at least eight years. The overall average (mean) number of years of practice for the general population was 3.1 years.

Respondents' Previous Training Specifically Related to Juvenile Court Practice

The respondents were asked if they had received any training specifically related to their work in juvenile court. As indicated in Table 5, 30 respondents had received no training specifically related to juvenile court practice.

The group with no previous training included
17 social workers or 58.6 per cent of that group, five lawyers or 31.3 per cent of that group and eight police officers or 50 per cent of that group.

TABLE 5.—Respondents' previous training specifically related to juvenile court practice, by profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Training</th>
<th>Social Worker freq per cent</th>
<th>Lawyer freq per cent</th>
<th>Police Officer freq per cent</th>
<th>Total Freq.</th>
<th>Total Per Cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No previous training</td>
<td>17 58.6</td>
<td>5 31.3</td>
<td>8 50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>49.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profession education</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>10 62.5</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional education, conferences and seminars</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>1 6.2</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional education inservice training</td>
<td>2 6.9</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional education, conferences and seminars, inservice training</td>
<td>2 6.8</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>2 12.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inservice training</td>
<td>3 10.4</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inservice training, conferences and seminars</td>
<td>5 17.3</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>4 25.0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences and seminars</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
<td>2 12.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>29 100</td>
<td>16 100</td>
<td>16 100</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The remaining 51 per cent of the respondents stated that they had received training specifically related to their work in juvenile court. Included within this group were 12 social workers, 11 lawyers, and eight police officers. They had received training in the form of one or more of the following: professional education, conferences and seminars or inservice training. A complete breakdown of this training is presented for each profession in Table 5.

It is interesting to note that 11 of 16 lawyers felt that professional education was preparation specifically related to juvenile court practice. In comparison, 44 members of the population or 72 per cent did not consider professional education as such.

PART II

Interprofessional and Intraprofessional Role Conflict and Consensus in the Professional Population

The major focus of this research project was to determine to what extent role conflict existed in the juvenile court setting. Conflict, as previously defined, could be of an interprofessional or an intraprofessional nature. Further, the research project set out to determine areas of agreement, or more precisely stated areas of consensus between and within the respondent groups.

The concepts of interprofessional role conflict
and consensus and intraprofessional role conflict and consensus shall be restated at this point to enhance the reader's comprehension of what can be considered the major definitions of this paper.

1. **Interprofessional role conflict** was defined as the inability of any two of the four professions to agree between themselves upon any profession's "actual" and "ideal" role performance of a particular task. Intraprofessional role conflict was identified by a mean score difference of 1.0 or more between the professions "actual" or "ideal" perceptions.

2. **Interprofessional role consensus** was defined as the ability of two or more professions to agree between themselves upon any professions "actual" or "ideal" performance of a particular task. Interprofessional role consensus was determined by a mean score difference of less than 1.0 between the profession's "actual" or "ideal" perceptions.

3. **Intraprofessional role conflict** was defined as the inability of the members of any given profession to agree among themselves upon their own or any other profession's "actual" or "ideal" role performance. Intraprofessional role conflict was said to exist when the standard deviation

*The reader should note that because of the limited response of the judicial profession the study included only three professions (lawyers, police officers, social workers) perceptions of the four roles.*
of a profession's "actual" or "ideal" response was greater than or equal to 1.4. Intraprofessional role conflict could appear in widespread response of a population as well as concentrated polarized responses.

4. **Intraprofessional Role Consensus** was defined as the ability of the members of any given profession to agree among themselves upon their own profession's or another profession's "actual" or "ideal" role performance of a particular task. Intraprofessional role consensus was indicated by a standard deviation of 1.3 or less.

In addition to being familiar with these working definitions, the reader should note that the data analyzed in this section was the responses of each profession to the fourteen tasks of juvenile court presented in sections B and C of the data collection instrument (See Appendix A).

The data discussed in this part of the chapter included the mean score of each profession's perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance, as well as the standard deviation of each mean response. The data was presented and discussed in four distinct sections: a) An introduction to and rationale for the selection of each task was provided. b) The mean score of each profession's perception of role performance and the instances of interprofessional role conflict and consensus were presented and discussed. c) The standard deviations of each profession's responses and incidents of intrapro-
fessional role conflict and consensus were presented and discussed. d) General observations were made concerning the responses to the question.

Once the operational definitions were carefully determined and a consistent framework of analysis and presentation was devised, the researchers proceeded to examine the data collected in sections B and C of the data collection instrument.

#1: Who initiates steps to bring a case to court?

1(a) Introduction

As participants in the juvenile court the researchers thought that the responsibility of bringing a case to court was not clearly established for any one profession. As social workers, the researchers had on occasion initiated steps to bring a child to court. They did not feel comfortable in the performance of this role. The present question was asked simply to clarify the researcher's concerns about who should have this responsibility.

1(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The respondents were asked to indicate their perceptions of who "actually" and "ideally" performed this task. The mean scores for each profession's responses can be found in Table 6.
TABLE 6.—The mean scores of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of initiating steps to bring a case to court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Interprofessional consensus was noted between all the professions' perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this activity.

Each profession agreed that this task was performed by police officers and should be performed by the members of that profession. Although the respondents perceived that the social workers were not often involved in this task, there was agreement that they should become more involved in initiating steps to bring a case to court. The professions also agreed that the judge and the lawyers were not involved in initiating steps to bring a case to court nor should they be involved in the performance of this task.

1(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviations of the responses of each professional group's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance are presented in Table 7.

Intraprofessional consensus existed within the social work group's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performances for the members of their own and other professions.

The lawyer group also shared similar perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" role performances of their own and other professions. Two high standard deviations (1.9 and 1.6) were noted as the lawyers rated "ideal"
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.9*</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
<td>1.8*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

\*a high standard deviation is due to polarity in scores
performance of this task by the social work and judicial professions. Upon further investigation, these deviations proved to be a result of a wide range of scores, and consequently were classified as examples of intra-professional conflict.

The police also shared similar perceptions as they rated the "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the professionals in relation to the task of initiating steps to bring a case to court. The high standard deviations (1.4 and 1.8) concerning the police group's perceptions of the "ideal" performance of this task by the legal and judicial professions when further analysed proved to be a result of a polarity in scores and were thus labelled as examples of intraprofessional conflict.

1(d) General Observations

Complete interprofessional consensus existed between and within the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task. The professions thought that this task was not appropriate for the legal or judicial groups. In terms of initiating steps to bring a case to court, the respondents, although they indicated that social workers actually do not perform this task, did indicate that social workers should become more involved in this activity. All the professions perceived that the police officer was often and should be
often involved in initiating steps to bring a case to court.

Intraprofessional consensus existed within all the professions' perceptions of their own and others' "actual" performance of this task. Intraprofessional conflict, due to a polarity in scores, was noted in the responses of the lawyer and police officers' group.

#2: Who resolves a case informally?

2(a) Introduction

In many instances, a case may be resolved informally or "out of court." From our experience, there seemed to be differences of opinion among the various professions with respect to the question of who resolves a case informally. Hence, this question was posed to see if conflict did exist between and within the professions regarding the informal disposition of a case.

2(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

Interprofessional conflict situations and the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of resolving a case informally are presented in Table 8.

A high degree of interprofessional consensus was shown to exist between the professions' perceptions of both "actual" and "ideal" social work performance in the informal resolution of a case. All the professions thought
TABLE 8.--The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of resolving a case informally

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
that this task was and should be performed by the social work and police professions.

The professions also agreed with each others perceptions of "actual" lawyer performance of this task. Conflict was noted, however, between the lawyer and police group's perceptions of "ideal" lawyer behavior in resolving a case informally.

Consensus existed between all the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" judicial behavior. Although they indicated that the judge was not often involved in the task of resolving a case informally, there was also unanimous agreement that the judicial profession should be more often involved in this task.

The police disagreed with the social workers and lawyers as the three group's perceptions of "actual" police performance were considered. The police perceived that they were involved in this activity while the lawyers and social workers perceived them as being much less active with respect to resolving a case informally.

The lawyers were in conflict with both the social workers and the police as the three groups rated their perceptions of "ideal" police activity in this area.

The lawyers thought that the police should not be involved to the same extent while the other two groups indicated that the police should be involved in the informal resolution of cases.
2(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Rolé Performance

The standard deviations of each professional group's responses were tabulated and areas of conflict within the professions were identified in Table 9.

Intraprofessional consensus existed within the social work group's perceptions of their own and other professions' "actual" performance of the task of resolving a case informally. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was noted in this group's perceptions of the "ideal" performance of the judicial and police officer roles.

Intraprofessional conflict was noted in the perceptions of the lawyer group's rating of "actual" judicial performance and "ideal" police officer involvement in the task of resolving a case informally. A polarity type of conflict was noted as the lawyers perceived the "ideal" judicial role.

The police group's perceptions varied as they considered the "actual" role of the judge and the "ideal" role performance of the lawyer in resolving a case informally. Conflict due to a polarization of scores was also noted as the police group perceived the "actual" legal role and the "ideal" judicial role in resolving a case informally.
TABLE 9.—The standard deviation of each profession's mean perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of resolving a case informally

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Social worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police officer</th>
<th>Social worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.6(^P)</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.6^*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.6^*</td>
<td>1.5^*</td>
<td>1.8(^P)</td>
<td>1.8(^P)</td>
<td>1.8(^P)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.6(^P)</td>
<td>2.0^*</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^*\) indicates conflict within the profession

\(^P\) a high standard deviation is due to polarity in scores
In summation, there is a general tendency for all the groups to be involved in the informal disposition of a case.

The social work role was quite clear as evidenced by interprofessional and intraprofessional consensus between and among the professions. There was some suggestion that social work activity in relation to the performance of this task should be increased.

Table 8 indicated that all three professions agreed that although the judge had limited involvement in the informal resolution of the case, he should become more involved in this activity. The great deal of intraprofessional conflict noted in respect to the "actual" and "ideal" judicial role indicates that the professions are generally quite undecided as to what the "actual" and "ideal" judicial role is and should be in respect to resolving a case informally. Much clarification seems to be needed concerning the judge's involvement in this activity.

There appears to be a reciprocal interprofessional conflict situation between the lawyers and police as these two groups perceive their own "ideal" role and the "ideal" role of the other profession. In both instances, these two groups rated the "ideal" role of the other profession considerably lower than their own "ideal" role performance. Intraprofessional conflict was also noted within each of
these professions as they rated the "ideal" role of the other profession.

2(d) General Observations

1. There is a general indication that all the professions should be somewhat involved in resolving a case informally.

2. The professions share similar perceptions of the social work role in relation to this task.

3. Although the professions agree with respect to the "actual" and "ideal" role of the judge, the extensive intraprofessional conflict noted suggests that there is much clarification needed with respect to the judge's role in resolving a case informally.

4. The findings concerning the police and lawyer groups suggest a lack of understanding between the two groups in regard to each other's "ideal" role performance. Again, there is some suggestion that further role clarity is required.

5. The degree of conflict noted in relation to this task suggests that much clarification is required with respect to who should perform this role.

#3: Who recommends that a particular child be detained?

3(a) Introduction

The detention of any individual is a serious matter. The decision to detain a child has many implications, an
important one being that the child's right to freedom is limited. Due to this important implication, the researchers felt that a clear distinction of role responsibility was necessary in respect to the performance of this task.

3(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The respondents indicated their perceptions of who "actually" and "ideally" performed and should perform this task. The mean scores of their responses along with designated areas of interprofessional conflict are outlined in Table 10.

The respondents shared similar perceptions in their ratings of "actual" and "ideal" social work performance of this task. The professions agreed that social workers do and should recommend the detention of a child.

The professions also agreed with each other as they perceived "actual" and "ideal" lawyer behavior in recommending that a child be detained. Although a mean increase of about 1.0 in the profession's perceptions of ideal lawyer behavior was shown in Table 10, the results indicated that the legal group was not and should not be involved in the performance of this task.

Interprofessional conflict existed between the professions' perceptions of both "actual" and "ideal"
TABLE 10.--The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending the detention of a child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
performance of this task by the judge.

Conflict existed between the lawyer and police professions and potential conflict existed between the social workers and police as these three groups perceived the "actual" role of the judge in recommending that a child be detained. The mean difference in perceptions between the lawyers and police was 1.2 while the mean difference between the social workers and police was 0.9. It seemed that the police thought the judge was very often involved in this activity while the lawyers and social workers perceived that the judge was not as frequently involved in recommending the detention of a child.

This same pattern of conflicting perceptions also occurred as the three groups perceived the "ideal" judicial performance of this task. In this instance, the same pattern of conflict reoccurred. Lawyers were at odds with the police profession and potential conflict existed between the social work and police groups. The wide spread of scores, although they fell at one end of the continuum, suggested that the professions held different "perceptions" of what the judge's role should be in recommending the detention of a child.

Interprofessional consensus existed between the professions as they all perceived that the police
"actually" had limited involvement in recommending the detention of a child.

Most interesting was the great degree of conflict that was noted between all three of the professions as they rated their perceptions of the "ideal" performance of this task by the police officers. In this instance, interprofessional conflict existed between lawyers and police, lawyers and social workers and social workers and police. It seemed that the police perceived that they should be often involved in this activity, social workers thought that their involvement should be minimal and lawyers thought that police should not be involved at all in recommending the detention of a child.

In summation, the social work and legal roles seemed to be most clear in terms of recommending that a child be detained. All the professions agreed that social workers were and should be involved in recommending the detention of a child. Similarly, these professions agreed that lawyers were not and should not be involved in this task. Considerable interprofessional conflict was noted in the professions' perceptions of the "ideal" role performance of the police group and the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by the judge.

3(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

Areas of intraprofessional conflict were outlined
in Table 11 which also provided the standard deviation of each profession's perception of the "actual" and "ideal" performance of the task of recommending the detention of the child.

As a group, the social workers shared similar perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" role performance of their own and the other professions.

Intraprofessional consensus existed within the lawyer group's perceptions of the actual roles of all the professions with the exception of the judicial role. In this instance, a standard deviation of 1.7 indicated a polarity type of intraprofessional conflict. As a group, their perceptions varied in relation to the "actual" role of the judge in recommending the detention of a child.

Intraprofessional conflict was noted in the lawyer's perceptions of the "ideal" role performance of their own role and the judicial and police roles in the performance of this task.

As a group, the police officers shared congruent perceptions of their own and other professions "actual" and "ideal" roles with the exception of the ideal role performance of this activity by the legal profession.

3(d) General Observations

In relation to the task of recommending the detention of the child, several general observations may
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.7*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* indicates conflict within the profession

* A high standard deviation is due to polarity in scores
be made.

1. The social work role is most clearly understood by the professions while the greatest degree of interprofessional conflict existed in relation to the "actual" and "ideal" judicial role performance of this task.

2. Interprofessional and intraprofessional conflict was noted in relation to the "ideal" police role in recommending detention. This finding suggests that the ideal police role needs further clarification.

3. Interprofessional conflict was also discovered in relation to the "actual" and "ideal" role of the judge in recommending detention. It would seem that further clarification is required for this role.

4. The lawyer's "actual" and "ideal" role seems to be clear, but the intraprofessional conflict noted within the social work and police professions' perceptions of "ideal" lawyer behavior suggests that further attempts at clarification of this role are required.

5. The fact that the legal profession had varied perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" judicial role in recommending the detention of a child further supports the implication that further clarity of role performance is required.
Who prepares a child for court?

4(a) Introduction

The task of preparing a child for court is very important. If the child is going to gain any understanding or benefit from the court he must be aware of the meaning of the court process as he appears before it. Thus, the person who prepares the child for court bears a good deal of the responsibility for ensuring that the child understands the significance of his court appearance. With this idea in mind, one can see the importance of role clarity among the professionals in relation to the task of preparing a child for court.

4(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

Table 12 identifies how the professions perceived their own and others "actual" and "ideal" role performance in terms of the task of preparing a child for court. Areas of interprofessional conflict are also identified within this table.

Interprofessional conflict existed between social workers and lawyers as the three professions rated "actual" social work performance of this task. However, the professions did share similar perceptions of the "ideal" performance of this task by social workers.

As the professions indicated their perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" lawyer role performance of the task
TABLE 12.—The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of preparing the child for court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.3*</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>4.9*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>3.7*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
of preparing a child for court conflict was noted between the social workers and lawyers in both instances. All the professions agreed that this task was not and should not be performed by the judge.

Even though all the professions' responses fell at the lower end of the continuum, interprofessional conflict was noted between the legal and police perceptions of "actual" police performance of preparing a child for court.

Interprofessional conflict existed between lawyers and social workers and lawyers and police as the three groups' perceptions of "ideal" police performance of this task were taken into consideration. The police and social workers thought that the police officers should be involved in preparing a child for court while lawyers thought that police officers should not be involved in the performance of this task.

In summation, it seems that lawyers and social workers were involved in a reciprocal conflict situation in relation to the task of preparing a child for court. Social workers rated the lawyers' performance of this task lower than their own profession and lawyers, in turn, did the same with respect to social workers.

Lawyers also seemed to be at odds with the police in the areas of "actual" and "ideal" police performance of this activity.
4(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviation of the responses from each professional group were tabulated and areas of conflict were indicated on Table 13.

As a group, social workers shared similar perceptions of all the professions' roles except for the "actual" role of the lawyer and the "ideal" role of the police profession in respect to the task of preparing a child for court.

Intraprofessional consensus was identified within the lawyer group as this profession perceived their own and other professions' "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task.

Intraprofessional consensus was widespread throughout the police profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by their own and other professions. However, intraprofessional conflict was noted within this group's perceptions of their own "ideal" behavior regarding the task of preparing a child for court.

4(d) General Observations

1. The judicial role in preparing the child for court was most clearly understood by the professions. The professions agreed that the judge was not and should not be involved in preparing the child for court.
TABLE 13.—The standard deviation of each profession's mean perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of preparing a child for court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Social worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police officer</th>
<th>Social worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.8*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession
2. Social workers and lawyers seemed to be involved in a reciprocal type of interprofessional conflict which seems to be caused by both professions wanting to assume the major responsibility for preparing a child for court. These responses also hinted at a tendency of these two professions to want to duplicate this service.

3. Interprofessional conflict was noted between lawyers and police perceptions of "actual" police behavior of preparing a child for court.

4. Interprofessional conflict existed between lawyers and social workers and lawyers and police perceptions of "ideal" police behavior. Social workers and police thought that the police profession should be involved in preparing a child for court while lawyers indicated that the police should not be involved in this task.

5. Coupled with this finding, when one considers that intraprofessional conflict existed within the social work and police perceptions of "ideal" police behavior, there seems to be much that is unclear about the police role in respect to preparing a child for court.

In sum, much clarity seems to be required in respect to the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task.
#5: Who prepares the child's family for court?

5(a) Introduction

The juvenile's family feels the impact of the child's appearance in court. Although not covered in the literature review, the researchers felt that the child's family played a very important part in the juvenile court process. If the family is prepared for and understands the purpose of the court, there is a greater likelihood that they would be more willing to become involved in the child's treatment. Again, because of the importance of this task, the researchers felt that clarity in professional role performance was a necessity.

5(b) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

Interprofessional conflict situations and the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of preparing a child's family for court are presented in Table 14.

Interprofessional consensus existed between the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by the social workers. The professions perceived that social workers were and should be involved in the task of preparing a child's family for court.

A potential conflict situation was indicated
TABLE 14.—The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of preparing a child's family for court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>3.3*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
by a .9 mean difference between the social work and legal perceptions of "actual" legal performance of this task. This potential for conflict was realized in the professions' perceptions of "ideal" legal behavior in preparing a child's family for court. The 1.5 mean score difference between the two groups did indicate varied perceptions although the mean scores were at the higher end of the response scale.

All the professions agreed that the judge was not and should not be involved in the task of preparing a child's family for court.

Interprofessional conflict existed between lawyers and police perceptions of "actual" police activity in regards to the task of preparing a child's family for court. Although their mean scores fell in the lower end of the continuum, a 1.7 mean difference indicated considerable variance of perception. Potential conflict also existed between the social workers and police in this area as indicated by a .9 mean difference in the perceptions of these two groups.

The lawyers and social workers perceived that the police profession had very limited involvement in preparing a child's family for court while the police thought that their involvement in this task was considerably higher.

Interprofessional conflict existed between
lawyers and social workers and lawyers and police as these three groups' perceptions of "ideal" police involvement in this task were presented. Both the social work and police professions indicated that the police should be somewhat involved in this task while the lawyers indicated that the police should not be involved in preparing a child's family for court.

In summation, definite interprofessional consensus existed as the professions perceived the "actual" and "ideal" role of the social work and judicial professions. The professions agreed that the social work group was and should be involved in this task and the judge was not and should not be involved in preparing a child's family for court.

Conflict existed between social workers and lawyers' perceptions of "ideal" performance of this task by lawyers and potential conflict was noted between these two groups' perceptions of "actual" involvement by lawyers in preparing a child's family for court. Lawyers indicated that it was appropriate for their profession to be involved in the performance of this task while social workers thought they should be involved to a lesser degree. A pattern of reciprocal conflict can again be noted between these two groups as each rates its profession higher than the other.

The police also seemed to be indicating a desire
to be involved in preparing a child's family for court.

5(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviations of each professional group's responses were tabulated and areas of conflict within the professions are identified in Table 15.

Intraprofessional consensus existed within the social work group's perceptions of all roles with the exceptions of the "ideal" role of the lawyer and police professions.

Intraprofessional consensus was noted within the members of the legal profession as they rated "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by their own and other professions. However, the polarization of scores led to intraprofessional conflict with respect to the "ideal" role of the police profession.

Intraprofessional conflict existed within the police group's perceptions of their own "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task. Conflict due to a polarization of scores existed in this group's perceptions of actual judicial behavior. They were, however, able to agree among themselves about the "actual" and "ideal" performance of other professions in relation to the task of preparing a child's family for court.
TABLE 15.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of preparing a child's family for court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Standard Deviations of Perceptions by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.5$^P$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.4$^P$</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.5$^*$</td>
<td>1.4$^*$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

$^P_a$ a high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores
5(d) General Observations

From analysis of the data presented several observations may be made.

1. The professions see the social work and judicial roles most clearly. They agreed that the judge was not and should not be involved in preparing a child's family for court. The professions also shared similar perceptions that the social workers were and should be involved in this task.

2. Lawyers also seemed to want to be involved in this task. Their desire to do so lead to conflict between themselves and the social work profession.

3. There was also an indication by the police group that they wanted to be somewhat involved in preparing the child's family for court. This desire on the part of the police lead to conflict with the lawyer group.

4. The fact that intraprofessional conflict existed within three groups' perceptions of the "ideal" police role indicated that these two groups were not sure exactly what the "ideal" police role should be in respect to preparing a child's family for court.

In summation, social workers, lawyers and police officers all felt that their profession should be involved in preparing the child's family for court. If this kind of service delivery were to occur, there would
be a danger of duplicating service and confusing the child's family, unless the roles concerning each profession's involvement were clearly defined.

#6: Who presents a social history?

6(a) Introduction

The task of presenting a social history is very important because of the effect of a social history upon the adjudication and disposition of the child. A social history properly used will provide the court with background information on the child as well as identifying some of his specific needs. Since the presentation of a social history will have such an impact, it is very important that clarity among the professions exists in terms of who should be performing the task of presenting a social history.

6(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of this task are presented in Table 16 which also designates areas of interprofessional conflict.

Interprofessional consensus existed between the three professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" social work performance of the task of presenting a social history. The professions agreed that social workers were and should be involved in this task.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* indicates conflict between the professions.
Conflict existed between the professions as they rated "actual" and "ideal" lawyer performance of presenting a social history.

Conflict existed between social workers and lawyers and social workers and police as these groups' perceptions of "actual" lawyer behavior were considered. Although the responses fell in the lower section of the measurement scale, the mean differences of 1.1 and 1.8 indicated the existence of conflict. Social workers perceived that lawyers were never involved in this task while the police perceptions suggested that lawyers were somewhat more involved in the task of presenting a social history. As a group, the lawyers "actual" mean response fell between the other two groups' responses.

Conflict again existed between social workers' and lawyers' and social workers' and police perceptions of what the lawyers should be doing.

In this instance, both the legal and police professions indicated that lawyers should be involved in presenting a social history while the perceptions of the social work profession indicated the opposite.

The three professions shared congruent perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" judicial performance of this task. The professions thought that the judge was not and should not be involved in the task of presenting a social history.
The professions agreed that the police were not actually involved in presenting a social history. Interprofessional conflict was noted between the legal profession and police professions' perceptions of "ideal" police behavior in presenting a social history. Although the scores were in the lower range of the response scale they were quite sufficiently diverse to be rated as conflictual. The police seemed to be indicating the desire for a greater degree of involvement in presenting a social history while lawyers definitely indicated that the police profession should not at all be involved in this task.

6(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviations of each professional groups' responses were tabulated and areas of conflict within the professions were designated in Table 17.

Intraprofessional conflict existed within the social work group's perceptions of "ideal" legal and police roles in presenting a social history. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was also discovered as this group's perceptions of "actual" police performance of this task were considered.

Table 17 indicated that intraprofessional conflict existed within the legal profession as these respondents perceived their own "actual" role of presenting a social history. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was noted in the lawyers' perceptions of their
TABLE 17.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of presenting a social history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Standard Deviations of Perceptions by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.5P</td>
<td>1.6P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.4P</td>
<td>1.6P</td>
<td>1.4P</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.4P</td>
<td>1.7*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

Pa high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores
own "ideal" role and both the "actual" and "ideal" roles of the police officers in this task.

Conflict among the police profession's perceptions of their own "ideal" role was due to a wide range of scores. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was also noted in this profession's perceptions of their own "actual," role and the "ideal" role of the lawyer group in relation to the task of presenting a social history.

In summation, the professions seemed to be most certain concerning the roles of the judicial and social work group. They agreed that this task was and should be performed by the social workers while the judge did not and should not be involved in the task of presenting a social history.

Conflict existed between the legal and social work groups because the legal profession wanted to assume responsibility for this task while the social workers perceived that lawyers should not be involved in the task of presenting a social history.

The police indicated a slight desire to be involved in the task of presenting a social history.

Intraprofessional conflict throughout all the professions' perceptions of the "actual" police role and the "ideal" police and legal roles suggests that much clarification of roles is required in this area.
6(d) General Observations

1. The social work and judicial roles are most clearly perceived by the professions.

2. There is a tendency toward service duplication and possibly triplication with respect to the social work, legal and police professions' performance of this task.

3. The degree of intraprofessional conflict noted in the professions' perceptions of the "actual" police role and the "ideal" legal and police roles in the performance of this task suggests that much clarification of role performance in relation to these two professions' involvement in presenting a social history is required.

#7: Who determines whether or not a psychological evaluation is required?

7(a) Introduction

Psychological evaluations are sometimes recommended for juveniles in juvenile court. Psychological evaluations also play a very important part in determining the adjudication and disposition of a child's case. Due to their impact, the researchers felt that the professions should be clear on who recommends the need for this form of evaluation.

7(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance
Table 18 presents the mean scores of the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of this task. Interprofessional conflict situations are also indicated in this table.

It was interesting to note that all the professionals perceived that both the social work and judicial professions were and should be involved in the task of recommending a psychological evaluation. The professionals indicated almost equal involvement for both of these groups.

Interprofessional consensus existed between the professions' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" lawyer performance of this task. The social work and police groups indicated that lawyers had and should have minimal involvement in recommending a psychological evaluation. The lawyers perceived that they should be somewhat more involved in this activity.

Interprofessional conflict existed between the lawyer and police perceptions of "actual" police role performance of this task. This finding was not significant as all the mean scores fell in the low end of the continuum. When the professions' perceptions of "ideal" police performance of this activity were considered, the insignificance of the above conflict is understood. The professions' perceptions indicated that the police were not and should not be involved in recommending a psycho-
TABLE 18. The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of determining whether or not a psychological evaluation is required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.6*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
logical evaluation.

7(c) **Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance**

The standard deviations of the responses of each professional group's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance are presented in Table 19.

The social work group held similar perceptions of their own and other professions' "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task.

Conflict resulting from a polarity of scores was noted in the legal profession's perceptions of the "ideal" roles of the judge and police in respect to the task of recommending a psychological evaluation. Otherwise, consensus existed among this profession's perceptions of their own and the other professions' "actual" and "ideal" role performance of this task.

Intraprofessional conflict was noted in the police group's perceptions of their own "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task. Conflict resulting from a polarity of scores was also noted within the police group as they perceived the "actual" judicial role and the "ideal" legal role for the task of recommending a psychological evaluation.

In summation, the social workers' role in recommending a psychological evaluation is most clear. The professions agreed that social workers were and
TABLE 19.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of determining whether or not a psychological evaluation is required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Standard Deviations of Perceptions by Profession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

Pa high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores
should be involved in the performance of this task.

The professions also felt that the judge was and should be involved in recommending a psychological evaluation although some members of the police profession had varied perceptions of the "actual" judicial role performance of this task and some members of the legal profession held varied opinions with respect to the "ideal" judicial performance of this task.

The professions agreed that the lawyer had and should have minimal involvement in recommending a psychological evaluation. In this instance, the lawyers indicated a desire to be more involved in this task.

There was interprofessional agreement that police officers were not and should not be involved in the task of recommending a psychological evaluation. The conflict noted between and among the professions' perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task was not really significant as the mean scores fell in the low end of the continuum.

7(d) General Observations

1. The population generally felt that the performance of this task was equally relevant for the members of the social work and judicial profession. There seemed to be some implication of the importance of the judge being aware of the psycho-social aspects
of the juvenile before him in order to fully appreciate when a psychological evaluation was warranted.

2. There seems to be a tendency among the social work, judicial and legal professions to want to be involved in the performance of this task which implies a triplication of service.

3. The intraprofessional conflict noted within the police group's perceptions of their own "actual" and "ideal" performance in recommending a psychological evaluation suggests that there is a certain element of this profession who feel that they should be more involved in the performance of this task.

#8: **Who recommends probation as a suitable alternative?**

8(a) **Introduction**

Probation is one of the many dispositions available to the juvenile court. There was some concern on the researchers' part, as to who determined that such an alternative was viable for a particular child. With this concern in mind, the respondents were presented with the following questions: Who recommends probation as a suitable alternative, and who should recommend probation as a suitable alternative?

8(b) **Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance**
The mean scores of each profession's responses concerning "actual" and "ideal" performance, along with the designation of conflict situations can be found in Table 20.

As indicated in Table 20, all the professions agreed that the social worker performed this task and should continue to do so. The reader should note, however, that there was a slight difference in the perceptions of the social work and police officer groups concerning the "actual" performance of this task by the social worker. The police group's score (5.2) was somewhat higher than the score that social workers gave their own profession (4.0). Technically speaking, this placed both professions in a conflict situation, but this is overshadowed by the fact that both scores were at similar ends of the continuum.

Perceptions of the "actual" performance of this task by lawyers were within the consensus range suggesting that lawyers actually did recommend probation as a suitable alternative for the court to follow. However, this consensus did not exist when the scores for the "ideal" performance of this task by the lawyer were presented. While lawyers scored themselves quite high (5.2) in terms of ideally performing this task, social workers (4.0) and police officers (3.8) provided somewhat lower responses.
TABLE 20.--The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending probation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
Each group's perception of the "actual" performance of this task by the judge was somewhat different. The lawyers scored (3.5) suggested that the judicial role was not active in the performance of this task, whereas the social work response (4.2) and the police response (4.8) seemed to attribute a more active role to the judicial profession in the task of recommending probation.

A similar situation existed when the three groups responded to the question of "ideal" judicial performance. Social workers and police both tended to score this role higher than did lawyers.

All the professions tended to agree that police officers do not usually recommend probation as a suitable alternative for the child. The response of the social work group (3.0) was higher than the scores produced by the lawyer group (2.0) and the police officer group (2.6). This difference in perceptions did not negate the overall consensus that the police officer usually did not perform this task.

The mean scores of all three professions increased slightly when responding to the "ideal" performance of this task by police officers. This increase may suggest that the general population felt that an increased performance in this area by police officers would be appropriate.
In summation, it can be noted that although there were no outstanding examples of interprofessional conflict among the different groups who responded to the question, there were several instances where some professions' perceptions were slightly different than others. For instance, lawyers perceived that they themselves should be more active in the performance of this task. The social work and police groups, on the other hand, shared the perception that lawyers should not be as involved and as a result did not concur with the lawyers' perceptions.

It was also noted that the lawyers' responses concerning the "actual" and "ideal" performance of the judge placed this particular role in a less active position than did the responses of the police and social work groups.

All three professions viewed the recommendation of probation as a task that could be performed by both social workers and lawyers. While it was agreed that police officers do not perform this task, there was some suggestion, due to an increase in mean scores, that the police officer should be more involved in the task of recommending probation.

8(c) Intraprofessional Perception of "Actual" and "Ideal" Performance

The standard deviations of the responses of
each group were tabled and the areas of intraprofessional conflict were indicated. Table 21 presents this data.

As indicated in Table 21, the social work population was able to present uniform views of all the professional roles with the exception of the "ideal" role of the police and legal professions. The standard deviation of 1.4 for the "ideal" role of the police profession was within the research definition of intraprofessional conflict.

The "ideal" standard deviation of 1.4 for the lawyer group although a result of a polarity of scores was also within the research definition of conflict.

The responses of the lawyer's group revealed considerable consensus in that group's perception of the roles of the social worker and lawyer. They were, however, unable to uniformly respond to both the "actual" and "ideal" performance of the judicial role. The standard deviations for the responses concerning "actual" performance (1.6) and "ideal" performance were well within the conflict range. Intraprofessional conflict also occurred when the lawyers responded to the "ideal" performance of the police officer in recommending probation.

The responses of the police population were quite uniform concerning the "actual" and "ideal" performance of the social work role. However, there
TABLE 21.—The standard deviation of each profession's mean perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending probation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Standard Deviations of Perceptions by Profession</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

A high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores
was strong indication that the views of their profession concerning their own "ideal" role and the "ideal" legal role were examples of intraprofessional conflict. The standard deviation of responses concerning the "ideal" performance of the lawyer (2.0) and the police officer (1.7) were both indicators of intraprofessional conflict.

Interprofessional conflict was also noted within the police profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" judicial performance of this task. In both instances, this conflict resulted from a polarity of scores rather than a wide range in scoring.

In summation, intraprofessional conflict was revealed in the responses of the lawyer group concerning the judicial role in both the "actual" and "ideal" spheres of role performance. Conflict also occurred among lawyers in their rating of the "ideal" police performance of this task.

The social work group found themselves in an intraprofessional conflict situation when they responded to the question of the "ideal" performance of this task by the police officer.

Finally, it was noted that conflict existed among the police officer group in their perceptions of the "ideal" performance of the lawyer and the "ideal" performance of the police officer.
8(d) General Observations

The responses to the question of who does and who should recommend probation as a suitable alternative for the court to follow produced results on which several observations can be made.

1. The judicial role appears to be somewhat unclear and subject to different perceptions. Social workers and police officers saw this role as being somewhat more active than did the lawyers. The different perceptions of this role produced conflict interprofessionally as well as intraprofessionally.

2. The lawyer group tended to rate its own "ideal" performance somewhat higher than did social worker and police professions.

3. There was some suggestion that police officers have more of a role to play in the performance of this particular task but this finding was not conclusive due to the degree of intraprofessional conflict noted.

#9: Who recommends that a child be placed outside of his home?

9(a) Introduction

The decision to remove a child from whatever setting he may be in and place him in another is extremely complex and important. This is particularly true if it is the child's natural home from which he
is being removed. The researchers were of the opinion that decision to remove a child from his home is one which takes much preparation and thorough knowledge of both the child and his specific needs. The strong personal feelings of both researchers concerning the removal and placement of children led to the posing of the questions: Who usually recommends that the child be placed outside his home and who should recommend that he be placed outside his home.

9(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The mean responses of each profession concerning the "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending that a child be placed outside his home are presented in Table 22. The reader will also note the designation of interprofessional conflict situations.

The responses of each professional group revealed a high degree of agreement around their perceptions of the social work role performance of this task. All of the respondent groups concurred that this was a task in which social workers were involved and, in fact, should be involved.

There was some indication of disagreement between the professions when the scores concerning the "actual" performance of this task by the lawyers were
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Social Worker | 4.3 | 4.7 |
| Police Officer | 3.9 | 3.8 |

*indicates conflict between the professions

TABLE 22—The mean score of each profession's perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending that a child be placed outside of his home.
tabled. However, this disagreement was more fully revealed in respect to the "ideal" performance of the lawyer. While the social work group indicated that this was not a suitable task for the lawyers to perform, lawyers as a group indicated that it was. Police officers also concurred that the lawyer should perform this task.

Interestingly enough, the lawyers indicated that social workers should also perform this task.

The responses concerning the judge's role in recommending that a child may require placement outside the home were indicative of disagreement. While the social work and police groups perceived the judge as being quite active in the performance of this task, the lawyer group perceived the judicial profession as not often performing the task.

When asked what should really happen, somewhat similar scores were returned by the professional groups. The social work and police groups perceived an active role for the judge while lawyers wished him to remain quite uninvolved.

All the professional groups were able to agree that the police officer was not and should not be involved in the performance of this task.

In summation, the responses revealed interprofessional agreement concerning the roles of the
social worker and police officer in the performance of this task. The respondents agreed that social workers were involved in recommending placement of the child outside the home and should continue this involvement. On the other hand, there was agreement that the police were not and should not be involved in the performance of this task.

Disagreement concerning the legal role was noted. While lawyers expressed an interest to become more involved in the performance of this task, the social work group did not concur. Rather, their responses indicated that the lawyer should not be involved in the performance of this task.

The judicial role was also subject to disagreement between the three professions. This conflict, previously described, could be the result of the different legal and social purposes of the court as well as the training orientations of the participants. Perhaps the lawyers perceived the court as being more legal in its orientation and viewed the judicial role as being one limited to adjudication. Social workers and police officers may perceive the court as being social and therapeutic in its orientation. If so, then they might well perceive the judge as an active participant.
9(c) Intraprofessional Perception of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviation of the responses from each professional group were tabulated and areas of disagreement were indicated. Table 23 presents this data.

The social work population consistently agreed in their responses concerning the "actual" and "ideal" performance of each profession with the exception of one role. When rating the "ideal" performance of the police officer, a "considerable" degree of conflict was observed within the social work population.

The lawyer population demonstrated agreement in its views of all professional roles except that of the judge. The lawyers' responses indicated that extensive disagreement existed among this group of respondents concerning their perceptions of the judges' "actual" performance of this task. When rating the "ideal" performance of the judge, disagreement was still in evidence within the lawyer group.

The police officers were very consistent in presenting uniform views of other professional role performances of this task. Their responses, however, revealed that extensive disagreement existed within this group when they examined the "ideal" performance of their own profession.
TABLE 23.--The standard deviation of each profession's perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending that a child be placed outside of his home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.7*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession
9(d) General Observations

The responses to the questions of who does and who should recommend that a child be placed outside his home produced results from which some observations can be made.

1. There was an indication that lawyers felt it appropriate for their profession to recommend that a child be placed outside his home. There was further indication that social workers did not see this as an appropriate task for lawyers to perform.

2. The judicial role in this task appears to lack clarity. Lawyers responded to this role as being traditionally legal and oriented towards adjudication whereas social workers and police officers attributed a much more active role to the judge.

3. The professions' perceptions of the "ideal" role of the police profession in relation to recommending the placement of a child outside the home showed that intraprofessional conflict existed within the social work and police professions. Although all three professions perceived that the police should not be involved in the performance of this task, the intraprofessional conflict identified within the social work and police groups indicated that there are people in both these groups who do feel that the police profession should be more involved in the
performance of this task.

#10: Who recommends the kind of placement best suited a particular child?

10(a) Introduction

Often in juvenile court, after an adjudication of delinquency, it becomes necessary to place the child outside of his natural (or foster) home. The researchers wondered which profession (if any in particular) was best suited to determine the "kind" of placement required by a particular child. The respondents were asked for their perception of who usually recommended what kind of placement a particular child should have, and who, in fact, should perform this task.

10(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The respondents mean score perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task, along with the designated areas of interprofessional conflict, are presented in Table 24.

As indicated in Table 24 the responses of each profession strongly suggested that social workers most often recommend the kind of placement required for a particular child. The three professions also agreed that this was a task that social workers should continue to perform.

Interprofessional consensus also existed
TABLE 24.--The mean score of each profession's perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending the kind of placement required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>4.5*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
concerning the role performance of police officers. All three professions concurred that police officers usually do not perform this task nor should they recommend the kind of placement required by a child.

The respondents' perceptions of the "actual" performance of this task by the lawyer were not entirely conclusive. The responses were not indicative of outright conflict but rather suggested that conflict "may" exist. In this instance, lawyers rated themselves higher (3.9) than did social workers (3.0). This potential conflict situation became more evident when the mean scores for the "ideal" performance of the legal role were examined. Lawyers rated themselves relatively high (5.2) in this category, while social workers rated the "ideal" performance of lawyers considerably lower (2.8). The police officers responses (3.9) was midway between the scores of the other two professions.

There was also some indication of interprofessional conflict when the responses of the three professions concerning the actual performance of this task by the judicial role were tabled. Police officers and social workers perceived an active role for the judicial profession while lawyers did not.

In terms of the "ideal" performance of the judicial role, somewhat of a reversal took place. Police still attributed an active role to this profession but social
workers responded similarly to lawyers suggesting that the judge not be as active in the performance of this task.

In summation, the roles of the police officers and social workers were most clearly understood in relation to the performance of this task. The population agreed that social workers do recommend the kind of placement required by a particular child and should continue to do so. There was also agreement that this task was not appropriate for the police officer to perform.

Although the response of the legal group suggested that lawyers should perform this task, the response of the social workers concerning the lawyers performing in this area tended to be negative.

Finally, the responses concerning the judicial role revealed that police officers perceived the judge as being actively involved in recommending the kind of placement required while the other professions perceived that the judge should not be actively involved in the performance of this task.

10(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviations of each profession's mean responses were tabulated and the areas of intraprofessional conflict were designated. For the presentation of this data see Table 25.
TABLE 25.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of recommending the kind of placement required by a particular child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Standard Deviations of Perceptions by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>Social worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

Pa high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores.
The most significant feature presented in Table 25 is the presence of intraprofessional conflict in the responses of each profession concerning the judicial role. The members of the social work, legal, and police professions were unable to agree among themselves upon the "actual" performance of the judicial role. When the standard deviations of the responses concerning the "ideal" performance of the judge were tabled, it was noted that members of both the social work and lawyer groups were unable to agree upon this role. Conflict due to a polarity of responses existed as the police profession perceived the "ideal" role of the judge.

Intraprofessional conflict existed within the legal profession when the members of that profession rated the "ideal" performance of the police officer.

The members of the social work profession could not agree with each other as they rated the "ideal" role of the police profession in the performance of this task. A polarization of this group's responses lead to the intraprofessional conflict situation.

In summation, extensive intraprofessional conflict existed in each profession when the "actual" performance of this task by the judge was rated. Further, intraprofessional conflict existed within all three groups' perceptions of the "ideal" performance of this task by the judge.

Finally, intraprofessional conflict was also ob-
served in lawyers' and social workers' perceptions of the "ideal" performance of this task by the police profession.

10(d) General Observations

The responses to the question of who recommends the "kind" of placement required by a particular child produced results from which several observations can be drawn.

1. The social work and police roles in the recommendation of the kind of placement a child requires were the most clearly understood. This task was appropriate for social workers to perform and inappropriate for police officers.

2. The lawyers responses indicated that they should perform this task. On the other hand, social workers felt that this task was inappropriate for the members of the legal profession.

3. The professions had different perceptions of how actively involved the judge should be in the performance of this task. The lack of clarity surrounding the judicial role is emphasized when one group perceives the role as being quite active while others see the role as being less active.

4. The intraprofessional conflict noted within the social work and lawyer groups' perceptions of "ideal" police performance of the task of recommending the kind of placement best suited for the child suggested that
there are certain elements of these two groups who perceive that the police should be more actively involved in the performance of this task.

#11: Who explains the disposition of the court to the child?

ll(a) Introduction

The disposition of the juvenile court can have considerable impact on the child who appears before it. The existing literature concerning juvenile court suggests that the child may see the decision of the court as being entirely negative and punitive instead of the treatment and guidance he may well require. The researchers considered then, that it was most important that the disposition of the court be explained thoroughly to the child in order to maximize the impact in a positive direction. With this concern in mind, the respondents were asked who, in their perception, usually explains the disposition of the court to the child and who should perform this task?

ll(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of the "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The mean responses of each profession to the aforementioned questions are presented in Table 26, along with areas of interprofessional conflict.

The responses concerning the roles of the social worker and lawyer were indicative of conflict between those two professions.
TABLE 26.--The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of explaining the court's disposition to the child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions.
When social workers and lawyers responded to the question of who usually explains the disposition of the court to the child, some interesting results were produced. Social workers responded that they explained the disposition of the court to the child more often than lawyers. On the other hand, lawyers responded that they explained the disposition of the court to the child more often than social workers. The responses of the police officer group suggested that both professions performed this task. The same form of conflict occurred when the legal and social work groups rendered their perceptions of the "ideal" performance of the lawyer. Lawyers rated their "ideal" performance of this task higher than social workers.

The responses concerning who explains the disposition of the court to the child also revealed conflict in three respondent groups' perceptions of the "actual" judicial role. The social workers' response (3.3) suggested that the judge was not usually active in the performance of this task. Lawyers and police officers, on the other hand, saw the judge as being more active in this task, that is the judge often explained the disposition of the court to the child.

In summation, conflict existing between the perceptions of lawyers and social workers was most evident in terms of the performance of this task.
Social workers felt that they explained the court's disposition to the child more often than lawyers and lawyers felt that they performed this task more often than social workers. The responses of both professions concerning the "ideal" performance of the lawyer produced similar results.

Finally, while social workers saw the judge as not often explaining the disposition of the court to the child, lawyers and police officers saw the judicial role as being quite active.

11(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviations of each profession's responses to the questions of who explains the disposition of the court to the child and who should perform this task are presented in Table 27.

Intraprofessional conflict/existed among the members of the social work profession as they rated "actual" judicial performance and "ideal" police activity in relation to this task. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was also noted in the social workers' perceptions of the "ideal" role of the judge in explaining the court's disposition to the child.

Intraprofessional conflict due to a polarization of scores was noted in the lawyer groups' perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by the judge.
TABLE 27.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of explaining the court's disposition to the child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.5(^p)</td>
<td>1.5(^p)</td>
<td>1.6(^p)</td>
<td>1.8(^p)</td>
<td>1.5(^p)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

\(p\) a high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores.
With the exception of the "ideal" police role, the lawyer profession was able to agree with respect to their own and other professions "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task.

Intraprofessional conflict existed within the members of the police group as their perceptions of the "ideal" role of the police profession were considered. Table 27 also indicated that conflict due to a polarization of scores also existed within the police group's perception of "actual" and "ideal" judicial behavior.

11(d) General Observations

Some interesting observations may be made from the responses to the question of who explains the court's disposition to the child.

1. Social workers and lawyers tended to downplay each others performance of this task. The conflict between the two professions seems to result from both professions wanting to assume major responsibility for the same task.

In this instance, there appears to be a tendency toward service duplication which could be confusing to the child if he was given two completely different interpretations of the court's disposition.

The judicial role in explaining the court's disposition to the child is extremely unclear as noted by the wide degree of both interprofessional and intraprofessional conflict between and within the professional
groups. A much clearer definition of this role seems to be in order.

The professions could not agree among themselves as to what the "ideal" police role should be in the task of explaining the court's disposition to the child. Further clarification of this role appears to be required.

#12: Who explains the court's disposition to the child's family?

12(a). Introduction

The purpose of the juvenile court's disposition is to provide the assistance, care and guidance required by a particular child. In many instances, a child will not be removed from his natural home. The researchers were of the opinion that if a child remained in the home then considerable intervention must occur around and with his family. This is especially true if one considers the causative role the family may play in the child's delinquency. The best interests of the child may in reality be the best interests of the family. It became a concern of the researchers that the role of explaining the disposition of the court to the child's family was very important. This task must be performed thoroughly and clearly so that the family will understand what has happened to the child, and more important what is going to happen to the child. Positive involvement on the part of the child's family may promote the cessation of delinquent behavior.
The respondents were asked to consider who usually explains the court's disposition to the child's family and who should explain the disposition to the child's family.

12(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The mean responses of each professional group to the questions of who does and who should explain the disposition of the court to the child's family are presented in Table 28 along with the designated areas of interprofessional conflict.

As shown in Table 28, interprofessional consensus concerning the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by social workers, existed. All the professions concurred that social workers do explain the court's disposition to the child's family and should perform this task.

The mean responses of the social work group and the lawyer's group concerning the actual performance of the lawyer were indicative of interprofessional conflict. It was observed that social workers rated the "actual" performance of lawyers quite low (3.6) while lawyers rated their own performance quite high (4.9). Police officers concurred with the lawyers and presented a high mean score (4.5).

This conflict further appeared in the "ideal"
TABLE 28.--The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of explaining the court's disposition to the child's family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
performance of the lawyer category. Similar to previous
results, the lawyers rated their performance higher (5.7)
than did social workers (4.4).

Interprofessional conflict also occurred in the
responses concerning the "actual" performance of the judge.
While social workers perceived the judge as not performing
the task, lawyers and police officers perceived a somewhat
more active role for the judicial profession. All the
professions did agree, however, that the judge should be
actively involved in the performance of this task.

The responses of each group clearly indicated that
the police officer did not perform this task nor was it
appropriate for him to do so. The difference in scores
between the police officers (3.1) and the lawyers (2.1)
was indicative of conflict. This conflict was not signifi-
cant as the scores fell on the same end of the continuum.

In summation, all the professions agreed that the
legal, social work and judicial professions should explain
the disposition of the court to the child's family. These
respondents also agreed that the police officer did not
and should not perform this task.

Conflict existed between the responses of social
workers and lawyers concerning the "actual" and "ideal"
performance of the legal profession. In both instances
social workers scored the lawyers' performance low and
lawyers scored their own performance high.
While there was some interprofessional conflict concerning the "actual" judicial role, all three professions agreed that this was a task that the judge should perform.

12(c) Intraprofessional Perception of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviation of each professions' mean responses were tabulated along with the designated areas of intraprofessional conflict. This data is presented in Table 29.

The members of the social work population were quite consistent in their perceptions of the social work and legal roles. They were somewhat divided, however, in their perceptions of both the "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the judge.

Intraprofessional consensus among social workers existed in their responses concerning the "actual" performance of this task by the police officer. Intraprofessional conflict did exist however in the social work response concerning the "ideal" performance of this same role by the police profession.

The lawyer group was able to uniformly present similar perceptions of the legal and social work roles in the performance of this task. Similar to social workers, however, they were unable to agree among themselves about the "actual" and "ideal" performance of the judicial role.
TABLE 29.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of explaining the court's disposition to the child's family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Social worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police officer</th>
<th>Social worker</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
<th>Police officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
<td>1.9*</td>
<td>1.7P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.4*</td>
<td>1.4P</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession.

P a high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores.
The legal profession did share similar perceptions of the "actual" police role in explaining the court's disposition to the family but conflict due to a polarity of scores was noted in their perceptions of "ideal" performance of this role by the police group.

Finally, as indicated in Table 29, the police officers, while continually agreeing in their responses to every other role were unable to agree upon the "ideal" performance of their own role. Also, some members of the police group held varied perceptions of the "ideal" performance of this task by the judicial profession.

In summation, intraprofessional conflict was observed in the responses of the lawyers, social workers and police specifically in terms of the "actual" and "ideal" judicial role. Conflict occurred within the three professions when they could not agree upon "ideal" performance of this task by the police group.

All the professions demonstrated intraprofessional consensus in their responses to the roles of the social worker and the lawyer.

12(d) General Observations

The responses to the questions of who does and who should explain the disposition of the court to the child's family produced results from which some interesting observations can be made.
1. The responsibility of explaining the court's disposition has been given to the judicial, legal and social work professions although the judicial role performance of this task is not clearly understood. Three explanations of the same disposition may be somewhat confusing to the family of the child offender.

2. All three groups revealed a considerable amount of intraprofessional conflict when they perceived the "ideal" performance of this task by the police profession. Certain elements in the three groups seem to be indicating that police activity for this task should be increased.

#13: Who informs the court of the treatment facilities available for a particular child?

13(a) Introduction

Once the court has determined that a child requires some form of treatment, it becomes readily apparent that the task of informing the court of the various treatment facilities that are available for the child is most important. The researchers wondered who, in the perception of the respondents, usually assumed responsibility for the performance of this task and who, in their estimation, should perform this task.

13(b). Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The mean responses of each profession to the
question of who does and who should inform the court of the available treatment facilities are presented in Table 30. In this table the reader will also find the designated areas of interprofessional conflict.

As indicated in Table 30 the police and social work roles were the best understood by all the professions. The different professions agreed that social workers do perform this task and should continue to do so. There was also agreement that the police officer does not and should not inform the court of available treatment facilities.

The perceptions of lawyers and social workers concerning the "actual" legal performance of this task were quite significant. The social work response (2.5) indicated that from their perception lawyers were not performing this task. On the other hand, the response of the legal profession (3.8) indicated that lawyers saw themselves as performing this task. The response of the police group (3.8) seemed to indicate that in the perception of police officers, lawyers did indeed inform the court of the treatment facilities available to a particular child.

Perhaps more revealing were the responses of the legal and social work professions concerning the "ideal" performance of this task by lawyers. While lawyers responded quite high (5.1) social workers
TABLE 30.—The mean score of each profession's perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of informing the court of available treatment facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.8*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
responded much lower (3.0). Lawyers felt that they should inform the court of the available treatment facilities and social workers did not perceive this as an appropriate task for lawyers to perform.

The responses of the population concerning the judicial role in the performance of this task were not conclusive. However, there was some indication in the scores concerning the "ideal" judicial role that this was not an appropriate task for the judge to perform.

In summation, we are able to conclude that conflict clearly existed between the social work and legal professions in their responses concerning the role of the lawyer in the performance of this task.

It was also noted that the social work and police roles seemed to be more clear than the others. Social workers do inform the court of the available treatment facilities and should continue to do so; while police officers do not and should not perform this task.

Finally, the role of the judge in this matter is apparently unclear. The respondents were unable to conclusively establish a level of performance for this profession. However, the scores for "ideal" performance do suggest that this task is not appropriately performed by the judicial profession.
13(c) Intraprōfessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The standard deviations of the mean responses of each profession are presented in Table 31, along with designated intraprofessional conflict situations.

As shown in Table 31, intraprofessional conflict existed within each profession in terms of their perception of the judicial role. No profession was able to find consensus among its membership when examining the "actual" performance of this task by the judge. Further, the members of both the social work and police groups were unable to agree upon the "ideal" performance of this task by the judge. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was also noted in the legal professions' perceptions of "ideal" judicial role performance of this task.

Police officers were unable to concisely establish both the "actual" and "ideal" performance of this task by their own profession.

The members of each profession were, however, able to agree upon a uniform response concerning the "actual" and "ideal" roles of the lawyer and social worker.

In conclusion, much intraprofessional conflict existed within the individual professions' perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" performance of the judicial role. Conflict among police officers was also observed concerning the "actual" and "ideal" performance of their own profession.
TABLE 31.--The standard deviation of each profession's mean perceptions of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of informing the court of the available treatment facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Standard Deviations of Perceptions by Profession</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

A high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores.
13(d) General Observations

The responses to the questions of who usually informs the court of available treatment facilities and who should inform the court produce results that lead to several observations.

1. The social work and police roles were the best understood professional roles in the perception of the respondents.

2. The judicial role in the performance of this task was very unclear and the source of interprofessional as well as intraprofessional conflict.

3. Interprofessional conflict between lawyers and social workers was noted. This occurred when the lawyers expressed an interest in performing this task.

4. The police officers exhibited intraprofessional conflict, once again, concerning their "ideal" performance of this task.

#14: Who represents the best interests of the child?

14(a) Introduction.

The purpose of this question was fairly straightforward. The juvenile court is an institution created to meet the needs of the youthful offender. The "best interests" of the child are not clearly defined. They may be legal or social or both. They may be defined by the child himself, or the community through its court. In
In this instance, the researchers were interested in two areas: (i) who represented the best interests of the child; and (ii) who does not represent the best interests of the child. This question was entirely exploratory and the results were solely based on the perceptions of the research population.

14(b) Interprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

The mean responses to the questions of who represents the best interests of the child and who should represent the best interests of the child are presented in Table 32, along with the designated areas of conflict.

Interprofessional consensus existed concerning the populations' perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" role performance of social workers and lawyers. These groups do represent the child's best interests, according to the population's perceptions.

Interprofessional conflict existed between police officers and social workers in their perceptions of the "actual" judicial performance of this role. The social work response (4.0) was somewhat lower than the police officer response (5.1). The lawyer's response (4.2) was much closer to the position taken by social workers. Social workers and lawyers indicated in their perceptions that the judicial role did not represent the best interests
TABLE 32.—The mean score of each profession's perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of representing the child's best interests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task, by</th>
<th>Mean Scores of Perceptions of Performance by Profession</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>Police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>5.1*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>4.1*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict between the professions
of the child to the same extent as the police profession's perceptions of this role. However, the reader should note that all three scores concerning the "actual" role of the judge show that role as representing the best interests of the child.

An interesting result occurred in the respondents' mean response concerning the "actual" performance of the police profession. Both social workers and lawyers perceived that the police did not represent the child's best interests. Police officers, on the other hand, perceived themselves as representing the child's best interests.

In summation, the responses concerning which profession does and should represent the best interests of the child, suggested that all the professions should represent the child's best interests.

The responses of the population concerning "actual" performance revealed that police officers, in the estimation of lawyers and social workers, did not represent the best interests of the child.

14(c) Intraprofessional Perceptions of "Actual" and "Ideal" Role Performance

Intraprofessional conflict was noted in some professions of this task. This data is presented in Table 33 in the form of the standard deviations of the mean responses of each profession.

Intraprofessional consensus existed within the
TABLE 33.—The standard deviation of each profession's mean perception of "actual" and "ideal" role performance of the task of representing the child's best interests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance of Task by</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.7P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.6P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.6*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates conflict within the profession

P indicates a high standard deviation is due to a polarity in scores
members of the social work profession as their perceptions of "actual" role performance in representing the child's best interests were presented. Intraprofessional conflict was noted in this group's perceptions of "ideal" performance of this task by the police profession. Conflict of polarity was also noted as the social workers perceived the judge's "ideal" role performance of representing the child's best interests. It seemed that a certain element in the social work group perceived the "ideal" judicial role in this task differently than did the majority of their professional confreres.

Intraprofessional conflict was noted within the lawyer group's perceptions of "actual" judicial behavior. Polarity conflict situations were also noted in the legal profession's perceptions of their own and social workers "actual" role performance of this task. Thus, a certain element of the lawyer group had different perceptions of the "actual" role of these two professions in representing the child's best interests.

Intraprofessional conflict also existed within the members of the legal group as they perceived the "ideal" role of the police officer in this task. Conflict due to a polarity of scores was also evidenced as lawyers perceived the "ideal" role of the judicial profession in representing the child's best interests.

Intraprofessional conflict existed within the
police profession's perception of the "actual" role of the judge in representing the child's best interests. Certain segments of the police group held differing perceptions of the "actual" role of the lawyer and police professions in representing the child's best interests. The police profession as a group held varied perceptions for their "ideal" role in representing a child's best interests. However, they did share consistent perceptions of the other professions "ideal" roles in this task.

14(d) General Observations

1. Each profession felt that all the professions should represent the child's best interests.

2. Lawyers and social workers perceived that the police officer "actually" does not represent the best interests of the child. The fact that police officers also represent the community may have influenced their perceptions in this manner.

3. Many differences of perceptions existed within the professions as the "actual" and "ideal" roles of both the judicial and police groups were considered. There seems to be some indications by members in all the professions that possibly the judge and police officers do not and should not represent the child's best interests.
4. The polarity of perceptions noted as the lawyer group rated their own and social workers' "actual" performance and in the police officers' perceptions of "actual" lawyer performance of this task also suggests that there are certain segments of these two groups who feel that this role is not performed by the social work or legal profession.

5. The task of representing the best interests of the child is not clearly attributed to any one profession. The great degree of intraprofessional conflict noted in relation to the performance of this task suggests that role clarity is further necessitated.

"PART III

Crosstabulation of Specific Variables with the Respondents' Perceived Professional Effectiveness

A secondary focus of the research project was to determine if certain variables had an effect on a respondent's perception of his professional effectiveness. These variables were: a) age, b) education, c) previous training related to juvenile court, d) experience in juvenile court, e) perceived professional status, and f) having a formal role definition.

Perceived Professional Effectiveness

The literature review had suggested that one of the consequences of role conflict was that it had a
negative effect upon the participant in that it led to a sense of personal frustration, job dissatisfaction, a sense of futility and a loss of self confidence.\(^1\) If role conflict did exist in the juvenile court setting then it would be expected that many of the respondents would not see their professional involvement in that court as being very effective.

The respondent was asked to indicate, on a four point scale, his perception of his own effectiveness in juvenile court practice. The responses to this question from the total population as well as each professional group are presented in Table 34.

As indicated in Table 34 four respondents indicated that they perceived their own performance as being very ineffective and 14 replied that they were ineffective. These 18 respondents represented 29.5 per cent of the total population. Forty respondents indicated that they felt effective in their work and three replied that they were very effective. These 43 respondents represented 70.5 per cent of the sample.

In the police and social worker sub-populations, a considerable percentage of the respondents felt that they were not effective in their practice in juvenile court. Ten of 28 respondents in the social work popula-

---

\(^1\) Theodre R. Sarbin and Vernon L. Allen, "Role Theory," pp. 504-505.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceived Effectiveness (self-rating)</th>
<th>Professional sub-group and total population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28 100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>17 100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>9 29.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>5 14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17 100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Very effective                      | 1 3.6                                       |
| Effective                           | 14 47.9                                     |
| Ineffective                         | 5 17.2                                     |
| Very ineffective                    | 2 6.9                                       |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>f</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police officer</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>f</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very effective</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineffective</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very ineffective</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
tion, or 35.6 per cent felt that they were not effective. Among police officers, 36.5 per cent or six of 17 respondents also felt ineffective.

In the lawyer sub-population, only two of 16 respondents felt ineffective in their juvenile court practice.

The literature reviewed had suggested that role conflict had a negative effect upon the performance of an individual, in this instance the professional practicing in juvenile court. The researchers wished to determine if the other variables, previously listed, had an effect upon a professional's perception of his own performance. In view of this, the following variables were crosstabulated with perceived professional effectiveness.

Age with Perceived Professional Effectiveness

To see if age had any association with perceived professional effectiveness, both variables were crosstabulated. The researchers employed Goodman and Kruskal's coefficient of ordinal association, gamma, as the test of association. The degree of association based on the application of gamma was 0.3201. This finding was indicative of a low degree of association between the variables age and perceived professional effectiveness. The researchers concluded that in this particular sample, there was a low degree of association between a respondent's age and the perception of his effectiveness.
Education with Perceived Professional Effectiveness

The variable, education, was crosstabulated with the variable, perceived professional effectiveness. Once again, gamma was employed to determine the degree of association between the two variables. The result obtained was -0.18. This result indicated that there was a very slight negative association between a respondent's education and his perception of his own professional effectiveness. The researchers held, therefore, that in terms of this sample, there was no significant association between the educational background of a respondent and his perception of his own professional effectiveness in the juvenile court.

Previous Training with Professional Effectiveness

The variable, previous training specifically related to juvenile court, was crosstabulated with perceived professional effectiveness. Since the former variable was tabulated on a nominal scale and the latter on an ordinal scale, Cramer's V was considered the most appropriate test of association to apply. The variables were crosstabulated and the test applied. A result of 0.2639 suggested that there was a low degree of association between two variables. The researchers concluded that in terms of the population studied, there was little association between a respondent having previously experienced formal
training specifically related to juvenile court, and his view of his own professional effectiveness in the setting.

**Experience with Perceived Professional Effectiveness**

The variable, experience, was crosstabulated with the variable, perceived professional effectiveness. Gamma was employed to measure the degree of association between the two variables. The researchers also employed Pearson's correlation coefficient as a further means of evaluating that relationship. In this instance, the crosstabulation of experience and professional effectiveness was completed by profession to provide the reader with a more comprehensive review and discussion of the responses of the sample population.

**Social Workers**

The social work respondents' experience was crosstabulated with their perception of their own effectiveness. Gamma was applied and 0.4240 was the finding. This suggested that there was a moderate degree of association between the two variables. Pearson's coefficient was next employed. The results, 0.3025, suggested that there was a low degree of association between a social worker's experience and his perceived effectiveness.

**Lawyers**

A similar crosstabulation, experience with perceived effectiveness, was completed with the responses of
the lawyer group. Gamma was found to equal 0.8000. In order to check this surprisingly high association, Pearson's coefficient of correlation was applied. The result of this test, 0.3350, revealed that the degree of association between the variables experience and perceived effectiveness was very low. The results of the latter test would suggest that a low association existed between a lawyer's experience in juvenile court and how effective he perceived his performance in the juvenile court to be. The high score obtained with gamma was thought to be a result of a small population and a narrow spread in scores.

Police Officers

The responses of the police officers concerning their experience and their perceived effectiveness were crosstabulated. Gamma was employed as an indicator of association and revealed a score of -0.7600. This result was indicative of a negative association between the two variables, that is, as the police officers' experience increased, they tended to rate their performance as being less effective. Pearson's coefficient was used to further investigate this relationship and revealed a score of -0.6510, which was also indicative of a moderate degree of association between the two variables. In view of these findings, the researchers considered the hypothesis that as a police officer became more experienced he sees his performance as being less effective may prove
to be true within a larger sample of police officers than the one utilized in this study.

Conclusion

When the responses of the social work and lawyer groups concerning their experience in juvenile court practice were crosstabulated with their perceptions of their professional effectiveness in that court, the results of gamma indicated that the degree of association between these variables was low. However, the results of gamma, when applied to the responses of the police group, indicated that a moderate negative association existed between the two variables. That is to say, the more experienced a police officer became, the less effective he perceived his performance.

Perceived Professional Status

The researchers wondered how the various professionals within the sample perceived each profession in terms of professional status. Further, the relationship between a respondent's perception of his profession's status and his perceptions of his own professional effectiveness was to be examined.

This particular study sought to establish the respondents' perceptions of professional status on two planes, "actual" and "ideal." The respondents were asked to rate each profession according to the status it actually had in juvenile court and the status that it
should have in juvenile court. The perceptions of status-rank for each profession as indicated by the general research population are presented in Table 35.

**TABLE 35.** General research population's perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" status of each profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>The General Population's Perception of Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual status rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In terms of the "actual" status enjoyed by each profession, the general research population attributed the highest degree of status to the judicial role, followed by the lawyer, then the social worker and finally police officers. The responses in terms of "ideal" status also placed the judicial role in the highest position and the police in the lowest. In this instance, however, social workers were ranked above lawyers.

Social Workers

The social worker responses on the "actual" status enjoyed by each profession were somewhat different from those of the general population. The responses of that
group are presented in Table 36.

TABLE 36.--The social work population's perceptions of the "actual" and "ideal" status of each profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Social Work Perception of Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actual status rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As indicated in Table 36, social workers rated themselves as lowest on the status scale. They rated the judicial role as being highest, followed by lawyers and then police officers.

Their responses to the question of "ideal" status placed them second only to the judge on the scale. Lawyers and police officers followed in that order.

Lawyers

The lawyer group's responses to the question of "actual" status reflected the general research population scores. They are presented in Table 37. Lawyers ranked the judge first, lawyers second, social workers third, and police officers fourth. In the question regarding "ideal" status, the lawyers presented the same rankings.
TABLE 37.--The legal population's perception of the "actual" and "ideal" status of each profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Lawyer's Perception of Status</th>
<th>Actual status rank</th>
<th>Ideal status rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Police Officers

The responses of the police officers are presented in Table 38.

TABLE 38.--The police officer population's perception of the "actual" and "ideal" of each profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Police Officer's Perception of Status</th>
<th>Actual status rank</th>
<th>Ideal status rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The police officers answered the question on "actual" status by placing the judge in the highest position, the lawyer next, followed by the social worker and finally
themselves. In response to the question concerning "ideal" status, they placed the judge in the highest and the social worker second. At this point, they relegated the legal profession to the lowest position and placed their own profession third.

**Perceived "Actual" Status with Perceived Professional Effectiveness**

The variable perceived "actual" status was cross-tabulated with perceived professional effectiveness. The crosstabulation was completed with the responses of each profession. Gamma was employed as the test of ordinal association between the two variables. The researchers wondered if an increase in status, as perceived by the respondent, would also be accompanied by an increase in perceived professional effectiveness.

**Social Workers**

The responses of the social workers concerning their perception of the status of their profession were crosstabulated with their perceptions of their professional effectiveness. Gamma was employed and the result, 0.1730, suggested that a slight degree of association existed between the two variables.

**Lawyers**

The lawyer's responses to perceived "actual" status of their profession were crosstabulated with their responses to their perceived professional effectiveness.
Gamma was applied resulting in a perfect score of 1.00. To further examine the validity of this result, Pearson's coefficient of correlation was utilized. A score of 0.5516 indicated that a moderate degree of association existed between the lawyers' perception of their professional status and their perception of their professional effectiveness. Although the generalization potential of this finding was limited due to the small size of the sample, the researchers cautiously suggested as a hypothesis for future testing, that as a lawyer's perception of his professional status increases so does his perception of his effectiveness.

Police Officers

The responses of the police officers concerning their perception of their profession's status were cross-tabulated with their responses concerning their perceptions of their own professional effectiveness. Gamma was applied and the result was 0.4750 suggesting that a moderate degree of association existed between the two variables. Pearson's coefficient was also employed to further test the strength of this relationship. The result, 0.2006, suggested that there was only a low degree of association between the police officers' perception of his status and his perception of his effectiveness.

Conclusion

Although there was no uniform view of a particular
status hierarchy of professions in juvenile court, several observations can be made concerning the results of this question. The three professional subgroups tended to rate their own profession higher than they rated others in the "ideal" status category. Previous studies have evidenced that these findings are correct, especially between the legal and social work professions.\footnote{Audrey Smith and Barbara Curran, "The Social Worker in the Legal Aid Setting," \textit{Social Service Review} 44, 1970, p. 155.} Police officers and social workers tended to rate themselves lower than lawyers on "actual" status and higher on "ideal" status. Lawyers rated themselves higher in both areas. Of the four professions, only the judicial role remained in a fixed status position, the highest.

There was a slight degree of association between the responses of the social worker concerning their perceived status and perceived professional effectiveness. In the police group, the degree of association between these variables was low. Finally, in the lawyer's group, a moderate degree of association was found to exist between their perceived status and their perceived effectiveness. The researchers cautiously suggested that further proof of this relationship be the subject of future research.

\textbf{Having Role in Juvenile Court Defined}

It has been suggested, particularly in the literature reviewed in this project, that roles should
be clearly defined in any organization. A clear role definition for each participant, in any setting where there is interaction, decreases the likelihood of conflict between roles occurring. Since juvenile court is a multi discipline setting, the researchers felt that the need for a clearly defined role was most important. The respondents were asked if their role in the juvenile court setting had ever been formally defined for them. The results of this question are presented in Table 39.

TABLE 39.--Professionals having or not having a formal definition of his role in juvenile court by profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Having Role Definition</th>
<th>Not Having Role Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>frequency</td>
<td>per cent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>62.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>64.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As indicated in the responses of the social work population, 19 of 24 respondents indicated that their role had not been formally defined. This represented 79.2 per cent of the population of social workers. In the lawyer group, six respondents representing 37.5 per cent of that population felt that their role had not been formally defined. The remaining 10 lawyers felt that it had been defined. In
the police group, six of 17 respondents, or 35.3 per cent, felt that their role in the juvenile court process had never been formally defined.

**Role Definition with Perceived Professional Effectiveness**

The researchers wondered if having a clearly defined role would effect a respondent's perception of his effectiveness. That is, when the role of the respondent was clearly defined, did he perceive his performance as being more effective. To determine this, the variable role definition was crosstabulated with the variable, perceived professional effectiveness. In this instance, the responses of each professional group were utilized to provide more comprehensive analysis as well as to facilitate comparisons between the results of each professions' responses.

**Social Workers**

The responses of the social work group concerning the having or not having formal definition of their role in juvenile court were crosstabulated with their perceptions of the effectiveness of their own performance. Gamma was applied and the result, 0.4509, suggested that a moderate degree of association existed between the two variables. Pearson's coefficient was utilized to further examine the strength of this relationship and the result, 0.1736, suggested that the degree of association between a social
worker having or not having his role clearly defined and his perception of his effectiveness was very slight.

Lawyers

The responses of the lawyers concerning role definition were crosstabulated with their perceptions of their professional effectiveness. Gamma was applied and a surprisingly high result of -1.00 was returned. Pearson's coefficient was employed to further test the strength of the association between the two variables and the result, -0.2927, suggested that there was a low negative degree of association between the two variables. The researchers were more inclined to accept the results of Pearson's coefficient rather than gamma. The small size of the sample and the fact that a four point scale was used to determine perceived professional effectiveness, in which the scores were concentrated and not spread out, may have influenced the result of gamma. In conclusion, there appears to be only a low negative degree of association between having his role defined and the lawyer's perception of his own professional effectiveness.

Police Officers

The responses of the police officers concerning role definition were crosstabulated with their responses concerning their perception of their own professional effectiveness. Gamma was applied as a test of association and the result, -0.7641, suggested that a high degree
of negative association existed between the two variables. Pearson's coefficient was employed to further test the strength of this relationship and the result, -0.4045, although not as high as gamma, was still indicative of a moderate negative association between the two variables. These results suggested that when a police officer's role was defined, he tended to feel more ineffective.

Conclusion

The responses of each group concerning role definition were crosstabulated with responses concerning their perception of their own effectiveness in juvenile court. The tests of association, gamma and Pearson's coefficient, were applied, resulting in the following observations. In the social work population, there was a very slight degree of association between the two variables. In the lawyer group's responses there was a low degree of negative association between the responses of that group concerning role definition and professional effectiveness. However, in the police officer group, a moderate degree of negative association was found to exist.

The original hypothesis, that having a clear role definition would improve or increase perceived effectiveness, was not proven to be entirely true. The strongest degrees of association were in fact indicative of negative relationships. In both the police officer group and the lawyer group having a clear role definition was not
accompanied by a high degree of perceived effectiveness. Instead, those respondents who had their role defined tended to perceive their performance as not being effective. Although the researchers hesitate to generalize these findings, and will not do so, there is one implication which should be stated.

We have observed that when a lawyer's or police officer's role is clear, he perceives his performance as ineffective. Perhaps this is due to the fact that the role as defined is not compatible with the purpose and procedure of the organization.

PART IV

Other Variables Influencing Professional Role Performance

The review of the literature had suggested that role perception was influenced by the perceptions of those in complimentary roles. The researchers wondered if there were other factors which had an impact on a person's perception of his role. If there were other factors, then suggestions for future research in the area of role performance and interaction in the juvenile court setting would be given a more clear, specific focus.

The respondents were asked to rate on a six point scale the following variables: a) legislation, b) court policy, c) professional education, d) other professionals,
and e) on the job experience in terms of the impact that each was perceived to have on a respondent's role. Table 40 presents the general research population's mean scores and the ranking of each variable, as well as a breakdown of those results by sub-population (profession).

The general research population rated "on the job experience" as having the greatest impact on their professional role performance with a mean score of 4.8. The general population ranked "court policy" or the procedures established within that particular court, as the second most influential variable. The mean score in this instance was 3.7. The next variable which exerted influence on professional role performance was "legislation," with a mean score of 3.5. The final two variables ranked were "professional education" with a mean score of 3.4, and "other professionals" with a mean score of 3.2.

The reader should note that each profession scored the variables differently. All of the professions agreed that on the job experience had the most influence on their role performance. Police officers and social workers placed court policy or procedure as the second most influential variable while lawyers placed professional education and legislation in this position. This response from lawyers was congruent with the fact that a high percentage of lawyers had responded that professional education prepared them for their role in the juvenile court process.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Social work sub-population</th>
<th>Legal sub-population</th>
<th>Police sub-population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On the job experience</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedure or court policy</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profession education</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other professionals</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(See Previous Training Specifically Related to Juvenile Court.) While social workers placed legislation third, police officers placed professional education in this category. In the fourth position, social workers placed professional education while the police and the lawyers indicated other professionals. Finally, lawyers placed court policy or procedure last whereas social workers and police had given it greater priority and placed it second. These latter groups placed other professionals and legislation in last position.

The responses of the sample population to this question clearly indicated that on the job experience has the greatest impact upon role performance in the perceptions of the professionals practicing in juvenile court. The fact that court policy was the next most influential variable in the perception of the respondents, is also significant.

These findings suggest that actual immersion into the juvenile court process itself has a great impact on role. If the court policy is clear in purpose and procedure, the effect of the court upon the role performance of the professionals participating in it may be quite positive. That is to say that if it is clearly outlined what tasks the individual in a particular role must be responsible for performing then such unwanted factors as duplication of service, conflict, and confusion may not
exist within the court. Suggested areas for future research would be: 1) to determine if conflict between professions decreased when roles and procedure were clearly and concisely defined, to the participant professional, prior to his performance in the court. 2) From a consumer point of view, did the service delivery of each profession and the court as a whole improve when court procedure was clearly established among and accepted by the professionals involved in the juvenile court?

PART V

Summary

In this chapter, the data was presented and analysed in four major sections. Each section was subdivided to further facilitate its examination. In some instances, inferences were drawn about the findings. This section completed, the researchers felt that they could proceed with Chapter V which presents the implications of the findings.
CHAPTER V

FINDINGS AND IMPLICATIONS

A Review of the Findings

The focus of the study was threefold. The researchers wanted to determine: (i) to what extent conflict and consensus existed among professionals practicing in this particular juvenile court; (ii) to what extent did the variables, age, experience, previous training, education, having a role definition, and perceived status have an effect upon the respondents' perception of their professional effectiveness; (iii) to what extent did the variables, on the job experience, court policy or procedure, legislation, professional education and other professionals, influence the respondents' perceptions of their role performance.

This section of Chapter V will review the findings of each research focus separately. Findings of a more general nature will also be presented. Following this, implications of the findings will be drawn and discussed.

PART I

The Extent to which Conflict and Consensus Existed

The varied responses concerning the different professions' perceptions of specific roles suggested
that conflict existed extensively between professional
groups as well as among the members of each profession.
These types of conflict were previously defined as being
interprofessional and intraprofessional conflict. The
findings concerning each professional role were as
follows.

The Social Work Role

The social work role was perhaps the best under-
stood of all the roles. The researchers found that this
role was repeatedly the subject of consensus in the per-
ception of the respondents. This finding may have been
influenced by the fact that the tasks selected for use
in the data collection instrument were probably more
oriented toward the researcher's concept of the social
work role.

The Legal Role

The role of the lawyer seems to be somewhat un-
clear. In many instances, the responses of lawyers
suggested that lawyers wished to expand their role per-
formance into areas that appeared to be somewhat outside
the traditional concepts of the adversary role.

In the literature review, it was noted that some
authors were concerned that the lawyer's role in juvenile
court lacked clarity, and that the lawyer was bound be-
tween being the child's advocate and at the same time
representing his best interests. Authors such as
Isaacs, \(^1\) Walsh, \(^2\) Dunham, \(^3\) and Dootjes \(^4\) recommended that juvenile court should be divided into two distinct phases: adjudication and disposition. Such a division would serve to clarify the lawyers' role and afford the child maximum service from the legal profession. During the adjudication phase, the lawyer's role would be that of being the child's advocate and in the dispositional stage he would act as the amicus curiae, friend of the court, safeguarding the child's best interests in terms of the court's disposition. This division, according to these authors, would not only guarantee the child's right to due process of law but also it would ensure that he received the maximum service of the court.

Conflict between the Legal and Social Work Roles

The results of the study revealed that lawyers and social workers often had different perceptions of each other's "ideal" performance of a task. It appeared that lawyers saw the performance of certain tasks as being within the auspices of their role, while social workers saw the performance of the same tasks by a lawyer as

\(^1\) Jacob L. Isaacs, "The Role of the Lawyer in Juvenile Court."

\(^2\) Joseph T. Walsh, "The Attorney and the Dispositional Stage."

\(^3\) Warren H. Dunham, "The Juvenile Court: Contradictory Orientations."

\(^4\) Inez Dootjes, et al., "The Defense Counsel in Juvenile Court."
being inappropriate. These tasks were of a "social welfare" nature such as recommending the "kind" of placement a child required, or presenting a social history.

This finding was interesting in that it was similar to the findings of a previously completed study undertaken by William C. Brennan and Shanti K. Khinduka.\(^1\) This study of the role expectations of social workers and lawyers in the juvenile court setting concluded that conflict between the two professions was a direct result of the fact that each profession tended to assume responsibility for the tasks usually performed by the other profession.

This study of the Essex County court only observed the movement of lawyers towards the performance of social work tasks. However, the researchers were quite convinced that had the task list been broadened in its scope to include tasks of a legal nature, the same movement would have been noticed in the social work group. That is, social workers would have moved towards performing legally oriented tasks.

It was further noted in the responses of both the lawyer and social work group that the respondents of each profession tended to rate their own profession higher than the other profession. This was particularly true in

\(^1\)William C. Brennan and Shanti K. Khinduka, "Role Expectations of Social Workers and Lawyers in Juvenile Court," p. 198.
terms of the "actual" performance of certain tasks.

The Judicial Role

This study revealed that the greatest degree of conflict occurred between and among the professions in their perception of the "actual" and "ideal" judicial role. Social workers and police officers tended to see the role as being quite active in the performance of tasks. Lawyers, on the other hand, tended to perceive this role as being not so active. Their responses suggested that the judge confine much of his activity to adjudication only.

As noted in the review of literature, in the performance of his duty, the judge must be able to blend legal aspects, social factors and clinical findings.\(^1\) The purpose of the court compels the judicial role to be both legal and social in its orientation. This places the judge in the situation of performing a complex role and one which is subject to much interpretation from the perspectives of different professions.

This study noted that the judge's role is further complicated by the lack of clear direction offered by the Juvenile Delinquents Act. The Act often charged the judge with meeting potentially incongruent purposes. He must, for example, ensure informality and still guarantee due

process of law.

This study found that of all roles, the judicial role was least understood, and yet the judicial role may be the most important role in the court process. After all, this role may determine the performance of the other complimentary roles through the judicial control of procedure and philosophy.

The Police Role

This study revealed that the "ideal" performance of the police officer was the subject of some concern among the members of each profession, including police officers themselves. The role itself was consistently understood, however, the presence of intraprofessional conflict in the responses concerning the police "ideal" performance was often observed. This high intraprofessional conflict may have indicated that although the role of the police officer was clearly understood, the respondents, particularly police officers, were not satisfied with the definition of this role as it existed.

The results of this study also revealed that the police officer and legal groups had different perceptions of the "ideal" performance of particular tasks by each other. Often the respondents of both professions tended to rate the other quite low in relation to their own profession.
PART II

The Effect of Designated Variables on Perceived Professional Effectiveness

The variables, age, previous training, and education were crosstabulated with the respondents' perception of their professional effectiveness. Gamma, Cramer's V and Pearson's coefficient were the tests of association applied where appropriate. The results of these tests suggested that the relationships between these three variables and perceived professional effectiveness were not strong.

The variables, experience, status, and having a role definition were also crosstabulated with perceived professional effectiveness. The results of these crosstabulations and testings require closer examination.

Experience

The strength of the relationship between the social work and legal groups' responses concerning their experience in juvenile court and their perception of their own professional effectiveness was quite low. In terms of the police group's responses, a moderate degree of negative association was found to exist. This suggested that as a police officer became more experienced in juvenile court practice, he saw his performance as being less effective.

Perceived Professional Status (actual)

The responses of the lawyer group concerning their
own professions "actual" status were crosstabulated with their responses concerning their own perceived professional effectiveness. Tests of association revealed that a moderate degree of association existed between the variables. This suggested that the higher a lawyer perceived his status, the more effective he felt his practice to be in juvenile court.

The responses of the remaining two groups (police and social work) were crosstabulated and tested. The results suggested that the relationship between their perception of their professional status and their perception of their professional effectiveness was minimal.

**Having a Role Definition**

The responses of the police group revealed, when tested, that a moderate degree of negative association existed between variables, having a role definition and the officers' perception of his professional effectiveness. This suggested that when a police officer felt that his role was clearly defined, he also felt less effective in his juvenile court practice.

The responses of lawyers and social workers revealed that no meaningful relationship existed in the responses of these two groups concerning the variables having a role definition and perceived professional effectiveness.
PART III

The Influence of Specific Variables on Professional Role Performance

This study revealed that in this research population, the variables, on the job experience, had the most influence upon a respondent's role performance. Court policy or procedure was the next most influential variable.

PART IV

General Findings

The following list of findings were not specific to one area of focus in the research project. However, the researchers were of the opinion that they were important to the nature of this research project. They were therefore presented in brief.

1. Nearly 30 per cent of the research population perceived their professional performance as not being effective.

2. Nearly half (49 per cent) of the respondents stated that they had received no training specifically related to juvenile court. Of the number that did have training, 11 respondents indicated that it was in the form of professional education. It remains debatable if professional education does in fact specifically prepare a pro-
essional for role performance in a setting of this nature.

3. A most important finding was that 54.4 per cent of the population had received no formal definition of their role in juvenile court.

Implications

The findings of this study led to a number of implications in relation to each profession's role in particular and the juvenile court in general.

The Communication of Role Expectations

The degree of interprofessional and intraprofessional conflict noted in the present study implied that the professions did not share their actual and ideal perceptions of their roles with the members of their own profession or with the members of other professions. Thus, it would seem that limited interprofessional and intraprofessional communication exists among the four professional groups studied.

Fifty-four per cent of the entire population felt that their role had never been adequately defined and the majority of the respondents rated on the job experience as the most important variable in determining their role. The implication here is that a definite lack of formal definition of role exists and consequently roles are most
often informally defined by on the job experience.

Informal expectations must be shared in order for consensus to exist. If these informal expectations are not shared, one can possibly assume that interprofessional and intraprofessional communication is limited. Should this assumption be correct, a potential source of conflict is readily identified.

Training Specifically Related to Juvenile Court

Forty-nine per cent of the general research population did not have any previous training specifically related to juvenile court. This finding indicates that professional education is expected to adequately prepare these people for their participation in juvenile court. However, to what extent this is true has not been explored in this research but it is believed that professional education is more encompassing and hence cannot be expected to meet local agency needs. The respondents' respective places of employment also did not provide any training or preparation for services in the juvenile court. Possibly there is an assumption among the professional educators that students will learn about their function in juvenile court in their respective places of employment while the juvenile court may be assuming that the professionals have received adequate training in school and thus inservice education programs are not required to teach the professionals about their role in juvenile court. Another
implication about this finding is that specific training in relation to juvenile court is not required before a person is permitted to work in this setting.

Social Work and Lawyer's Roles

The finding that conflict existed between the perceptions of social workers and lawyers as a result of lawyers apparently wanting to assume responsibility for "social welfare" tasks has a number of implications.

First, there is the implication that the lawyer himself is unclear about his own role in juvenile court. If the traditional advocate role is not desirable, the lawyer may be unaware and untrained to function in the non adversary and informal arena of juvenile court. Lawyers may inadvertently recognize that the role of the advocate is limited and as such they may be getting into other areas. By moving into other areas, they may be encroaching upon the role that social work has traditionally covered. Possibly the juvenile court process itself as it presently operates cannot accommodate an advocate person, yet the court itself has not officially recognized nor stated this incompatibility. The social workers unwillingness to abdicate social work responsibilities to the lawyer may be a result of the social worker wanting to maintain clarity for his own role performance.

The present research did not find that conflict existed between lawyers and social workers because social
workers wanted to assume responsibility for legal tasks. The main reason for the lack of these findings was that legally oriented tasks were not incorporated into the data collection instrument. If legal tasks were included, the researchers felt that similar to the results of Brennan and Khinduka's study conflict would also exist because of social workers wanting to assume responsibility for legally oriented tasks.

The desire of each profession to duplicate the roles of the other profession might indicate the professions' lack of confidence in each other or each profession's lack of confidence in the performance of their own roles. This tendency toward role duplication may also be a result of the lack of formal role clarity within the system as it attempts to synthesize both legal and social functions.

Another implication of this tendency toward service duplication is that each profession may be responding to the perceived social and legal needs of the client. If this is the case, possibly social workers and lawyers would have to work as a team and both professions would require background training in their own and the other profession's area of expertise. Possibly non traditional roles will have to be set up in the juvenile court setting.

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Judge's Role

Many implications may be derived from the high degree of interprofessional and intraprofessional role conflict noted in relation to the judge's role in juvenile court.

First, each profession has informal expectations in relation to the judge's role. The Juvenile Delinquents Act does not clearly specify the judge's role. Conflict concerning this role may be a result of individuals not sharing their expectations with their own and other professions.

The dual focus of the court as both a social and legal institution may be contributing to conflict in relation to the judge's role as some respondents thought that the judge should be an active participant while others thought that the judge's role should be more passive. Some thought this role should be legally oriented while others thought it should be socially oriented.

Here there seems to be an implication that there is a lack of clarity as to what extent the juvenile court is similar to or different from the adult criminal court.

Police Role

The conflict noted between the professions and the police group and also among the members of the police group itself indicated a lack of clarity between and among the professions in relation to the "actual" and "ideal" police
role in the juvenile court setting. The tests of association found moderate degrees of negative association with respect to the variables experience and formal role definition as they affected the police officer's perceived professional effectiveness in juvenile court. There seemed to be an indication that as the police officer became more experienced in juvenile court, and as his role was more formally defined, he felt less effective.

The high standard deviations for "ideal" police performance of tasks especially the police group's own perceptions in addition to the two negative associations previously described, implied that segments of the police population and segments of the other populations were not satisfied with the police role as it presently exists. There is an indication that the police profession wants further involvement in "social welfare" tasks and is not satisfied simply with representing the best interests of the community. Possibly a new role for the police officer in juvenile court is required.

Effect on Child

The general degree of interprofessional and intraprofessional role conflict in relation to the court itself and the effect the court has upon the child leads to several implications.

This conflict may indicate that the professions are dissatisfied with the court as it presently exists. Maybe
the professionals feel that the early twentieth century philosophy of not treating the child, especially the teenager, as a criminal is no longer relevant in today's fast-moving, highly complex, urbanized society.

Much of the court's direction is aimed at assisting the child where, in fact, after the child has received this assistance he still has to return to the same unchanged family and social environment. The degree of conflict among the professionals may in part be due to the frustration they experience knowing that they are only dealing with a segment of the problem, the child, and many other important variables such as the child's family and social environment are left unattended.

A number of implications may also be drawn when one considers how this conflict between the professionals affects the child and the child's perspective of justice.

One implication is that the child learns to avoid taking any responsibility for himself. Everyone is so willing to help the child that his responsibility is usurped and he is left with little incentive to help himself. He becomes a passive recipient of the court's adjudication, and as a passive recipient probably learns that others will accept his responsibility.

The child, and especially the teenager, may also see the court as another "ineffective" social organization that does not help him in relation to his problems with
his family and his environment but blames only him for these problems. The failure of the court to help the child with "his" problems only leaves the child more cynical and skeptical of the helping professions in general.

This implies that the court's problem orientation might best be replaced by an orientation which seeks to make use of the child's potentials.

Court Staff

The professional research population of this study were not part of the court staff. The court has no professional staff as such but "borrows" personnel from other agencies. If these "borrowed" personnel are not fully aware of the purpose, philosophy and procedure of the juvenile court then conflict may occur as they perform their individual roles. If all the professionals perceive that their traditional roles do not satisfy the needs of the court or the child, they may begin to branch out in piecemeal fashion. This branching out may result in conflict. Perhaps the court should develop its own professional staff who could work as a multi discipline team and thus enhance professional cooperation, minimize conflict and maximize the delivery of service to the child.
CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Summary

This study examined three professions' perceptions of the roles of social workers, lawyers, judges and police officers who were participants in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County. This study proposed to examine the extent to which interprofessional and intraprofessional role conflict and consensus existed between and among the professions involved in the above mentioned court. This study also sought to examine the strength of relationship between certain variables and a respondent's perceived professional effectiveness in the juvenile court setting. Variables influencing a respondent's role performance were ranked in terms of their order of importance.

The literature review identified areas of role conflict between the professions as they participated in the juvenile court setting. Attempts were also made to identify the reasons for the existence of role conflict between the professions in this setting.

The data collection instrument for this study measured the "actual" and "ideal" perceptions of the
professionals concerning their own roles and the roles of the other professions in fourteen areas of activity related to the juvenile court process. Appropriate tests of association measured the degree of association between certain variables and a respondent's perceived professional effectiveness. Other variables were ranked in relation to the degree of influence they had on the respondents' perceptions of their own role performance.

The data revealed that both interprofessional and intraprofessional role conflict existed extensively between and within the professions' perceptions of their own and other professions' "actual" and "ideal" role performance in the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County. Interprofessional and intraprofessional role consensus was also shown to exist in many areas. In several instances, the tests of association showed that moderate degrees of association and moderate degrees of negative association existed between certain variables and the respondents' perceived professional effectiveness. These findings lead to suggestions for future research. On the job experience was shown to be the most important variable that determined the respondents' perceptions of their own roles in juvenile court. Court policy and procedures and professional education were shown to be the next most significant variables that influenced the
professionals' role performance.

Limitations of the Study

1. Due to the sample size of sixty-five respondents, the researchers felt that even though a rather explicit portrait of this court and its members had been presented, a generalization of the results beyond the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County should be cautioned as other courts across the province and the country may vary in size, structure and composition.

2. The questions presented in sections B and C of the data collection instrument were more oriented toward the researchers' ideas of the social workers role in juvenile court. This orientation may have led to the finding that the social work role was most understood by the professions in this setting. If the data collection instrument was more oriented toward "legal" tasks, possibly the degree of conflict in relation to the social work role would have been greater.

3. The four point scale used to measure perceived professional effectiveness did not provide for a wide range in scoring. A six point scale may have been better as it would have provided for a wider range of scores and thus possibly have led to a difference in crosstabulated results.
Recommendations for the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County

In view of the literature reviewed, the data presented and the analysis of the findings, the following recommendations are made in relation to the Provincial Court (Juvenile Division) of Essex County.

1. That all the professionals involved in this study receive further education by means of inservice training, or continued academic endeavours to better their understanding of their own roles and the roles of other professionals involved in juvenile court.

2. Interprofessional education should be initiated in the form of conferences or seminars to enable the professionals to share their conceptions of their own roles and the roles of others so that greater role clarity could be developed in a mutually agreed upon manner to the betterment of both interprofessional cooperation and hence service delivery.

3. The professionals involved in Essex County Juvenile Court should encourage the development of further legislation that will more clearly define their roles.
4. Colleges and universities should embark on the establishment of interdisciplinary curriculum programmes specifically related to the juvenile court.

5. Based on the review of literature, it would seem appropriate to recommend that the juvenile court be divided into two distinct phases of adjudication and disposition. This division would help facilitate lawyer role clarity with respect to the other members of the juvenile court. Such a division would also ensure that the child's rights were protected as well as help the child to realize the legal and social implications of his behavior.

6. The Windsor Juvenile Court should develop its own staff of professionals. These professionals could work as a multi-discipline team to enhance professional coordination and cooperation and to minimize conflict and service duplication. A multi-discipline team could also be more flexible in relation to meeting the specific needs of each individual child.
7. The researchers think that a multi
discipline team could be instrumental
in developing a more "total" approach
to juvenile delinquency rather than
simply dealing with the child.
Such a team should set up facilities
that require the child's parents and
family to take part in the court's
assistance to a child.
As the child also takes part in a
wider societal environment such a
team could also be instrumental in
suggesting and implementing corrections
in relation to the negative aspects of
the wider societal environment which
may also be contributing to juvenile
delinquency.

Recommendations for Future Research
The tests of association in this study led to a
number of hypotheses that could be investigated by future
research concerning professionals in juvenile court.

1. The greater the lawyers' perception
   of his status, the more effective he
   feels.
2. The more experience a police officer
   has in juvenile court the less effective
he feels himself to be.

3. The more clearly a police officer's role is defined in the juvenile court the less effective he feels himself to be.

Other studies in relation to the juvenile court are also suggested as a result of the completion of this study.

4. Conflict between the professions decreases as a result of roles and procedures being clearly defined prior to the participants' involvement in the court.

5. The service delivery of each profession and the juvenile court in general is improved when court procedure and professional roles are clearly established and agreed upon by the professionals.

6. A follow-up study of the juvenile's perceptions of the role of each of these professions would determine whether or not the interprofessional and intraprofessional conflict identified was negatively affecting the juvenile.

7. A comparison of the professionals'
understanding of adjudication and disposition with the juvenile's understanding of the same adjudication and disposition would indeed determine the court's effectiveness as it responds to the child's needs.

8. Future research may also be more precise in its terminology. Rather than studying role conflict and role consensus, a more precise term may have been role perceptions. Role conflict and role consensus are suggestive of an element of interaction whereas role perceptions connotate the respondents ideas or expectations which may lead to role conflict or role consensus once interaction takes place.

9. The researchers recommend that similar studies be carried out in different sections of the province, or country so that similar findings may be generalized to all the juvenile courts in Canada.

10. Research might also be directed toward the investigation of juvenile
courts in foreign countries with the purpose and intention of implementing and adopting new structures to the juvenile courts of this country.
APPENDIX A

QUESTIONNAIRE

PROFESSIONAL INTERACTION IN

JUVENILE COURTS
Section A

1. Please indicate your profession.
   a) social worker  
   b) peace officer  
   c) lawyer  
   d) judge  

2. Age:  

3. How long have you practiced in the juvenile court?
   years  
   months  

4. Education: (Please indicate the level of education that you have attained. This would include any university, community college, post secondary or secondary school degrees, diplomas or certificates.)  

5. Have you had any formal training specifically related to your work in juvenile court?
   a) yes  
   b) no  

   If yes, was this training in the form of -
   i) professional education (university, college etc.)  
   ii) in-service training  
   iii) conferences or seminars  
   iv) other (please specify)  

Section B

The following are tasks which frequently occur in juvenile court. Using the scale provided below, please rate the tasks according to how often each profession performs them. (Indicate your choice by circling the appropriate number on the scale.)

never not very often not often often very often always

1  2  3  4  5  6

1. Who usually initiates steps to bring a particular case into the juvenile court process?
   a) social worker 1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer 1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge 1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer 1  2  3  4  5  6

2. Who usually decides to resolve a case informally?
   a) social worker 1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer 1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge 1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer 1  2  3  4  5  6

3. Who usually has responsibility for recommending that a particular child requires detention?
   a) social worker 1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer 1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge 1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer 1  2  3  4  5  6
Section B cont'd

4. Who usually prepares the child for the upcoming court appearance?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

5. Who usually prepares the child's family for the upcoming court appearance?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

6. Who usually presents a social history?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

7. Who usually determines whether a psychological evaluation is required or not?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6
Section B cont'd

8. Who usually recommends that probation is a suitable alternative for a particular child?
   a) social worker  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

9. Who usually recommends placement outside the home as a suitable alternative?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

10. Who usually recommends what kind of placement is best suited to a particular child?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

11. Who usually explains the disposition of the court to the child?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6
Section B cont'd

12. Who usually explains the disposition of the court to the child's family?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

13. Who usually informs the court of the treatment or placement facilities that are available to the child?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

14. Who usually represents the best interests of the child?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6
Section C

Using the scale provided, please rate the following tasks according to how appropriate it would be for each profession to perform them. (Indicate your choice by circling the number.)

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1. Who should initiate steps to bring a particular case into the juvenile court?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

2. Who should decide to resolve a case informally?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

3. Who should have responsibility for recommending that a particular child requires detention?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer  1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge  1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6
Section C cont'd

4. Who **should** prepare the child for the upcoming court appearance?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer         1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge          1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

5. Who **should** prepare the child's family for the upcoming court appearance?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer         1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge          1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

6. Who **should** present a social history?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer         1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge          1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6

7. Who **should** determine whether a psychological evaluation is required or not?
   a) social worker  1  2  3  4  5  6
   b) lawyer         1  2  3  4  5  6
   c) judge          1  2  3  4  5  6
   d) peace officer  1  2  3  4  5  6
Section C cont'd

8. Who should recommend that probation is a suitable alternative for a particular child?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

9. Who should recommend placement outside the home as a suitable alternative?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

10. Who should recommend what kind of placement is best suited to a particular child?
    a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
    b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
    c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
    d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

11. Who should explain the disposition of the court to the child?
    a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
    b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
    c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
    d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6
Section C cont'd

12. Who should explain the disposition of the court to the child's family?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

13. Who should inform the court of the treatment or placement facilities that are available to a particular child?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6

14. Who should represent the best interests of the child?
   a) social worker 1 2 3 4 5 6
   b) lawyer 1 2 3 4 5 6
   c) judge 1 2 3 4 5 6
   d) peace officer 1 2 3 4 5 6
Section D

1. Prior to or during your involvement in juvenile court, has your role in that process been formally defined? (e.g., court policy, legislation)
   a) yes ____  b) no ____

2. Rank each of the following in terms of how much it has influenced your role in the juvenile court process. (e.g., 1 = least ... 6 = most)
   a) legislation ______
   b) court policy ______
   c) profession education ______
   d) other professionals ______
   e) on the job experience ______
   f) other (please specify) ______

3. Do you feel that you have been effective as a professional practicing in the juvenile court process?
   (check one)
   a) very ineffective ______  c) effective ______
   b) ineffective ______  d) very effective ______

4. Rank the professions listed according to the status you feel they actually have in the juvenile court process.
   (e.g., 1 = lowest ... 4 = highest)
   a) social worker ______  c) judge ______
   b) lawyer ______  d) peace officer ______
Section D cont'd

5. Rank the professions listed according to the status you feel they should have in the juvenile court process. (e.g., 1 = lowest ... 4 = highest)
   a) social worker      c) judge
   b) lawyer            d) peace officer
APPENDIX B
To whom it may concern:

We, the undersigned, are presently studying how professionals interact in the juvenile court setting. Since you are one of these professionals, we are greatly interested in the contribution you can make to a study of this nature.

The questionnaire is designed to examine specific tasks. You will find these tasks in Sections B and C of the questionnaire. It is important to note that Section B asks your perception of what is actually happening while Section C deals with your perception of what should happen. The remaining two sections (A and D) are oriented toward the more general information we require.

We encourage you to make any comments you wish. You can do so on the reverse side of the final page. All responses will remain anonymous, and will be kept in the strictest confidence.

There are many significant changes occurring in the juvenile court setting. We feel that a study such as this is both relevant and much needed. It is very important that we, as professionals, examine and review our role in the setting in which we practice. In view of this we encourage your assistance by completing this questionnaire.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours truly,

B. J. Kroeker, Chairman

Bernard LeVasseur, BSW

Gregory Campbell, BSW
June 25, 1975

Dear

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your co-operation in our recent questionnaire about Juvenile Court.

The first rough draft is near completion and there appears to be a good deal more work in the months ahead.

The date set for the oral defense of this study is tentatively September 5, 1975 at the University of Windsor School of Social Work on the seventh floor of the Mathematics Building. All are welcome to attend. You will be notified of any changes in the above scheduled presentation.

Once again, your co-operation and involvement were greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

B. J. Kroeker
Director,
School of Social Work

D. Gregory Campbell, B.S.W.

Bernard J. LeVasseur, B.S.W.
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VITA AUCTORIS

Gregory Campbell was born on October 19th, 1950 in Windsor, Ontario. He obtained his elementary school education at St. John's School in Windsor, Ontario. He completed his secondary school education at Assumption College School in Windsor.

Following a year of studies at the University of Western Ontario, Mr. Campbell enrolled in the B.S.W. programme at the University of Windsor and received his B.S.W. degree in the spring of 1973.

For the next year Mr. Campbell was employed as a Family Service Protection worker by the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society for the County of Essex. He was accepted into the M.S.W. programme in September of 1974 and expects to graduate in October of 1975.

Mr. Campbell's field experience in the undergraduate year was with the Windsor Board of Education's Student Services Department. In the graduate programme, he worked at the Wayne County Catholic Social Services in Detroit, Michigan. At this agency he was primarily involved in marriage and family counselling.
VITA AUCTORIS

Bernard James LeVasseur was born on December 4, 1950 in Montreal, Quebec. His family moved to Peterborough, Ontario where he completed his primary school education at St. John the Baptist and St. Alphonsus Schools. His secondary school education was completed at St. Mary's College in Brockville, Ontario. Mr. LeVasseur continued his education at the University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario and graduated with a B.S.W. degree in 1973.

After graduation he was employed for one year as a protection child care worker in a general service unit at Essex County Children's Aid Society.

In September of 1974 Mr. LeVasseur enrolled in the M.S.W. programme at the University of Windsor. He expects to graduate in October 1975.

Field experience in the B.S.W. programme was with the Essex County Children's Aid Society. M.S.W. field experience was completed at the Psychological Center, University of Windsor.