
**ANNOTATION:**

**DESIGN:** This report documents short term and long term effects of an expanded victim-offender program based in Los Angeles County, California. From July 22, 1997 to July 22, 1998, 632 cases were referred to the program, of which 609 met eligibility criteria. Two hundred and seventy nine cases were mediated; 266 resulted in contract agreements. Median number of days for case processing was 38. Two hundred and twelve families were offered assistance post-mediation. Eighty-five of the youth were referred for community service.

**SATISFACTION:** Over 96% of each group (victims, offenders, and parents) were satisfied with the mediation results, thought the agreement would be fulfilled, and would recommend the program to other persons in a similar situation. Forty-nine parents and fifty-one youth were interviewed by phone some three months after mediation. Eighty-two percent of the offenders and 96% of parents remained very satisfied with the mediation outcome. Nearly two-thirds of the youth and almost all the parents felt the youth's life had changed for the better since mediation.

**IMPACT:** About half of both parents and youth indicated that the youth no longer hangs out with the same crowd. And approximately 80% of each group felt that family relationships had improved since mediation.

**RECIDIVISM:** A minimum six month criminal history check was made on the 165 youth mediated between June 23, 1997 and December 31, 1997. Eighty-nine percent of these youth did not recidivate.

**KEYWORDS:**
- VOM
- JUVENILE
- CRIME TYPES NOT SPECIFIED
- SATISFACTION, IMPACT, RECIDIVISM
- VICTIM DATA, OFFENDER DATA
- SURVEY, RECORD DATA
- US