
ANNOTATION:

DESIGN: This study reports data from a rural county-based VORP in Anderson County, Tennessee. Beginning in 1989 all youth who admitted guilt to property offenses were referred to the VORP program. During a 41 month period, Jan. 1, 1989 to May 31, 1992, about 65% of referrals went to mediation. A random sample of the VORP cases was selected yielding 125 youth. One hundred and fifty youth who had pled guilty to property-related offenses for the 41 month period prior to the implementation of VORP were randomly selected for comparison purposes.

RECIDIVISM: Youth processed through VORP were less likely to offend than those youth exposed to the traditional court proceedings: 19.8% VORP compared to 33.1% non-VORP. The severity of re-offense for the VORP youth was less severe than for the non-VORP youth. Ordinal logistic regression analysis was employed. While the probability of re-offense increases as number of siblings increase for non-VORP youth, the probability of re-offense remains constant for VORP youth.

KEYWORDS:
- VOM
- JUVENILE
- PROPERTY
- OFFENDER DATA
- RECIDIVISM
- RECORD DATA, COMPARISON
- US