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How Does Race Relate to Delinquency?

Studies are inconclusive as to the relationship between race and delinquency. This study examines the relationship between race and delinquency by considering the effects of race on an individual's self-control. Those who are more likely to respond to stressors with less self-control are more likely to engage in delinquency. The results suggest that race may be a significant factor in the development of delinquency. Strong support for this was found in the data, while partial support was found in the data for the effects of race on self-control.

General strain theory posits that people who lack the means to cope with stress are more likely to engage in delinquency. This theory states that stressors, such as poverty, are disliked by the individual and increase the likelihood of delinquency. Most individuals experience stressors such as poverty or deviant behavior, suggesting that the development of delinquency may be the key factor in the development of delinquency. This study supports the role of stressors in the development of delinquency.

One promising explanation for the relationship between race and delinquency is the role of self-control. Those who have fewer identities or roles may have fewer identities to attribute to themselves. 

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