

## **Abstract**

The current study was aimed to investigate the relationship between personality traits, child abuse and behavioural problems among juvenile delinquents. For this purpose, the sample size was comprised of 100 juvenile delinquents. A cross sectional research design was used and data was collected from District Jail Lahore and Borstal Jail Faisalabad. **Youth Psychopathy Trait Inventory, International Personality Item Pool, Child Abuse Screening Tool and Child Behaviour Checklist** were used to measure child abuse, personality traits and behavioural problems respectively. Results indicated that there is a positive relationship between child abuse and behavioural problems and delinquents exhibit more externalizing problems as compared to internalizing problems. The Multi Analysis of Variances indicated that delinquents have significant differences on extroversion, neuroticism, openness to experiences and conscientiousness and delinquents also have significant differences on physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. Moreover the findings revealed that behavioural problems were the significant predictor of delinquency as compared to child abuse and personality traits. The future implication of the study suggested that counselling services must be provided to the juvenile delinquents.

*Keywords:* Juvenile delinquents, Personality traits, Child abuse, Behavioural problems