ABSTRACT

The present study investigated the psychopathic trends, type of crime and drug addiction among jail inmates. A sample of 200 jail inmates (100 drug addicts and 100 non-drug addict jail inmates) was drawn from District Jail Lahore. Age range of participants was 20 to 65 years (Mean age for drug addicts was =34.85, SD=11.97 and non-drug addicts, it is 37.05, SD=8.79). Two measures were used; Semi-structured Interview Form and Psychopathy Checklist Revised PCL-R (Hare, 1991). Psychometric properties of PCL-R were determined for the present sample. 2x2 between-within ANOVA showed significant main effect of groups (drug addicts vs non-drug addicts jail inmates) and also within subject main effect for its subscales. Interaction between groups (drug addict and non-drug addict jail inmates) across subscales was also highly significant. When data was broken down into t-test it showed significant differences between drug addict and non-drug addict jail inmates on total PCL-R score and its subscale; the drug addicts scored high on factor 2 of PCL-R depicting more psychopathic trends in drug addict jail inmates than non-drug addict jail inmates. When analyzed otherwise the results showed significant difference between psychopath and non-psychopaths groups of respondents on total PCL-R score and its subscales. The results of MANOVA also strengthened the findings. When looked into the predictors of psychopathic trends, the results of stepwise regression analysis showed the psychopathic groups (psychopaths and non-psychopaths), comparison groups (drug addicts and non-drug addict jail inmates) and levels of education as the significant predictors of PCL-R total scores. Results further indicated most of drug addicts were poly drug users and drug addicts committed more drug related crimes as compared to non-drug addicts. Type of crime was different for both comparison jail inmate groups; drug addicts were involved in drug keeping, multiple crime and non-drug addict jail inmates involved in fight, decoity, murder types of crime. The findings may be helpful for the professionals working to help for jail inmates for devising the intervention strategies inside the prison for drug addicts and non-drug addict jail inmates.