

## **Effects of Family's Economic Situation on Crime Rates**

By

**Moody S. Al-Anizy**

Associate Professor at Faculty of Arts, Social Studies Department, King Saud University,  
KSA

### **Abstract**

This study aimed to determine the prices of the family's economic status, crime rates, the economic status of the family, the income prices, and the number of lucky number families), the study followed the descriptive survey method and questionnaire as a tool for data collection. The study population included those working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh. The sample reached 75 male and female employees. Social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the expressions of the axis (the impact of the economic status of the family on crime rates), where their arithmetic averages ranged from (3.25 to 4.27) and these averages fall into the third, fourth and fifth categories of the five-graded scale, whose degrees range between (neutral / agree / strongly agree) for the study tool, And there is a difference in the degree of approval of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the terms of the axis (the impact of the social status of the family on crime rates), where the responses of the study members to its paragraphs came in degrees (neutral / agree) for the study tool, where Their arithmetic averages ranged from (2.72 to 3.95), and there were no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05), between the responses of the study sample members to a pivotal (the impact of the family's economic status on crime rates, the impact of the family's social status on crime rates) due to the variable level Income/number of family members, and one of the most prominent recommendations of the study is the need for a healthy family atmosphere to prevail among family members, and to limit the spread of child labor to prevent their exposure to delinquency.

**Keywords:** Economic situation - Family - Crime rates.

### **Introduction**

Crime is a social phenomenon that has plagued human societies since ancient times and has suffered humanity over time, and its negative impact affects both developed and developing societies and threatens the security of both human beings and society in their being and existence. Crime is visible in any society related to its structure and nature, and therefore it is part of its functions, which continue and develop a social life evolves.<sup>1</sup>

The family plays an important role in building society, as it represents the soil in which the child grows from birth and the appointees from which all kinds of knowledge of life are derived. In the early years of his life, the child is fully connected to his family and receives from her the social and moral values that settle deep down and accompany him throughout his life, which has the greatest impact on the building of his personality and the development of his psychological property.<sup>2</sup>

Economic factors played an active role in the development of criminality, Some philosophers went to explaining the criminal phenomenon by linking the economic situation of the family with criminal behavior, where Ducrive 2012 say that the difficult economy and

between that through statistics, that the poor economic

conditions of the family will contribute to increasing the rate of crime while improving the economic situation leads to a reduction in the rate of criminality. Since the best balance between the size of the family, i.e. the number of its members and economic resources, its income (monthly-annual) is what contributes to its material and social well-being and finds its social stability in the environment in which it resides, and enables the education of its children and care for them and reach them to the level of educational attainment required away from deviation into the path of crime.<sup>3</sup>

The researcher also noticed that social conditions of the family play a role in influencing its economic level, as the increase in family members, for example, plays a role in the distribution of financial income for each individual's share, which may consequently affect crime rates.

### ***Research problem***

Poverty and crime, together with academic attention, have received a great deal of attention from rapporteurs, practitioners, and policymakers, at the national, regional, and international levels. The international community has agreed that poverty reduction is the central objective of the development process, which is accompanied by the eradication of all forms of crime, human security, and several economic and political actors have concluded that anti-crime methods do not lie solely in strengthening security efforts structurally and logistically, but that dealing with crime issues must be included within the broader framework for the economic advancement of individuals and societies, the advancement of development processes and political and social stability, which must coincide with a range of economic empowerment measures, and the elimination of sources of lack of freedom, including poverty.<sup>4</sup>

The Study of Darwasha (2014) states that the economic situation of the family has a clear impact on high rates of criminal behavior, and the Study of Al-Fawayer (2017) states that economic pressures on the family may lead its members to commit crimes, and also adds Al-Khatib, Khatib, Ward, and Qurei (2019) study that economic pressures on families in different societies weigh heavily on them, and the effects of these pressures begin to be reflected in the behavior of their members, where many individuals become prepared to commit criminal behavior rather than the motive of the desire to exercise criminal behavior but because of these pressures.<sup>5, 6, 7</sup>

The current study to answer the following key question: What impact does the family's economic situation have on crime rates?

### ***Research questions***

1. Effect of the family's economic situation has on crime rates?
2. Effect of the social status of the family has on crime rates?
3. Are there statistically significant differences in sample members' perceptions of the family's economic and social situation impact crime rates attributable to variables (family income level, number of family members)?

### ***Research aims***

1. Identify the effect of the family's economic situation on crime rates.
2. Identify the effect of the family's social status on crime rates.

- Identify the extent to which there are statistically significant differences in the perceptions of the economic and social situation of the family on crime rates due to variables (family income level, number of family members) or not.

## Material and methods methodology

The researcher used the descriptive survey method by distributing a questionnaire to a group of workers in the role of social observation and social guidance in the city of Riyadh. The sample amounted to 75 male and female employees.

### Statistical analysis

Data were examined using SPSS statistical software (Version 16.0 SPSS for Windows, SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL). All subjects were represented for each test. Descriptive characteristics were expressed as mean values, standard deviations (SD), person correlation, Cronbach's alpha, Kruskal-Wallis, and Likert scale.

## Results

### *The results related to the characteristics of the study sample members*

#### 1. Family income level

**Table (1).** *Distribution of study members according to the family income level variable*

family income level	Repetition	Percent %
A rate of fewer than 500 riyals per month per person.	14	18.7
From 500 to less than 1000 riyals per month per person	24	32
From 1000 to less than 2000 riyals per month per person	15	20
2000 riyals or more per month per person	22	29.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>

Table (1) shows the distribution of the study sample members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh according to the variable of the level of family income, it was found that (32.0%) of the total study sample members had their income (from 500 to less than 1000 riyals per month per person), while (29.3%) of the total study sample individuals have income (2000 riyals or more per month per person), while (20%) of the total study sample individuals have income (from 1000 to less than 2000 riyals per month per person), while That (18.7%) of the total members of the study sample had an income (less than 500 riyals per month per person).

#### 2. The number of family members

**Table (2).** *Distribution of study members according to the variable number of family members*

The number of family members	Repetition	Percent %
3 Persons	16	21.3
4 – 6 Persons	34	45.3
7 – 9 Persons	25	33.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>

Table (2) shows the distribution of the study sample members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh according to the variable number of family members. It was found that (45.3%) of the total

members of the study sample the number of their family members (from 4-6 members), while (33.3%) of the total members of the study sample the number of their family members (from 7-9 members), but (21.3%) of the total members of the study sample are (3 members) only.

## Discussion

### *First Question*

((What is the effect of the economic status of the family on crime rates?))

To answer this question, frequencies, percentages, averages, standard deviations, and ranks were calculated for the responses of the study sample members working in the role of social observation, and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the axis "effect of the family's economic status on crime rates".

Where there is a difference in the degree of approval of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in Riyadh on the phrases of the axis (the impact of the economic status of the family on crime rates), where the responses of the study members to its paragraphs came in degrees (neutral / agree / strongly agree). As for the study tool, their arithmetic averages ranged from (3.25 to 4.27), and these averages fall into the third, fourth, and fifth categories of the five- graded scale, whose degrees range between (neutral / agree / strongly agree) for the study tool.

The axis averages revealed the levels of answers of the study sample members, and they came according to the average arranged in descending order as follows: -

1. Statement No. (5), "Poverty affects the rates of crime," ranked first among the statements related to the effect of the family's economic status on crime rates, with a degree (strongly agree) ( $4.27 \pm 0.68$ ).
2. Statement No. (6), "Poverty affects the spread of child labor, which exposes them to delinquency" ranked second among the statements related to the effect of the family's economic status on crime rates, with a degree (strongly agree), ( $4.23 \pm 0.56$ ).
3. Statement No. (8), "The increase in inflation rates harms the owners of fixed and limited wages, whose incomes deteriorate because they are fixed," ranked third among the statements related to the effect of the economic status of the family on crime rates, with a degree (agree) ( $4.04 \pm 0.74$ ).
4. Statement No. (7), "Poverty leads to the failure to achieve the required material goal, which makes family members engage in criminal methods," ranked fourth, with a degree (agree) ( $4.01 \pm 0.81$ ).
5. Statement No. (3), "The increase in the prices of basic services affects the increase in criminal behavior" came in the fifth place, with a degree (agree) ( $3.72 \pm 1.03$ ).
6. Statement No. (2), "The average household income affects the increase in criminal behavior" ranked sixth, with a degree (agree) ( $3.71 \pm 0.98$ ).
7. Statement No. (10), "The poor economic conditions of the family lead to parents abandoning their responsibilities, which pushes the children to deviate." It ranked seventh, with a degree (agree) ( $3.63 \pm 1.09$ ).
8. Statement No. (1), "The increase in food prices affects the increase in criminal behavior" ranked eighth, with a degree (agree) ( $3.47 \pm 1.22$ ).
9. Statement No. (4), "Loss of the head of the family from his job leads to family members committing crimes" ranked ninth, with a degree (agree) ( $3.45 \pm 0.98$ ).
10. Statement No. (9), "Personal loans lead to an increase in the financial burden on the

family, which motivates them to commit criminal behavior,” ranked tenth, with a (neutral) degree,  $(3.25 \pm 1.24)$ .

It can be concluded from the above that the general average of the responses of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the expressions of the axis (effect of the economic status of the family on crime rates) reached (3.87 degrees out of 5), and this average falls in the fourth category of the five-scale categories which indicates the degree of (agree) with the study tool, and it became clear that the study members are working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh, agreeing that one of the most important effects of the economic situation of the family on crime rates is (crime prevalence rates, the spread of the phenomenon of employment children, which exposes them to delinquency, the increase in inflation rates harms those with fixed and limited wages whose incomes deteriorate because they are fixed, the failure to achieve the required material goal, which makes family members engage in criminal methods, the rise in prices of basic services affects the increase in criminal behavior, the rate of family income affects the increase in criminal behavior ...etc.).

These results agree with the study of Al-Darawsha 2014 which concluded that there is an effect of the poverty variable on criminal behavior in Jordanian society and an effect of the unemployment variable on criminal behavior in Jordanian society.

Also agreed with the study Al-Zawahra 2010 where its results concluded that there is an effect of the poverty variable on criminal behavior and the presence of an effect of the unemployment variable on criminal behavior.

### ***Second Question***

((What is the effect of the social status of the family on crime rates?))

To answer this question, frequencies, percentages, averages, standard deviations, and ranks were calculated for the responses of the study sample members working in the role of social observation, and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the axis "the effect of the family's social status on crime rates".

Where there is a difference in the degree of approval of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the axis phrases (the impact of the social status of the family on crime rates), where the responses of the study members to its paragraphs came in degrees (neutral / agree) concerning the study tool, and ranged their averages ranged from (2.72 to 3.95), and these averages fall into the third and fourth categories of the five-graded scale categories, whose scores range between (neutral / OK) for the study tool.

The axis averages revealed the levels of answers of the study sample members, and they came according to the arithmetic mean, arranged in descending order as follows:-

1. Statement No. (5), “The method of education used in the family plays a role in whether family members commit criminal behavior or not” ranked first among the statements related to the effect of the family’s social status on crime rates, with a degree (agree),  $(3.95 \pm 0.87)$ .
2. Statement No. (2), “The absence of a parent for a large period leads to family members committing criminal behavior” ranked second among the statements related to the impact of the family’s social status on crime rates, with a degree (agree),  $(3.75 \pm 0.87)$ .
3. Statement No. (8), "Bad relationships between family members play a role in

- committing criminal behavior" ranked third among the statements related to the impact of the family's social status on crime rates, with a degree (agree),  $(3.73 \pm 0.81)$ .
4. Statement No. (1), "Divorce plays a role in family members' perpetration of criminal behavior" ranked fourth, with a degree (agree),  $(3.69 \pm 0.98)$ .
  5. Statement No. (6), "The family's residence plays a role in committing criminal behavior," ranked fifth, with a degree (agree),  $(3.41 \pm 1.01)$ .
  6. Statement No. (10), "Discrimination in the treatment of family members leads to the perpetration of criminal behavior by one of its members," ranked sixth, with a (neutral) degree,  $(3.36 \pm 0.91)$ .
  7. Statement No. (4), "The educational level of the parents plays a role in whether family members commit criminal behavior or not" ranked seventh and with a (neutral) degree,  $(3.20 \pm 1.10)$ .
  8. Statement No. (9), "The death of a parent who is a family member leads to the commission of criminal behavior" ranked eighth, with a (neutral) degree,  $(2.99 \pm 0.95)$ .
  9. Statement No. (7), "The size of the housing unit of the family plays a role in committing criminal behavior," ranked ninth, with a degree of (neutral),  $(2.92 \pm 0.90)$ .
  10. Statement No. (3), "The number of members of a large family leads its members to commit criminal behavior," ranked tenth, with a (neutral) degree,  $(2.72 \pm 1.01)$ .

It can be concluded from the above that the general average of the responses of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the expressions of the axis (effect of the social status of the family on crime rates) reached (3.37 degrees out of 5), and this average falls in the fourth category of the five-scale categories Which indicates the degree of (neutral) on the study instrument, It has been found that the study samples working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh agree that among the most important effects of the social status of the family on crime rates are the following:

- The method of education used in the family plays a role in whether family members commit criminal behavior.
- The absence of a parent for a long time leads to family members committing criminal behavior.
- Bad relationships between family members play a role in the commission of criminal behavior.
- Divorce plays a role in family members committing criminal behavior.
- Family place of residence plays a role in the commission of criminal behavior.

### ***Third Question***

((Are there statistically significant differences about the samples' perceptions of the effect of the family's economic and social status on crime rates due to the variables (family income level & number of family members)?))

To answer this question, Kruskal-Wallis were calculated for the responses of the study members about the sample members' perceptions of the effect of the family's economic and social status on crime rates due to the variables (family income level, number of family members)

### ***First: the differences according to the level of family income***

1. There are no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05), between

the responses of the study sample members towards the axis of the impact of the family's economic status on crime rates due to the variable of the family income level, where the significance level reached (0.25) which is greater than the significance level (0.05), which is not statistically significant.

2. There are no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05) between the responses of the study sample members towards the axis of the impact of the family's social status on crime rates due to the family income level variable, where the significance level reached (0.84) which is greater than the significance level (0.05), which is not statistically significant.

### ***Second: Differences according to the number of family members***

1. There are no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05) between the responses of the study sample members towards the axis of the impact of the family's economic status on crime rates due to the variable number of family members, where the significance level reached (0.29) which is greater than the significance level (0.05), which is not statistically significant.
2. There are no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05) between the responses of the study sample members towards the axis of the impact of the family's social status on crime rates due to the variable number of family members, where the significance level reached (0.07) which is greater than the significance level (0.05), which is not statistically significant.

## **Conclusion**

1. There is a discrepancy in the degree of approval of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in Riyadh on the axis phrases (the effect of the economic status of the family on crime rates), where their averages ranged from (3.25 to 4.27), and these averages fall into the third, fourth and fifth categories of Five-pointed scale, which ranges between (neutral/agree/strongly agree) for the study tool.
2. The average of the responses of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the expressions of the axis (the effect of the economic status of the family on crime rates) reached (3.87 degrees out of 5), and this average falls in the fourth category of the five-scale categories, which indicates the degree of (Agree) on the study tool, and it became clear that the study samples working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh agree that one of the most important effects of the family's economic situation on crime rates is (crime prevalence rates, the prevalence of child labor, which exposes them to delinquency, the increase in inflation rates harms those with fixed and limited wages whose incomes deteriorate because they are fixed, the failure to achieve the required material goal, which makes family members engage in criminal methods, the rise in prices of basic services affects the increase in criminal behavior, the rate of family income affects the increase in criminal behavior ... etc. ).
3. There is a discrepancy in the degree of approval of the study samples working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in Riyadh on the axis phrases (the effect of the social status of the family on crime rates), where the responses of the study members to its paragraphs came in degrees (neutral / agree) for the study tool, which ranged Their arithmetic mean ranged from (2.72 to 3.95).
4. The average of the responses of the study members working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh on the expressions of

the axis (the impact of the social status of the family on crime rates) reached (3.37 degrees out of 5), and this average falls in the fourth category of the five-scale categories, which indicates the degree of (Neutral) on the study tool, and it became clear that the study members are working in the role of social observation and the role of social guidance in the city of Riyadh, agreeing that one of the most important effects of the family's social status on crime rates is (the method of education followed in the family plays a role in the family members' perpetration of the behavior Criminal or not, absence of a parent for large times leads to family members committing criminal behavior, bad relationships between family members play a role in committing criminal behavior, divorce plays a role in family members committing criminal behavior, family residence plays a role in committing criminal behavior).

5. There are no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05) between the responses of the study samples to a pivotal (the effect of the family's economic status on crime rates, the effect of the family's social status on crime rates) due to the variable of the family's income level.
6. There are no statistically significant differences at the significance level (0.05), between the responses of the study samples towards the central (the effect of the family's economic status on crime rates, the effect of the family's social status on crime rates) due to the variable number of family members.

## **Recommendation**

Through the results of the study, the researcher presented a set of recommendations as follows:

1. Reducing the spread of the phenomenon of child labor to prevent its exposure to delinquency.
2. Increasing the monthly income of the family and providing the means of luxury.
3. There should be an equal level of education between the parents.

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