

## BOOK REVIEWS

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### *Reducing Delinquency: A Strategic Planning Approach*

By Gregory P. Falkin

Lexington, Massachusetts: Lexington Books, 1979, 212 + xix pp., \$20.95

Gregory Falkin has attempted to address one of the major social and political problems regarding children today, that of reducing juvenile delinquency. His attempt is a heroic one as he uses a policy science research framework to present a rationale and a simulation model to be used for the dual purpose of (1) describing and understanding the current status of a juvenile justice system and (2) making positive, programmatic changes in that system to reduce juvenile delinquency. Falkin's presentation is a scholarly one, well reasoned, well organized, and well written. He uses an interesting technique of periodically summarizing his material to keep the reader organized in thinking through both the theory and model presented. However, the value of Falkin's book, no matter how well presented, lies in the answer to the three basic questions of (1) whether or not such a strategic planning model is needed; (2) whether or not the model presented is a valid one; and (3) whether or not the model presented would be used by those involved in juvenile justice planning and policy formulation.

The need for a model for rational planning in the juvenile justice system cannot be questioned when the allocation of funds and the development of programs is examined at the local, state, and federal levels of government. Like many other systems, or combinations of systems, planning is carried out through a combination of political, arbitrary, and emotional decisions; in most cases only a soupçon of rationality prevails through the efforts of a dedicated few who fight long enough and hard enough to be heard. Although most decision makers recognize the need for a knowledge base and a systematic approach to planning, it seems that frequently misinformation, partial understanding, and response to crises are mistaken for a rational process. In 1967, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice identified the need for system-wide planning regarding criminal justice. In 1968, criminal justice planning agencies were mandated and funded as part of

# Reducing Delinquency A Strategic Planning Approach

**ML Yell**

A decorative graphic element consisting of a light blue horizontal bar with a rounded right end, and a red circular shape partially visible behind it.

## **Reducing Delinquency A Strategic Planning Approach:**

## Decoding **Reducing Delinquency A Strategic Planning Approach**: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In a period characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its power to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "**Reducing Delinquency A Strategic Planning Approach**," a mesmerizing literary creation penned by a celebrated wordsmith, readers set about an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring affect our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book is central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

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