

Call for Papers

Journal of Family Strengths

Volume 23, Issue 2

The Victim-Offender Overlap in Youth and Young Adults

Editors-in-Chief:

Robert Sanborn (CHILDREN AT RISK)

Camille Gibson (Prairie View A&M
University)

Guest Editors:

Dr. Sally-Ann Ashton, Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center, Prairie View A&M University

Dr. Anna Bussu, School of Law, Criminology, and Policing, Edge Hill University (UK)

Dr. Ling Wu, Department of Justice Studies, Prairie View A&M University

Published by CHILDREN AT RISK, Prairie View A&M University, and the Texas Medical Center Library and edited by the [CHILDREN AT RISK Institute](#), the *Journal of Family Strengths (JFS)* serves to inform policy and practice affecting children and families by providing applicable research to practitioners, child advocates, policymakers, and the public on timely children and family issues. Providing practical case studies and research on the transformative potential of program and policy change, JFS issues provide a strengths perspective centered on improving services that promote and sustain family systems.

The Journal of Family Strengths is pleased to announce a forthcoming Special Issue to be published in 2024, focused on the topic of the crime victim-perpetrator overlap in youth for online and in-person offenses. For the purpose of this call, we define youth as those under the age of 18. We invite proposals from researchers and criminal justice/legal practitioners who are passionate about shedding light on this critical issue in the fields of juvenile justice and social science. This special issue aims to deepen our understanding of how victimization and crime perpetration intersect among youth, exploring the social factors influencing such junctures. A key objective is to inform better family support and outcomes.

We welcome manuscripts that explore theory, research, and practical interventions pertaining to understanding the victim-perpetrator overlap in youth. Additionally, we welcome submissions that discuss recent advances in generative AI methods, such as ChatGPT, to better understand the evolving landscape of the online world.

Our journal is open to a diverse range of research designs, including qualitative methods, quantitative methods, and mixed methods. We also welcome legal or practice case studies, theoretical papers, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses.

We anticipate research from the following disciplines:

Criminology, Criminal Justice, Education, Legal Studies, Psychology, Social Sciences, Social Work

Key Areas of Interest:

1. Remote influence and impact

We encourage submissions that explore the remote influence and impact of adult criminals on young people through online channels, including AI-mediated interactions. For example, by examining victimization or coercion leading to offending behaviors.

2. The role of environmental and socio-economic factors in shaping the dual experiences of juvenile criminal victimization and perpetration

This theme explores how environmental and socio-economic factors influence youth in assuming dual roles as victims and perpetrators of crime. It focuses on the impact of neighborhood characteristics, family dynamics, educational environments, and economic deprivation. The role of cultural norms and the availability of community resources are also examined. This section seeks to understand these complex interactions and their implications for policy and prevention strategies in juvenile justice.

3. Comparative Analysis

Authors are encouraged to compare online behaviors with in-person actions among young individuals. Investigating the relationship between online coercion and involvement in other forms of criminal activity, including AI-assisted crimes, is a particularly welcomed avenue of research.

Authors are encouraged to collaborate with scholars and practitioners across disciplines to create pieces that have both a wide-audience and an interdisciplinary approach.

We also encourage a broad array of topics, including:

- Family and interpersonal violence
- Radicalization
- Institutional violence
- Bullying/cyberbullying/harassment victimization
- Hate crimes
- Online coercion and victimization

The *Journal of Family Strengths* is available online in an open-access format and is available to child advocates, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers across America. It has been accessed in 167 countries in 2020, with approximately 28,000 downloads.

We encourage interested authors to submit an abstract or letter of interest to the managing editor at jfs@childrenatrisk.org by **March 1, 2024**. If the abstract is approved, full manuscripts will be due **August 31, 2024**. To view past issues of the journal or to submit a manuscript, please visit jfs.childrenatrisk.org.