

# NOT SO GREAT, BRITAIN: JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

**With a Focus on England and Wales**

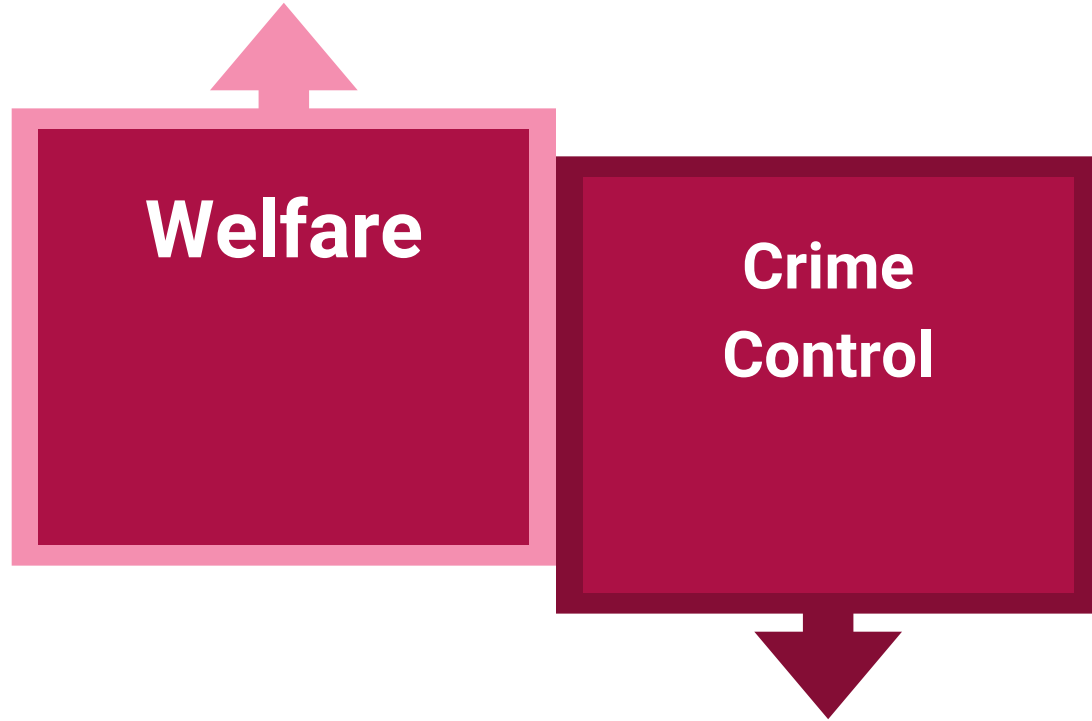
# OVERVIEW OF THEMES

- Political landscape
- Current picture
- Black and Minority Ethnic youth delinquency

# PARTY POLITICS



# VARIOUS APPROACHES - SINCE 1979



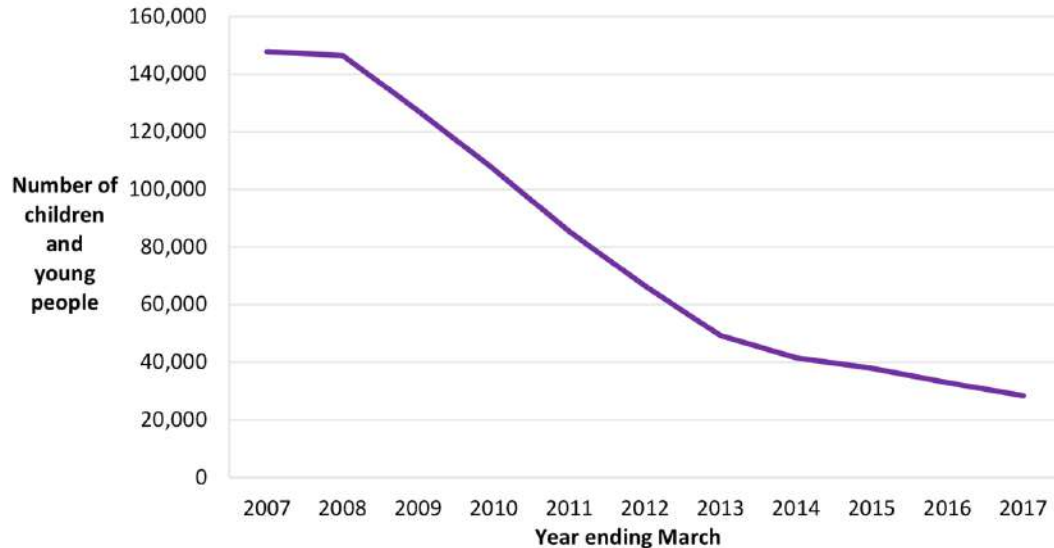
# POLITICAL NATURE OF YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM?

- Cuts to funding
- Toughening sentencing
- Prejudice and racial discrimination?
- Gender differences?
- Class discrimination

# CURRENT PICTURE OF YOUTH OFFENDING IN THE UK

## 3.1 Number of children and young people receiving a caution or conviction

Figure 3.1: Number of individual children and young people given a caution or conviction, England and Wales, years ending March 2007 to March 2017

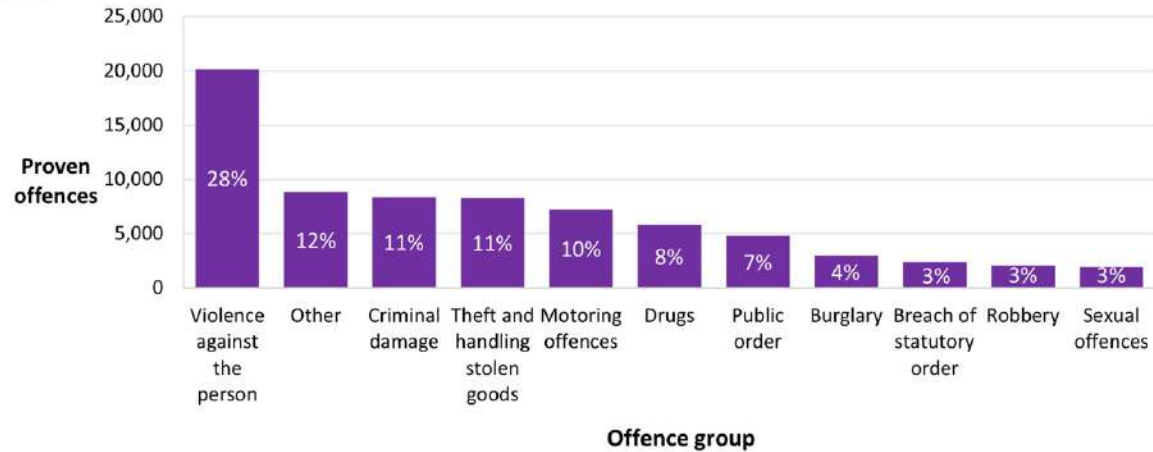


Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Table 3.8

# BREAKDOWN OF THE TYPES OF CRIME COMMITTED

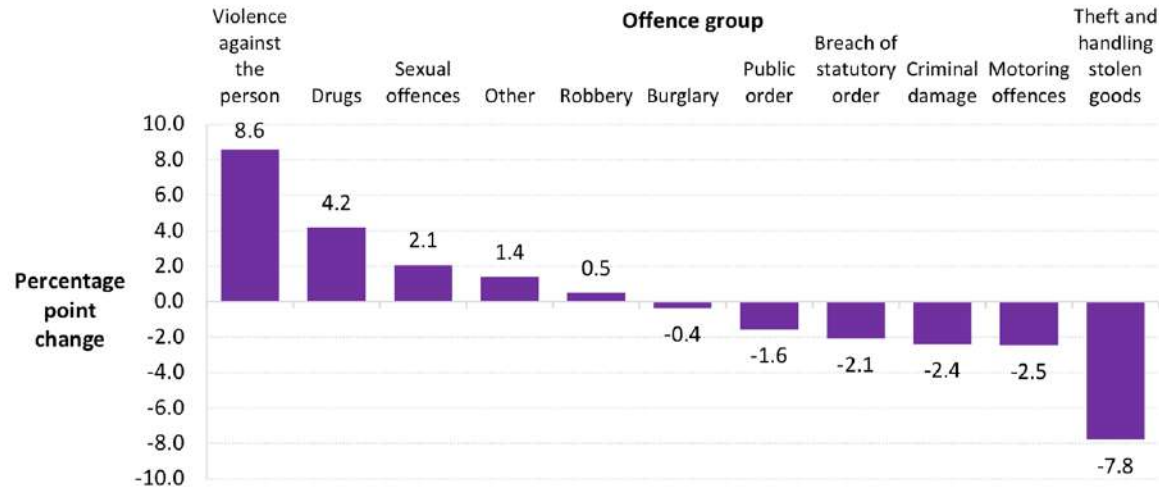
## 4.2 Types of proven offences by children and young people

Figure 4.3: Proven offences by children and young people, England and Wales, year ending March 2017



# GENERAL TRENDS FOR TYPES OF CRIME

**Figure 4.2: Percentage point change in the proportion of proven offences by children and young people, England and Wales, between the year ending March 2007 and March 2017<sup>27</sup>**



*Supplementary Tables: Chapter 4, Table 4.1*

Whilst the number of proven offences committed by children and young people has fallen over the latest 10 years for all crime types (except sexual offences), the proportions of these offence types has been changing (Figure 4.2). Violence against the person offences has seen the greatest increase, gradually increasing from 19% in the year ending March 2007 to 28% in the latest year.



# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- SCH (usually for 15yo and younger)
- STC
- YOI
- DTO

## Young People

Young people are offenders under the age of 18, or in some cases aged 18 but remaining in the under 18 estate, and will be held in either a Secure Children's Home (SCH), a Secure Training Centre (STC) or a Young Offender Institution (YOI). The Youth Justice Board is responsible for placing young people in custody and typically those aged under 15 will be held in an SCH and those over 15 will be held in either a YOI or STC. Only 17 year old female young people are normally placed in a YOI.

Young people can be sentenced to either a Detention and Training Order (DTO), imprisonment under section 90 or 91 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 or imprisonment under section 226 or 228 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

YOIs holding young people operate within many of the same rules and policies as prisons for men and women. Whilst sentenced young people will be subject to the YOI Rules, young people on remand are subject to the Prison Rules. Most PSIs and PSOs apply to young people in the same way as they do to adult prisoners. Where there are particular differences for the regimes appropriate to young people, these will be set out in the Care and Management of Young People PSI, currently 28/2009.

# DEMOGRAPHIC DIFFERENCES

Figure 6.3: Average monthly custodial remand population compared to the overall custodial population for children and young people by demographics<sup>41</sup>, England and Wales, year ending March 2017

	Age Group		Ethnicity		Gender	
	10 - 14	15 - 17	BAME	White	Male	Female
Average monthly remand population in custody	6%	94%	54%	46%	98%	2%
Average monthly population in custody	4%	96%	45%	55%	97%	3%

Supplementary Table: Chapter 6, Table 6.3

In the year ending March 2017, BAME children and young people accounted for 54% of the average monthly custodial remand population whilst making up 45% of the overall average monthly custodial population.

Figure 3.2: Demographic characteristics<sup>22</sup> of children and young people receiving a caution or conviction compared to the general 10 – 17 population, England and Wales, year ending March 2017

	Age Group		Ethnicity		Gender	
	10 - 14	15 - 17	BAME	White	Male	Female
Children and young people receiving a caution or conviction	24%	76%	25%	75%	83%	17%
10 – 17 population <sup>23</sup>	62%	38%	18%	82%	51%	49%

Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Tables 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3

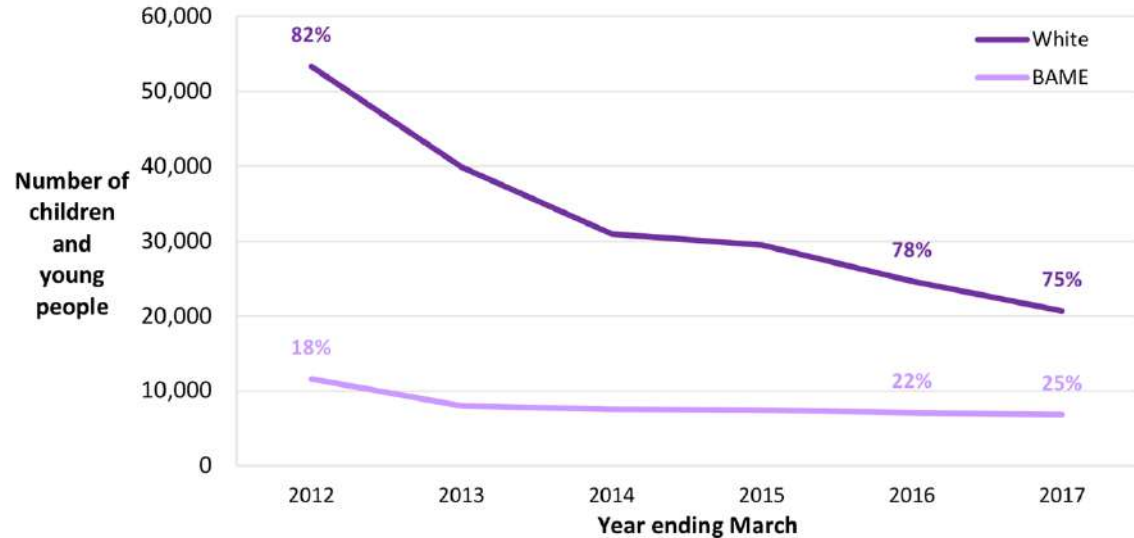
Figure 3.2 shows that while BAME children and young people make up 18% of the 10 – 17 year old population, in the year ending March 2017 they made up 25% of children and young people who received a caution or conviction.

Males made up 51% of the general 10 – 17 population, but accounted for 83% of the total number of children and young people who received a caution or conviction.

Figure 3.3: Number and proportion of children and young people receiving a caution or conviction

# DIFFERENCES IN CONVICTION BY ETHNICITY

Figure 3.3: Number and proportion of children and young people receiving a caution or conviction by ethnicity, England and Wales, years ending March 2012 to March 2017



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 3, Table 3.1

The number of young elite people receiving a caution or conviction has rapidly decreased in the past 5 years, however the rate of caution/conviction for hung BME people is steadily plateauing

# WHY IS THIS?

Potential reasons could be the fact that Stop and Search has been limited in London by Mayor Sadiq Khan; amidst fears and anger in the black community that young black boys were being stopped disproportionately to those of other races. This caused outrage for some who believed that stop and search was a deterrent to those carrying weapons or drugs but the main facts and figures show that:

- the numbers of stop and searches have fallen for all ethnic groups over the period presented; however, they have fallen at different rates for different groups
- White people saw a 38% decrease in stop and search, the largest fall between 2015/16 and the previous year
- for ethnic minorities, the decrease in stop and search was lower: down 8% for Black people, down 16% for Asian people, down 19% for those of Mixed ethnicity and down 25% for Other
- people from an ethnic minority background are 3 times more likely to be stopped and searched than White people
- Black people are over 6 times more likely to be stopped and searched than White people

This racial profiling has caused a lot of deep-rooted resentment in the black community to policing, as a lot of those stopped were simply going about their day but were considered 'suspicious'. As a result there is a lot of distrust within the black as well as Asian communities to policing, making crimes more difficult to solve.

Those who

# CHANCES OF REOFFENDING

## 9. Proven reoffending by children and young people

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- In the three months ending March 2016, there were around 8,900 children and young people in the reoffending cohort<sup>106</sup>, of which 42.3% reoffended within 12 months.
- The annual aggregate of the four quarterly cohorts was made up of around 38,300<sup>107</sup> children and young people for the year ending March 2016, of which 42.2% reoffended within 12 months. This is a 4.0 percentage point increase compared with the year ending March 2006, but a small decrease of 0.4 percentage points compared with the previous year.
- In the year ending March 2016, children and young people who reoffended committed around 61,300 reoffences giving an average of 3.79 reoffences per reoffender (frequency rate). This is an increase from 3.22 in the year ending March 2006 and 3.61 in the year ending March 2015.

**Figure 9.1: Reoffending data, England and Wales, year ending March 2016<sup>110</sup>**

	Quarterly cohorts				Annual aggregate: year ending March 2016
	Apr-Jun 2015	Jul-Sep 2015	Oct-Dec 2015	Jan-Mar 2016	
Proportion of offenders who reoffend (%)	42.9	41.9	41.8	42.3	<b>42.2</b>
Average number of reoffences per reoffender	3.70	3.71	3.88	3.86	<b>3.79</b>
Number of reoffences	15,840	15,555	15,256	14,618	<b>61,269</b>
Number of reoffenders	4,276	4,194	3,930	3,784	<b>16,184</b>
Number of offenders in cohort	9,978	9,999	9,405	8,942	<b>38,324</b>
Average number of previous offences per offender	3.55	3.50	3.59	3.62	<b>3.56</b>

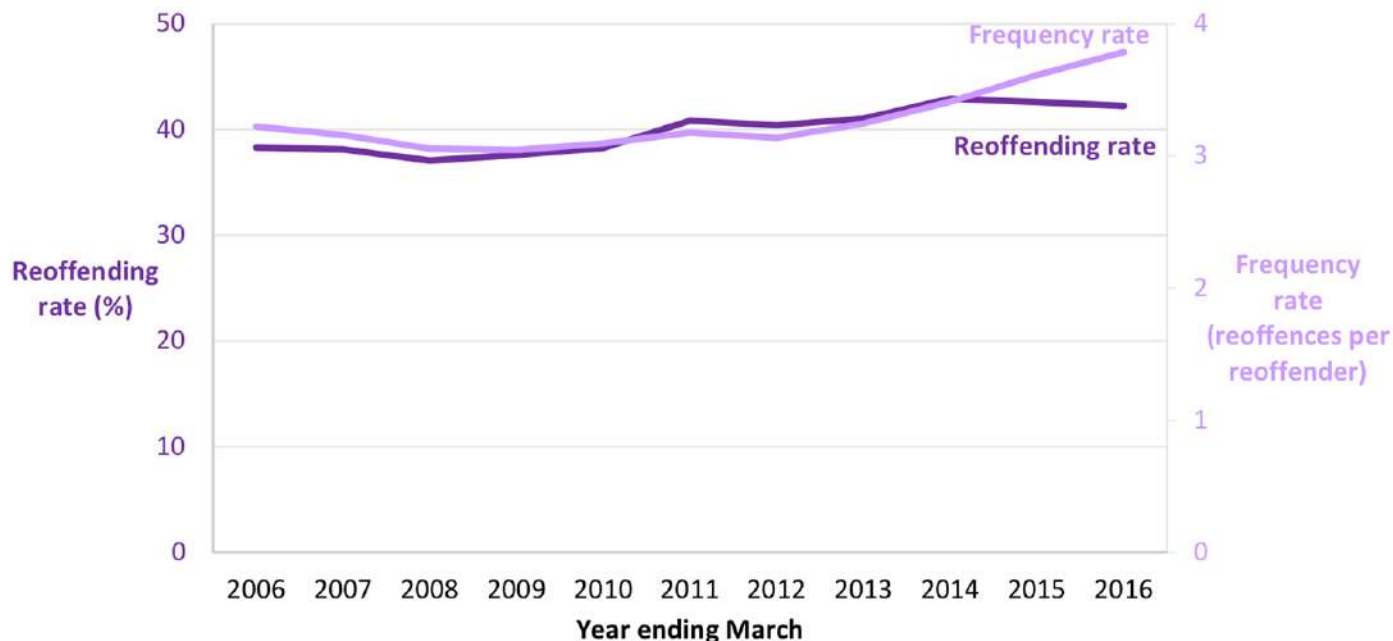
*Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.1*

In the three months ending March 2016, there were around 8,900 children and young people in the cohort, of which 42.3% reoffended within 12 months.

However, as this is an annual publication, this chapter focusses on youth reoffending data based on the annual aggregate of the four quarterly cohorts for the year ending March 2016<sup>111</sup>. For analysis of the latest quarterly cohort (Jan 2016 to Mar 2016), a more detailed publication covering adult and youth reoffending is published by the Ministry of Justice<sup>112</sup>.

### 9.3 Reoffending Rate

Figure 9.3: Reoffending rate and frequency rate, England and Wales, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



Supplementary Tables: Chapter 9, Table 9.1

The reoffending rate (the number of reoffenders as a percentage of offenders) for children and young people for the year ending March 2016 increased by 4.0 percentage points compared with the year ending March 2006, but decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 42.2% compared with the previous year.

The reoffending rate has increased across all ethnicity groups<sup>114</sup> compared with the year ending March 2006. The reoffending rate for BAME children and young people increased by 8.0 percentage points and by 3.7 percentage points for White children and young people. Compared to the previous year, the reoffending rate for BAME children and young people has increased by 1.1 percentage points, and has decreased slightly for White children and young people (by 0.5 percentage points).

White children and young people account for the majority of the aggregated cohorts (80%, compared to 20% BAME children and young people)<sup>115</sup>. However, BAME children and young people had the highest reoffending rate of 47.1%, compared to 42.6% for White children and young people.

## **9.5 Reoffending by criminal history**

As could be expected, the rate of reoffending increases with the number of previous offences. Those with no previous offences had a reoffending rate of 24.7%, compared to those with 11 or more previous offences who had a reoffending rate of 76.0%.

Those with no previous offences made up 43% of all children and young people in the combined cohorts but committed only 18% of all proven reoffences. Those with 11 or more previous offences made up only 10% of all children and young people in the combined cohorts but committed over a quarter (26%) of all proven reoffences.

The average number of previous offences per offender rose from 2.40 in the year ending March 2006 to 3.56 in the year ending March 2016, which is the same as the previous year.



# CURRENT INTERVENTIONS

# REAL LIFE EXAMPLE OF INTERVENTION AND REOFFENDING

James Bulger's killers

[https://youtu.be/SB\\_D4TVrbnw](https://youtu.be/SB_D4TVrbnw)