

Chapter 6

“There Are No Bad Boys”

Of course there are bad boys. And bad girls. Since the beginning of humankind, a *small* percentage of the population has behaved in antisocial ways—no matter what type of society predominated. As cited in the previous chapter, the modern politically correct stance that warns us there are no bad boys perpetrates the idea that channeling social deviants in a constructive way will cure all people who demonstrate consistently bad behavior. This is a serious mistake.

There are two paths that lead to bad kids. The first is bad genetics; the second is bad imprinting. Some unfortunate souls have both strikes against them. When a child without the genes that provides for the development of a social conscience is imprinted to obey society’s rules, or when a child with good genes is imprinted to behave badly, a fairly high percentage of “cures” is possible. As long as there is an opportunity to redirect the child’s antisocial behavior—the earlier the better—the boy will progress from that deviant condition. However, if a genetically bad child is raised in an environment where he or she is deliberately steered to participate in behavior destructive to society, we get really bad children.

Bad boys and girls need to be handled differently from good boys and girls. When good children act in naughty, harmful or dangerous ways, a severe talking to or non-physical punishment can gently guide them back towards community good. They will honestly feel bad about their bad deeds and try to act better next time. On the other hand, bad children will feel bad when punished, but only because they got caught. Their remorse is focused on being more careful next time in order to escape detection, not because they see the error of their ways.

Gentle guidance carefully aimed at strengthening the little monster's self-esteem will cause their bad behavior to escalate. The politically correct approach of mild guidance to indicate a better direction when used on *good* children will work wonders. However, almost *any* approach used on good children will improve the situation. Since approximately ninety-five percent of all children are good the common stereotype that *all* children are good holds up most of the time. However, the politically correct approach when used on *bad* children does a great deal of harm because it inappropriately creates excuses and explanations for antisocial actions. It also avoids placing the responsibility where it really lies. The notion of channeling bad children to act in the best interests of society is almost always a waste of time. Incurably bad children are far too cagey to be cured by sweetness. Their only interest is self-gain, not society's gain. When the importance of matching "the agent with the client" is discussed, it will be come clear why the minimalist guidance approach is a fool's mission when used for truly bad kids.

When I speak of bad boys and girls, I am talking about young sociopaths—regardless of how they got that way. Their parents could have been egotistical, irresponsible and unreliable criminals who not only handed down genetically negative attributes, but also raised their offspring in a destructive manner. Or, their parents could be decent, empathetic, loving people of high moral standards who feel completely overwhelmed by the destructive nature of their own child. For whatever reason, over two-thirds of eventual chronic offenders are already distinguishable from other children by kindergarten.¹ The mean age at which adult sociopaths exhibited their first significant symptom is between eight and nine years, and eighty percent of all sociopaths exhibited their first symptom by age eleven.² This small group of children are born without the brain mechanism to develop a social conscience. When that genetic bent is paired with inconsistent discipline, unreasonable punishment, an absent father, family violence, an alcoholic or mentally ill parent, and low socioeconomic status, really bad boys and girls emerge. Interestingly though, a female sociopath has a better chance of producing sociopathic offspring than a male does.³ I suspect this is because their child has a genetic predisposition to sociopathic behavior *and* is nurtured in a sociopathic environment. However, it is harder to nurture a "good" girl in a bad direction than it is to influence a good boy into becoming a "bad" actor. Boys are, by nature, easier to influence into bad ways through negative peer and parental

¹ Mealey, *op. cit.*

² Mealey, *Ibid.*

³ Mealey, *Ibid.*

example. Since boys predominate, I will speak mostly to boys, and omit the statistically small girls' cases, since their remedies are similar to boys' remedies.

The canard, "there are no bad boys," probably originated with Father Flanagan in the 1930s with his pursuit to raise money in support of Boys Town, a group home for wayward lads. Father Flanagan was altruistic but a bit self-deluded. However, his slogan worked well and the home did indeed boast of many success stories. We are just not privy to the cases where a bad boy went in and a bad boy came out. My take on the situation is that the boys who made something of themselves did so because, for the first time in their lives, they were fed and clothed and given shelter. They received consistent discipline and at worst, neutral attention. The boys who improved were children who tended to be good when left on their own. They would have improved under almost any situation, as long as they are removed from their original bad environment. The small percentage of failures involving young sociopaths at Boys Town—boys who went in bad and came out bad—were swept under the rug.

The current politically correct trend when dealing with naughty rascals is to remove constraints and pressure. For example, at Summerhill School in England, no physical discipline is allowed and adults must speak nicely to the children no matter how they are reciprocally treated. Excuses by teachers, sociologists and parents are made for the bad child's behavior... *the child was in a bad home and my goodness, he was abused and his parents didn't help his little ego at all. Those parents criticized him constantly and that is why the child taped firecrackers to the tails of all these puppies and watched them explode, one by one.*

Frankly, I am personally horrified that modern treatment would even consider eliminating discipline in an effort to improve a bad child's behavior. Boosting a child's self-esteem is not enough if the aim is to correct juvenile delinquent behavior. Boosting self-esteem is a necessary, but is not a sufficient step on the road to salvation. It is necessary to also ingrain the need to act properly. The key issue here is deciding what method to use to ingrain proper behavior; the solution differs drastically from good boy to bad boys.

Proponents of the politically correct "channeling" forms of discipline believe that if a child who consistently displays bad behavior was thought of as a nice person and treated as a nice person, he would *become* a nice person. Their fear is that if a young person is put in juvenile detention with other terrible delinquents they will be abused by the guards as well as

by other youthful truants and will learn additional bad ways and their bad behavior will be reinforced. They suggest we need to provide these poor troubled children with a foster home where they will receive good care and tender moments and their little self-esteems will be built back up to where they should be. The idea here is that if we raise the child's self-esteem (see Section III) and if we stop abusing them, and if they could see how nice other people are, they would want to be nice people as well. This notion works well for children genetically inclined to be societally positive; it fails miserably for adolescent sociopaths.

It is time to bring in an Area of Enlightenment to clarify why ninety-five percent of the children will be helped by the gentle channeling of the politically correct approach, and why the remaining five percent need ToughLove or a similar program of consistent rigorous discipline and known ground rules. The figure below illustrates when youthful criminals can be rehabilitated and when they cannot. It also explains why that nice boy (or less frequently, girl) from a nice neighborhood and a caring, nurturing family grew up to be a mass-murderer or serial killer. The axes follow the same format as previously used—the vertical axis is a genetic influence; the horizontal axis is an imprinted influence.

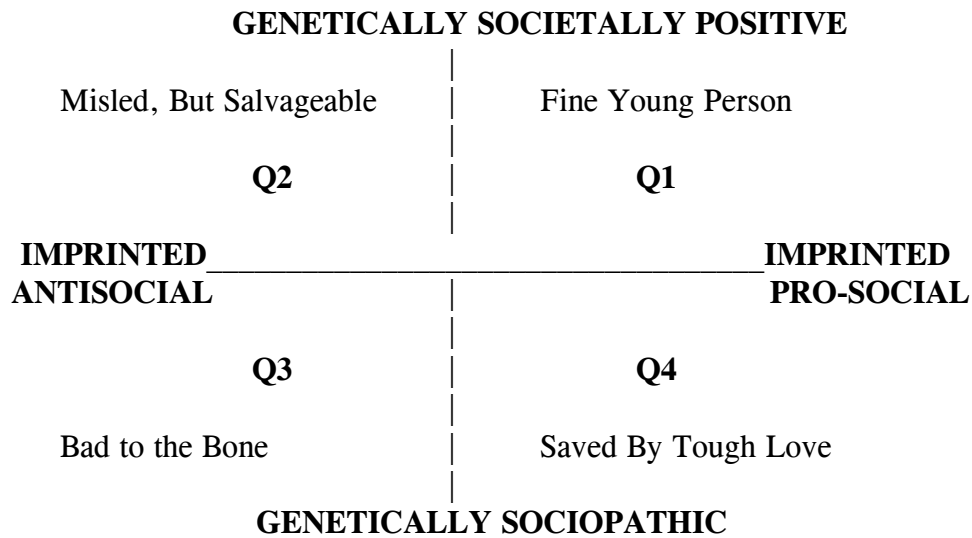


Figure 6.1

Quadrant Q1, comprised of people who are **Societally Positive** both **Genetically** and through **Imprinting**, contains over ninety percent of the population. The inhabitants of Q1 are the productive people who make the world great. They set the standards of conduct, and provide the models of how society should work. Even a quadrant Q1 child will occasionally misbehave, however, when given the wrong opportunities. Some good kids can be converted to quadrant Q2 due to a bad influence, even though it is not their nature. Because such a larger percentage of our population is basically good, this stereotype makes us think that *all* children can be "cured" by treating them nicely. In fact, a misbehaving genetically good child who was raised well will usually return to "nice" all by themselves as long as they are removed from the negative influence.

Quadrant Q2 contains **Genetically Societally Positive** people who have been **Imprinted Antisocially**. These kids were mischievous when young, but somehow turned out okay after all! They are the youthful offenders who can be converted from tiny antisocial rascals into productive citizens instead of progressing to a career of crime. Keep in mind however, the kids in quadrant Q2 are genetically sound individuals who have been influenced by their immediate surroundings to be bad. They make easy converts to a better lifestyle, especially when identified and channeled pre-puberty. These kids make up the majority of perpetrators

who do *not* repeat their criminal behavior.

The quadrant Q3 inhabitants, people who are **Genetically Sociopathic** and **Imprinted Antisocial**, are typified as incorrigible. These rascals show obvious signs of destructive and mean behavior from their toddler stage on up. This is the kid who pulled the wings off flies, shot his BB gun at the cat, got sent to the principal's office weekly, was in and out of reform school, then in and out of jail. If we are lucky, the little rascal ended up the victim of a homicide by his peers. If we are unlucky, he will be released from a life sentence because some do-gooder sees a great talent the world cannot do without. And besides, they claim no one should be cooped up in prison—such treatment is cruel and inhuman, and besides, captivity is terrible for mankind's karma. If the "do-gooders" have their way, social deviants will all be given another chance to go straight, whereupon another heinous crime or murder will occur within months of release.

Sociopaths commit murders. They commit most of the murders. A person who murders once is more likely to murder again than some random citizen who has never murdered before is apt to murder for the first time⁴. In my opinion, being lenient on murderers is a death sentence for innocent people. By a factor of over one hundred, more innocent people are murdered each year by repeat murderers, than are innocent people executed by mistake. The sad part is that all too many politically correct people condemn capital punishment for heinous crimes on the basis that "*only the poor get executed.*" What they conveniently forget is that most of the second-time murderers kill the poor, not the rich, thus they harm the very people they want to help.

Some time ago, in my home state of Oregon, a convicted murderer named Richard Marquette managed to get a work release from prison. Months later, they caught him at his thing, killing a woman and cutting her corpse into pieces. The police found human body parts and suspected Marquette. When captured, Marquette noted that the victim was the *second* woman he had killed since getting out; the cops had not found the first woman's body parts yet. Marquette is not an Oregon exception to the rule: LeRoy Earp, Carl Bowles, Michael Olds, and Thomas Creech all were released from prison after committing murder, and once

⁴ Mealey, op. cit. "Sociopaths, who comprise only 4 to 5% of the entire population are thought to account for approximately 20% of the United States' prison population and between 33% and 80% of the population of chronic criminal offenders. Collectively, these individuals are thought to account for over 50% of all crimes in the U.S.

out, killed *again*. They were responsible for killing seventeen innocent people after they left prison. Only a few of the known cases were mentioned, and there are many more we don't know of yet.

I am convinced this kind of perpetrator cannot be trusted in society. He is a sociopath without the capability to reform. The cost of keeping him in jail for life, no matter what it takes, is far less expensive than allowing him to roam the streets wreaking havoc on innocent bystanders. But to really protect society, he should be executed under Oregon's "Heinous Murder" law, because he is a danger to guards and other prisoners, and may yet escape, be pardoned, or let out on a technicality, as has happened all too often in the past.

In New Jersey, a brutal killing of a 15-year-old girl resulted in a death sentence for the perpetrator. A famous *conservative author* took an interest in his case because the killer professed an interest in the author's writings. As a result, the author hired high-powered lawyers to represent the killer and they were able to obtain the killer's release in 1971 on a technicality—they did not prove him not guilty; they simply disallowed the critical evidence! During the next five years, the killer made a living delivering lectures on his "wrongful" conviction. However, the murderer reverted to type in the fifth year when he stabbed a woman, meaning to kill her. Fortunately, she did not die. The man was re-arrested and confessed to both the stabbing and to the original murder as well.

Another example. In New York, in 1981, a man who had spent virtually all his life in some kind of reform school or prison began to correspond with a well-meaning, ultra-famous liberal author. The author was much impressed with the self-described "super-convict" and he took the letters, edited them and arranged to have them published. The book became a best seller. The author then lobbied to have the convict released from prison and promised to hire him as an editorial assistant. The governor agreed to pardon the man, and the day the book received a rave review from *The New York Times*, the ex-con stabbed a waiter to death in Greenwich Village. The man was caught, sentenced and returned to prison for the murder. While in prison, he murdered a female guard.

Note the common thread—the murderers in all three cases had second chances (and third, or more, since all their murders were not necessarily discovered.) They all could have lead normal lives if they were themselves "normal." However, they were not capable of

behaving in normal ways—they were *really* bad boys. The other common facet is that well-intended famous and highly intelligent people (both a liberal and a conservative) were fooled. Why? As previously pointed out, nice people think everyone else is nice like themselves, and would be good, *if given the chance*.

Pro-social people are often guilty of stereotyping. Their view is that people are naturally good unless *forced* to be bad by external causes. Therefore, the above three perpetrators must have been falsely convicted, or at the very least, men who deserve another chance to be good. Of course, the plan was that two of these these convicted antisocial people would become "good boys" under the tutelage of their literary mentors. It goes without saying the famous authors had egos that knew no bounds and, as prominent individuals, they had tremendous power, both politically and monetarily.

In a tremendous number of cases, lawyers with a social agenda, lawyers who show no concern for the consequences, earn the release of convicted sociopaths at the cost of more lives! The facts are clear that bad guys are not capable of being good, and it is irrelevant to the victims if the murderer's motivation was bad nurturing or bad genetics. These three cases are *not* statistical anomalies; I have dozens more cases on file and my studies do not represent an exhaustive search of repeat murderers.

The vast majority of the people classified as belonging to quadrant Q3 are the four to five percent of the population who commit eighty percent of the crimes. Quadrant Q3 contains the repeaters, the intended target of "three strikes, you're out" legislation. The social cost of these criminals when left free to plunder at will, is very high. The price tag of allowing a career criminal to go free, and "earn" their living at their thieving trade is estimated at \$400,000 per year, far higher than the estimated \$20,000 per year it costs to incarcerate a man or woman for the same one-year period. Strangely enough, there are people in quadrant Q1 convinced that everyone is, underneath, nice like themselves. According to this optimistic ideal, it is nasty, oppressive society that causes society's victims to do such horrible deeds. They argue that we should not use "three strikes" because it costs too much to keep repeat offenders in prison. They argue that when a prisoner gets old, he is no longer physically able to commit crimes and the cost of treating the prisoner's ills of aging mount, draining the taxpayers pocketbooks.

This is selective accounting. First, society will pay the costs of the prisoners' aging infirmities, *in or out* of prison since they will not usually have the legal wealth to pay for their own care and they have not built up much of an account in Social Security. Second, old or not, they will be up to mischief of some sort on the outside, adding to their total societal costs. And finally, society's savings of \$400,000 per no-crime-year for a few years (the criminals are prevented from perpetrating theft and injury while in prison) will more than pay for rudimentary medical treatment of the ills of aging.

The final quadrant, Q4, contains the small population of people **Imprinted Pro-Social** over a **Genetically Sociopathic** base. These are the rare souls who evoke the question, "*how could he have done that?*" These are the people who, while young and relatively powerless, displayed a tendency for naughty infractions and malicious behavior. But because they were raised within a structured, discipline-heavy and moral environment, they learned to adhere to society's constraints, not because they wanted to be nice, but because their own life became easier. In general, young Q4 sociopaths are not often noticed. They are imprinted to look and sound good and the vast majority remain good throughout their lives. The quadrant Q4 inhabitants appear to be good kids, but a small percentage of them will unexpectedly act out in a horrendous, shocking, appalling way. These are the kids who grow up to be adults with fairly normal, productive lives until some triggering event sends them over their edge and they begin to engage in hidden activities of a very serious nature. The small numbers of severely antisocial Q4 sociopaths include the attention-getting Ted Bundys of the world, the soft-spoken kindly neighbor that becomes the Texas Tower sniper, the kid who walks into the school and blasts away.

National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Richard Rhodes' most recent book traces the life and career of criminologist Dr. Lonnie Athens. The book, *Why They Kill: The Discoveries of a Maverick Criminologist*⁵ challenges—with devastating evidence—the theory that violent behavior is impulsive and unconsciously motivated. Athens' work creates a strong case that people become violent by undergoing a series of intense, noxious experiences that lead them to believe serious violence is the best way to protect themselves, to punish people they perceive to be evil, and to get what they want. Athens asserted that violence is a

⁵ Rhodes, Richard. *Why They Kill: The Discoveries of a Maverick Criminologist*, Knopf, 1999.

decision, not an explosion.

Lonnie Athens grew up in a violent, angry world. As he grew to adulthood, he studied aggression and brutality in college, received an advanced degree in criminology. Athens eventually developed a theory about how violent criminals are created. While a graduate student at UC Berkeley, Athens began interviewing prisoners about their violent crimes and decided that violent behavior is based on a four-stage violent socialization ("violentization") process.

1. The subject is brutalized physically and/or psychologically, usually as a child, by a violent authority figure and forced to submit. The subject is a witness to violence against others, and the authority figure(s) coach him to use violence to settle disputes.

2. The subject learns (usually through coaching by other violent individuals) to respond to the brutalization by becoming belligerent as the best solution to avoiding a lifetime of violent subjugation. The subject resolves to resort to all necessary violence the next time someone seriously provokes him.

3. The converted novice begins to initiate violence. His violent response to provocation succeeds; he emerges victorious and discovers that others now respect and fear him. In further violent performances, he widens the range of situations where he is willing to use violence.

4. The exultant subject commits himself to the willful violation and/or destruction of humans as a ready and more permanent solution, even with little or no provocation. He also bonds with others who believe as he does. Athens finds the completed "violentization" process to be irreversible.

Although many sociologists will disagree, Rhodes supports Athens' theory with historical evidence and shows how it explains such violent careers as those of Perry Smith (the killer central to Truman Capote's narrative *In Cold Blood*), Mike Tyson, "preppy rapist" Alex Kelly, and Lee Harvey Oswald. Athens' theory asserts that all four stages must be fully experienced in sequence and completed to produce a violent individual. If the four stages are completed, and no intervention is employed to interrupt the process, then the process is sufficient to produce ultra-violent killers (Athens' term). I agree with Athens' proposition that the best way to deal with the problem of violence is to tackle violent personalities early, preferably in school (especially pre-puberty). Early correction is important because the pre-

puberty "window of opportunity" is the best chance for the speedy improvement of behavior.

Athens feels we should encourage the criminal justice system to concentrate on these dangerous offenders. I interpret this to mean our courts should concentrate on the conversion of the "bad to the bone" sociopaths of quadrant Q3, into the "tamed" sociopaths of quadrant Q4, and not worry so much about incarcerating the misled, salvageable people in quadrant Q2. Athens says psychiatry should drop the mental illness model and force violent criminals to take responsibility for their crimes. I would consider this the tough love approach.

The place where Athens and I differ is he claims the four-step process is all that is required to produce a violent individual. He says heredity is not a factor. I believe however, that because not all children who are subject to the first two steps go on to the last two—even when raised in a family containing other kids who do go bad. My position is that a person's unique genetic makeup must be part of the equation. Clearly, heredity has a place in determining people prone to socially acceptable behavior and those who become sociopaths. Athens' full four-step process may be what it takes to change a Q1-type into a violent Q2-type. Only the people in quadrant Q3 or Q4 go *really bad*. In my opinion, Athens' theory applies to the bad actors in Q3, but he overlooked the quadrant Q2 and Q4 inhabitants.

Here are my proposed solutions to disciplining bad children: First, increase the amount of *attention you pay* to your children and those in your care and increase the loving physical touch you provide. James W. Prescott's research⁶ has shown that lack of physical pleasure is a major ingredient in the expression of physical violence. He writes, "I believe that the deprivation of body touch, contact, and movement are the basic causes of a number of emotional disturbances which include depressive and autistic behaviors, hyperactivity, sexual aberration, drug abuse, violence, and aggression... deprivation of bodily pleasure during infancy is significantly linked to a high rate of crime and violence."⁷ Prescott concludes, after studying the treatment of infants in dozens of human cultures worldwide, that there is a reciprocal relationship between violence and pleasure. Meaning, in cultures where children and adolescents are frequently touched to enhance their pleasure, the level of violence is infrequent. It is a teeter-totter, a seesaw. He found no cultures that exhibited high touch and

⁶ Prescott op. cit. Prescott is a neuropsychologist and health science administrator at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland.

⁷ Prescott, Ibid.

high violence. Therefore, my advice is to touch your kids more often to give *them* pleasure. Increase the amount of affectionate touching in schools, in reformatories, in juvenile detention facilities. I agree that hugs and compassionate pats will go a long way in helping turn around good kids who temporarily go wrong. It is a shame that the few cases of aberrant instructors taking liberties with children have caused us to prohibit teachers from touching their students in all circumstances. This is a big mistake. Better, we should allow appropriate touching, but patrol the touching to keep abuse out.

Second, teachers and school principals should identify antisocial kids at a very early age and label them as such. I know the politically correct people are scared to death of labeling kids. They are afraid that if a kid is labeled "bad," he or she will become a self-fulfilling prophecy. But if we do not label these bad kids, they will be passed along and escalate their hostile behavior due to the lack of constraints. Early labeling is necessary if we stand a chance at channeling them into the more socially productive Q4 inhabitant. A mislabeled societally positive quadrant Q2 person will not suffer long—the treatment for a quadrant Q3 sociopath will work for a Q2 delinquent, and a mislabeled Q2 person will soon outgrow the label.

Third, school counselors and child psychologists should evaluate these socially deviant kids. This can probably best be done by historical review of actions through the grades—by the third grade, the evidence will likely be in. The youth found in quadrant Q1 who atypically does a wrong deed needs to be provided with standard politically-correct gentle re-nurturing to get him or her back on track. Paying attention and increasing affectionate touching may be enough. The children in quadrant Q2 should be targeted for a little stronger disciplinary correction. The younger these children are when identified, and the sooner we provide a strong dose of pro-social nurturing, the sooner they will overcome their unfortunate initial environment (assuming they are no longer in that bad environment), and the sooner they will abandon their antisocial behavior. We have a good chance of rehabilitating these young ruffians because they are emotionally capable of feeling remorse for their bad deeds. Prison is *not* an appropriate place to retrain the kids found in quadrants Q1 or Q2.

In the United States, more than ninety percent of our prison population are born out of

wedlock or live in a home with an absentee father⁸. Without a father to emulate they often embrace senior gang leaders as surrogate father figures, which clearly nurtures them badly. According to the National Center for Health Statistics Report issued on August 8, 2000⁹, slightly over two-thirds of the children born to unmarried black mothers, and one-third of all children born in the United States, are born out of wedlock. This assures poor nurturing, and is a major social problem. The challenge is for redirecting quadrant Q2 boys into the more socially conscious quadrant Q1 by assuring proper nurturing.

Now it is time to address the young sociopaths, the incorrigible bad boys and girls of quadrant Q3. It is essential, necessary, mandatory, that tough love is used on these juvenile delinquents, and the sooner the better. Tough love is about asserting the rights of parents with their out-of-control children. For example, promoters of the ToughLove[®] program insist that parents have the right to live in a clean house, to expect cooperation and courtesy in their home, to expect responsible behavior from their children in school, the right to stop paying their children's fines, to stop "helping" their teenager and to start taking care of themselves, the right to make changes in their own behavior that their teenager does not like, and the right to not be treated badly or inconsiderately by their children. Loving your child is no excuse for accepting rude, violent, inconsiderate behavior. The point is, if a parent does not make sure their rights are respected, they cannot expect others, even their children, to respect their rights.

We need to impress on our children that it is *in their own best interest* to act properly. Strong, clear, reasonable, consistent discipline must be dispensed, and when that discipline is ignored, we must be prepared to retaliate using predictable and swift punishment. It is critical that these children learn that their misbehavior will not be tolerated, and that bad deeds will be dealt with quickly, consistently, and proportionately. This system of treatment is consistent with the proposal of Hare¹⁰ who points out that only self-interest counts with antisocial people, and appealing to them to consider the good of society in general does not work at all. The punishment revolves around privileges taken away, and good behavior earns privileges.

⁸ Glennon, Will. *Fathering: Strengthening Connection With Your Children No Matter Where You Are*. Canari Press, 1995.

⁹ Curtin, Sally C., Martin, Joyce A., M.P.H., "Births: Preliminary Data for 1999," Division of Vital Statistics, Volume 48, Number 14, August 8, 2000.

¹⁰ Hare, R.D. *Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the Psychopaths Among Us*, Pocket Books, 1993, p 204.

Quadrant Q3 children who are rehabilitated enough to stay out of jail have been imprinted positively enough by society to be classified into quadrant Q4. We should make this conversion a top priority because bad boys and girls of quadrant Q3 will go on to become highly destructive bad men and women. The longer we delay, the harder it will be to convert them into productive citizens. Once they are identified, we need to employ radical behavior modification in a structured setting. Because young sociopaths are cagey and often smart enough to manipulate the people around them, I suggest our society teach parents how to identify their high-risk children and to instruct them in techniques that will enable them to deal with their difficult children more effectively. If the parents are unable or uninterested in helping their children, the schools or the state may have to intervene further.

Finally, I suggest we make the effort to match each antisocial child with an appropriate social worker, health care provider or employee of the criminal justice system based on the youthful offender's individual style and personality, in an attempt to prevent these kids from taking advantage of the support structure around them. Too often sociopathic children convince a "naïve agent"¹¹ they are now "saved" from their former bad ways.

A further point of interest. In authoritarian countries the crime rate is low. This is true for fascist, socialist, and fundamental Islamic countries. The reason is simple: they have sure, swift "justice" for anyone who breaks the law. The severity of punishment is high, so it is in the best interests of the people in all quadrants to be good. I do not advocate going as far as the authoritarian countries do in cracking down on crime. However, we should do a better job of applying methods that do work, such as tough love. And, when tough love fails, the "three strikes you're out" system works as a compromise. The point here is that sociopaths who are initially in quadrant Q3, need to be converted to the more socially acceptable sociopaths in quadrant Q4. Most Q4 people go through life without major problems; however, occasionally, a small percentage of them will do a horrendous deed. This is still better than all sociopaths being bad all the time.

In the case of the Columbine, Colorado high school shooters, the boys left a videotape in which one boy stated he was raised well and had great parents who taught him self-

¹¹Term used by Palmer, T. "The "effectiveness" issue today: An overview," *Federal Probation* 26:3-10, 1983.

awareness and self-reliance.¹² The boys appear nice, as most quadrant Q4 occupants do, since they had been nurtured well. However, the burdens of growing up apparently got too great and they snapped. The lad on the tape apologized to his parents saying, "I'm sorry I have so much rage." Unfortunately, he then went out and joined with his friends to slaughter twelve fellow classmates and a teacher. Even still, we must realize that coping with the occasionally horrendous quadrant Q4 inhabitant is better than leaving large numbers of quadrant Q3 sociopaths unfettered in society.

In summary, the earnest, honest people who cannot believe someone would do something bad on purpose—without being driven to it—are living in a dream world of their own making. They assume everyone is just as nice as themselves. This stereotypical model comes easily, since, indeed, most people *are* nice. In the end, a victim does not care whether the perpetrator was driven to the crime while "taking their revenge on an unfair society," or was simply acting out their own mean nastiness!

One final consideration. The question of the presence of a single "criminal gene" has largely been discredited although there is solid research substantiating the claim that chemical imbalances can result in antisocial behavior, and that these imbalances can be inherited. Studies have shown that the imbalances show up in subsequent generations of a family.¹³ Antisocial mental defects due to genetics, can keep a person from feeling remorse and/or wanting to act in an ethical manner. Lack of remorse in the case of quadrant Q2 inhabitants can be caused by extremely antisocial imprinting while young; however, if caught early, it is reversible. In the case of a Q3 person, a sense of self-concern, to avoid loss of privileges, substitutes for remorse and concern for others. This can be imprinted early in the antisocial types by using constructive re-imprinting, resulting in quadrant Q4 inhabitants. Occasionally, sociopaths imprinted positively will revert when older if subjected to stress. However, this is unusual and therefore we should make the effort to convert as many Q3-types into Q4-types as early as possible, since it is difficult to accomplish post-puberty

Although the percentage of sociopaths has remained relatively stable throughout mankind's history, most of those sociopaths were found in quadrant Q4—they are antisocial

¹² London, Herbert, "Derrick Thomas: The Lives He Helped and the Lives He Ignored," *Insight*, April 24, 2000, p. 45.

¹³ Mealey, op. cit.

people saved by tough love. Centuries ago, village communities were severe disciplinarians of the moral and ethical codes of their clan. They did not spare the rod. In those earlier societies, sociopaths were coerced into behaving in a proper manner—or they were banned from the clan, or had their hands sliced off, their eyes put out, or had their heads removed. This behavior is still found to some extent in totalitarian regimes. The problem in modern democratic society is that discipline and punishment is no longer used to convert the bulk of this small sociopathic pool into people who learn to adhere to society's constraints. Most sociopaths these days are found in quadrant Q3, the people who are "bad to the bone," rather than in quadrant Q4, because we don't have the old-time clan mores.

Sociopaths may be only three percent of our total population, but the ones found in quadrant Q3 are responsible for over fifty percent of all crime.¹⁴ If you look at the prison population, you will find a very small percentage of people from quadrant Q1, a fair percentage from Q2, a high percentage from Q3 and a small percentage from Q4. The repeat offenders are largely from quadrant Q3.

The long-term problem, as I see it, is that given present trends, we will soon be coming to the point of social chaos, predicted by Second World War studies that stated when upwards of five percent of the population is continuously active saboteurs, normal society will collapse. We now have a population of more than five percent "saboteurs" in a few inner city locations and in some rural areas where certain locals are sure the government is evil. No bad boys? Think again. And, as they say, "be careful out there."

¹⁴ Ibid.

