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SUMMARY

- In 1824 the New York House of Refuge, the first U.S. reformatory, opened to house juvenile delinquents, defined in its charter as “youths convicted of criminal offenses or found in vagrancy.”

- The child savers were reformers whose philosophy was that the child was basically good and was to be treated by the state as a young person with a problem.

- In 1899 the Illinois legislature passed a law establishing a juvenile court that became the cornerstone for juvenile justice throughout the United States.

- The first juvenile courts were administrative agencies of circuit or district courts and served a social service function with the rehabilitative ideal of reforming children rather than punishing them.

- Probation, according to the 1899 Illinois Juvenile Court Act, was to have both an investigative and a rehabilitative function.

- The progressives further developed the medical model, viewing crime as a disease to treat and cure by social intervention.

- The Four Ds of juvenile justice are deinstitutionalization, diversion, due process and decriminalization.

- The procedural requirements for waiver to criminal court were articulated by the Supreme Court in Kent v. United States.

- The Gault decision required that the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment be applied to proceedings in state juvenile courts, including the right of notice, the right to counsel, the right against self-incrimination and the right to confront witnesses.

- In re Winship established proof beyond a reasonable doubt as the standard for juvenile adjudication proceedings, eliminating lesser standards such as a preponderance of the evidence, clear and convincing proof and reasonable proof.

- McKeiver v. Pennsylvania established that a jury trial is not a required part of due process in the adjudication of a youth as a delinquent by a juvenile court.

- Breed v. Jones established that a juvenile cannot be adjudicated in juvenile court and then tried for the same offense in an adult criminal court (double jeopardy).

- Isolating offenders from their normal social environment may encourage the development of a delinquent orientation and, thus, further delinquent behavior.
- The Uniform Juvenile Court Act (1968) provided for the care, protection and development of youths, without the stigma of a criminal label, by a program of treatment, training and rehabilitation in a family environment when possible. It also provided simple judicial and interstate procedures.

- The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 had two key goals: deinstitutionalization of status offenders and separation or removal of juveniles from adult facilities.

- According to the American Bar Association, juvenile delinquency liability should include only such conduct as would be designated a crime if committed by an adult.