

Review

Consultations of Networks – an evaluation of section 57c of the Danish Social Services Act

Background and objectives:

- The aim of the report is to evaluate the use of the Consultations of Networks and to examine if the consultation of networks has a crime prevention effect.
- The Consultation of Networks was incorporated into the law to create a uniform process of incorporating the networks surrounding juvenile offenders to reduce criminal behaviour.

Research design:

- The report is based on data on the target group for Consultation of Networks submitted by municipalities. This group is compared to the control group which is made up of minors who committed similar crimes before the Consultation of Networks was incorporated and were in the target group for the previous effort.
- The report presents a descriptive comparison of the two groups, but also uses logistic and linear regression to try to measure the effect of the consultation of networks.
- The analysis is based on limited data set and the results are subject to considerable uncertainty.

Findings:

- Parts of the descriptive analysis indicate a tendency towards a slightly lower risk of relapse among the group that participated in the Consultation of Networks compared to the control group.
- The regression analysis shows that there is no statistically significant difference between the two groups when it comes to the risk of relapse.
- It is only possible to say something about the two groups combined. It is not possible to conclude anything about the minors who were in the target group for the Consultation of Networks compared to minors who did not receive any kind of social effort.

