Digitization: Exploring New Paths in Juvenile Community Correction Social Work

Jingyi Wu
Guangxi Normal University, Guilin Guangxi, 541000, China

Abstract: With the rapid development of information technology and the advent of the digital age, new opportunities and challenges have emerged for juvenile community correction work. In the digital age, juvenile community correction faces challenges such as the increase in juvenile cybercrime, the influence of social media on juvenile behavior patterns, and issues of data privacy and information security. Given this context, how can social work adapt to community correction in the digital age? How can digital technologies and methods be used to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of community correction in response to the rise in juvenile cybercrime? This paper aims to explore new paths in juvenile community correction social work under the digital context and propose a series of innovative practices and strategies. By leveraging the advantages of digital technology, social media platforms, and data analysis, we will explore how to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of community correction work to better serve the rehabilitation and social integration of juveniles. This paper will focus on how to utilize digital technologies, social media platforms, and data analysis to improve community correction outcomes and introduce innovative practices in community participation, personalized services, and training.

Keywords: Digitization; Teenagers; Community Correction; Social Work; New Path Exploration.

1. Introduction

In November 2014, Ministry of Justice of the People's Republic of China and five other ministries jointly issued the "Opinions on Organizing Social Forces to Participate in Community Correction Work," stating: "In terms of working force, there should be both a dedicated law enforcement team and a wide mobilization of social workers, volunteers, social organizations, schools, families, and other social forces to work together on community correction... Governments should be guided to purchase community correction social work services from social forces." On December 28, 2019, the 15th meeting of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress passed the "Community Correction Law of the People's Republic of China" (hereinafter referred to as the "Community Correction Law"), which is China's first legislation specifically for community correction work and will take effect on July 1, 2020. These documents provide support for social work involvement in community correction. As a modern helping profession, social work has long been involved in community correction, using professional concepts, methods, and techniques to actively promote changes in offenders and their reintegration into society [1]. The role of social work in community correction is increasingly recognized [2]. With the rapid development of information technology and the advent of the digital age, juvenile community correction work is facing new opportunities and challenges. The digital age provides us with many powerful tools and resources, prompting us to re-examine and improve social work practices, especially in the field of juvenile correction. How can social work adapt to community correction in the digital age? How can digital technologies and methods be used to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of community correction in response to the rise in juvenile cybercrime? This paper aims to explore new paths in juvenile community correction social work under the digital context and propose a series of innovative practices and strategies. By leveraging the advantages of digital technology, social media platforms, and data analysis, we will explore how to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of community correction work to better serve the rehabilitation and social integration of juveniles.

2. Literature Review

(1) Community Correction

Community correction developed as a response to criticisms of incarceration. It originated from the voluntary reform activities of John Augustus in Boston, Massachusetts, aimed at rehabilitating drunken offenders [3]. Zheng Hangsheng and Cheng Hu, from the perspectives of socialization and resocialization, argue that resocialization should include not only restrictive forms but also participatory forms, which are commonly referred to as socialized sentencing, where offenders are supervised and reformed within the community, thereby integrating them into society. Community correction is a form of resocialization. It refers to a non-custodial method of sentencing, where offenders declared probation by the court, paroled, or sentenced to non-custodial measures are placed in the community, supervised and reformed by specialized state institutions with the assistance of organizations, volunteers, and social forces [4]. Kang Jiao and Dong Zhifeng state that traditional government-led supervision and correction of criminal suspects typically involved incarceration. The trial of community correction began in 2003, formally initiating China's community-based penal system and practice. Community correction differs from imprisonment and is a significant manifestation of penal socialization [5]. Fu Lihua believes that in the process of community correction, penal execution is merely a means, and the true goal is to restore the social functions of the corrected individuals, ultimately aiming for their reintegration into mainstream society [6]. As community correction rapidly develops in China, it also encounters problems and challenges. Some judicial administrative departments are still influenced by heavy
punitively thinking, emphasizing punishment and control over correction services. Many grassroots judicial administrative agencies have little understanding of social workers and their roles in community correction, often seeing them as auxiliary administrative personnel, which weakens their role and responsibilities as specialized service providers in community correction [7].

2) Digital Social Work

In the context of digital transformation, some scholars have combined social work with digitization, calling it digital social work. Through a review of the literature, it is found that there is no clear and unified definition of this field both domestically and internationally. Related terms include Net Social Work, Cyber Social Work, Remote/Virtual Social Work, E-social Work, and Digital Social Work. Hu Ying believes that digital social work is a form of social work practice based on network and information communication technologies. It emphasizes digital tools and techniques, enabling social work practice to fold and transform in both online and offline spaces. Social workers use professional methods to promote the well-being of individuals, groups, and society, reduce digital inequalities caused by technology, economy, and class differences, and promote social justice. Digital social work is closely related to the digital society, information and communication technology, service innovation, digital capital, and digital inequality [8]. Chen Jinsong considers that activities based on the internet and aimed at public welfare, which involve helping others and are conducted primarily through the internet, can be termed quasi-network social work, meeting at least four conditions: (1) they are public welfare activities; (2) they involve helping others; (3) they primarily use the internet as a medium; (4) they are non-professional social work [9]. Frederic G. Reamer believes that digital, online networks, and other electronic technologies have transformed the nature of social work practice. Contemporary social workers can provide services to clients through online counseling, telephone counseling, video counseling, avatar therapy, web-based self-guided interventions, electronic social networks, emails, and text messages[10]. Sarah Pink, Harry Ferguson, and Laura Kelly believe that digital is an inevitable and necessary element in modern social work practice, which must be understood as a hybrid practice integrating digital practices like video calls with face-to-face interactions [11]. Liang Yucheng summarizes the development space of social work in the digital society, including: digitization of social work materials; scientific research based on social work client databases; overall digitization of social work processes; intelligenterization of social work content; digital screening of social work service targets, moving from treatment to prevention [12].

Reamer and Frederic G. have noted the rapid increase in the use of digital and other technologies by clinical social workers to provide remote counseling services. Contemporary practitioners are increasingly using video counseling, email chats, social networking sites, text messages, smartphone applications, avatar-based websites, web-based self-guided interventions, and other technologies to offer clinical services to clients. This rise in technology usage brings with it a broad array of ethical challenges related to the application of traditional social work ethical concepts: client informed consent; client privacy and confidentiality; boundaries and dual relationships; conflicts of interest; practitioner competence; documentation and record-keeping; and collegial relationships [13]. Frederic Reamer has summarized ethical principles based on the ethical impacts related to social workers’ commitment to clients: privacy/confidentiality; client self-determination and professional paternalism; informed consent; and boundaries and dual relationships between professionals and clients. He has explored their impact on the ethical standards relevant to the industry and the practitioner-client relationship [14]. Campbell asserts that digital service methods impose stringent ethical requirements on privacy, confidentiality, informed consent, and professional boundaries [15] (Campbell, 2003) . Hu Ying identifies the ethical challenges in digital service practices, which include privacy and confidentiality; boundaries and self-disclosure; conflicts of interest; and digital inequality [16]. Zhao Wanlin and Zhang Hongying, based on current practical experiences, combine the operation of internet and social work projects and highlight typical digital-related social work ethical issues such as ensuring the authenticity of promotional content, respecting intellectual property rights, avoiding violence in online mobilization, and guarding against the reproduction of inequality in the digital environment. These four typical digital-related social work ethical issues emphasize protecting information accuracy, maintaining intellectual property, preventing violent behavior in online mobilization, and avoiding the replication and reproduction of inequality in the digital environment [17].

3. Challenges of Juvenile Community Correction in the Digital Age

(1) Increase in Juvenile Cybercrime

In general, cybercrime refers to the use of computer technology to attack, damage, or utilize network systems or information for other criminal activities. It includes both crimes committed by using programming, encryption, and decoding techniques or tools on the internet, and crimes executed through software instructions. Compared to traditional crimes, cybercrimes have distinct characteristics such as low cost, rapid dissemination, wide reach, high interactivity and concealment, and difficulty in evidence collection [18]. In criminology, most scholars consider cybercrime to be crimes or deviant behaviors conducted using cyberspace or computer technology [19]. According to the "Blue Book of Youth: Report on the Internet Use of Chinese Minors (2022)," the internet usage rate among minors in the past six months has reached 99.9%, significantly higher than the national internet penetration rate (73%) . With the development of society, advances in network technology, and improvements in network infrastructure, it can be foreseen that the proportion of juveniles involved in cybercrime will gradually increase, and the share of cybercrime in juvenile crime will continue to rise. Data from the Supreme People's Court in 2018 shows that the ages of defendants in newly received juvenile crime cases by courts nationwide are mainly concentrated at 16 and 17 years old. Among them, 17-year-old juveniles are the most involved, accounting for over half of the cases, followed by 16-year-olds, making up over one-third of the cases, marking these ages as critical for crime prevention. Most juvenile crime cases occur at night and early morning, with 19:00 to 21:00 being peak hours [20]. However, as a new type of crime, cybercrime breaks the traditional time patterns of crime. Unlike traditional crimes, most cybercrimes committed by juveniles usually have no fixed time constraints,
reducing the limitations on their crime time. Juvenile cybercrime is a new criminal trend in today’s world, closely related to the increasing popularity of the internet. Data from the China Internet Network Information Center shows that the number of internet-using minors in China has exceeded 23 million, making them a high-risk group for internet addiction [21].

(2) Impact of Social Media on Adolescent Behavior Patterns

Social media has a broad and profound impact on the behavior patterns of adolescents. It provides a platform for teenagers to communicate with others, share information, and showcase themselves. Adolescents can interact with friends, classmates, and people globally through social media, expanding their social circles and establishing social relationships. At the same time, social media offers opportunities for teenagers to shape their personal identities and express themselves.

Social Interaction. Social media provides a broad platform for adolescents to engage in social interaction, giving them opportunities to communicate and interact with friends, classmates, and people globally. Social media offers a more comfortable environment for communication. However, excessive reliance on virtual social interactions also brings some problems. In the digital age, social interactions in adolescent communities often occur more in virtual spaces. This virtuality provides them with more freedom to express themselves but also increases the difficulty of supervision and guidance. With the proliferation of social media, cyberbullying and harassment have become serious issues faced by adolescent communities. The anonymity and widespread dissemination characteristics of social media make it easier for bullies to hide their identities and engage in malicious behavior towards other members. The digital age offers adolescents a broader space for social interaction but also increases the complexity of parental supervision. Parents need to balance granting teenagers autonomy and protecting their privacy while ensuring their safety and healthy development in the digital community.

Self-expression and Identity Construction. The digital age provides adolescents with more opportunities to showcase themselves through social media by posting texts, photos, videos, and other content. However, this freedom of self-expression can also lead to issues such as excessive focus on others’ approval and recognition, and addiction to pursuing the virtual world. Adolescent community correction faces challenges in balancing the virtual world and real life. Addiction to social media and online interactions may lead to detachment from family, friends, and the school community. Challenges of adolescent community correction in the digital age involve the complexity of self-expression, the conflict between virtual and real identities, social comparison and competition, privacy and security issues, and balancing the virtual world with real life.

Information Access and Learning. The information overload in the digital age may lead to distraction and lack of concentration among adolescents. They often face multiple information sources simultaneously, such as social media, games, and online videos, making it difficult for them to focus on deep learning and thinking. The influx of information, including false, misleading, and biased information, can easily mislead adolescents, making them susceptible to "regulation.”

Sensitivity to External Evaluations. Social media’s interactions, such as likes, comments, and shares, make adolescents more concerned about others’ evaluations of themselves. This excessive focus on others’ opinions can lead them to become overly sensitive to external evaluations, easily influenced by false standards, and experience anxiety, low self-esteem, and other psychological issues. On social media, adolescents often measure their value and popularity by the number of likes and the content of comments. They may become preoccupied with every comment, regardless of its authenticity or objectivity. This behavior can lead them to doubt their worth and abilities, feeling anxious and self-conscious. Additionally, the existence of false standards and idealized portrayals on social media, such as overly edited photos and perfect life displays, can mislead adolescents into believing they need to meet these standards to be accepted and recognized. When they fail to meet these standards, they may experience self-deprecation and low self-esteem. This over-sensitivity to external evaluations negatively impacts adolescents’ mental health, causing anxiety, stress, low self-esteem, and depression. It can also adversely affect their social skills and interpersonal relationships as they become overly reliant on others’ evaluations to determine their self-worth and confidence.

Attention Distraction and Time Management. The use of social media often leads to adolescents becoming addicted, resulting in distraction and difficulty managing their time. This can negatively affect their learning outcomes, social interactions, and physical and mental health. The content on social media is highly attractive, and adolescents often spend significant time browsing, such as scrolling through social media feeds, watching videos, and playing games. However, this frequent use can distract them, making it difficult to concentrate on learning tasks or other important activities. Over time, this can severely interfere with their academic performance and learning outcomes. Moreover, excessive use of social media can weaken adolescents’ social interaction abilities. They may prefer to communicate through social media rather than face-to-face interactions, leading to feelings of isolation and social barriers. Additionally, excessive social media use can impact adolescents’ physical and mental health. Prolonged screen time can cause eye strain and myopia. Continuous social media usage can also deprive them of time for physical activities, rest, and sleep, thereby affecting their physical health and mental state.

(3) Data Privacy and Information Security Issues

In the digital age, juvenile community correction faces increasingly complex data privacy and information security issues. As adolescents use the internet and digital technologies, they often need to provide personal information to access various applications and services. However, this personal data is at risk of being leaked, misused, or even sold by malicious actors, posing potential threats to adolescents’ privacy and security.

On one hand, adolescents may lack sufficient awareness and ability to protect their personal data privacy, easily granting excessive permissions when using applications or not being cautious with privacy settings. In such cases, their personal information may be accessed by unauthorized third parties, leading to personal privacy exposure. Correctional institutions need to guide adolescents in correctly setting privacy options, strengthen regulation of data collection and processing, and ensure the security of personal information.

On the other hand, social media use has become an important means for adolescents to socialize and express
themselves. However, the content they post on social media may also lead to information security risks. They might inadvertently share sensitive personal information or become victims of cyberbullying and harassment. Correctional institutions need to enhance adolescents' information education, teaching them how to protect their personal privacy on social media and how to respond to challenges such as cyberbullying and harassment.

Moreover, the spread of false information and online rumors also poses risks to adolescents' information security. Adolescents might lack the ability to discern the authenticity and reliability of information, making them susceptible to misinformation and negative influences. Therefore, correctional institutions need to cultivate information literacy and critical thinking through education, helping adolescents recognize and evaluate the credibility of online information, thereby reducing the impact of false information on them.

Lastly, over-reliance on and addiction to digital technology also pose security risks. Adolescents may become addicted to smartphones, social media, and online games, neglecting the importance of data privacy and information security. This excessive use not only increases the risk of personal information leakage but also leads to mental health issues.

4. Exploring New Paths

(a) Construction of Digital Community Correction Platforms

An online correction support platform is an internet and digital technology-based service platform aimed at providing personalized correction support and counseling for adolescents. By integrating a diverse range of resources and tools, including mental health guidance, social skills development, academic and career advancement, the platform caters to the varying needs and preferences of adolescents. Through online consultations, real-time chats, or remote video conferencing, the platform offers professional counselor guidance and support to develop tailored correction plans and support schemes. The creation of virtual social networks and interactive platforms fosters communication, experience sharing, and mutual support among adolescents. Emphasis is placed on privacy protection and information security, utilizing encryption technology to safeguard user data and ensure the security and confidentiality of user information. Through the online correction support platform, adolescents can receive flexible, convenient, and personalized correction support, aiding in their active participation in the correction process, achieving positive change, and developing healthy lifestyles.

(b) Providing Personalized Community Correction Services

In the digital realm, social work can effectively address the challenges of organizing in the face of individualization and mobility; by expanding resource access channels and enriching service resource structures, professional autonomy is strengthened and the effectiveness of helping is increased [22]. The platform will collect personal information, problems, and needs of adolescents through online questionnaires, individual assessments, and understanding of family backgrounds. This information will be used to develop personalized correction plans. Based on the assessment results, the platform will design customized correction plans for each individual. The plans will outline goals, guide action steps, and provide relevant resources and support to meet their specific needs and developmental stages.

The platform will also offer a variety of resources and tools, such as mental health education materials, skills training courses, and self-help tools. These resources will be recommended based on the individual's correction plan and preferences to help adolescents obtain the most practical support and guidance.

Online counseling and support are also integral to personalized services. Through the platform's real-time chat and remote video conferencing functions, professional counselors will engage in one-on-one communication and guidance with adolescents. They will provide personalized advice, skills training, and behavior change strategies tailored to individual problems and challenges.

The platform will regularly assess and track the progress of adolescents. Through data analysis and user feedback, correction plans will be adjusted, and continuous support and guidance will be provided to ensure the effectiveness and adaptability of personalized services. By offering personalized services through the digital community correction platform, the correction needs of adolescents can be better met, helping them positively change behaviors, develop potential, and ultimately achieve comprehensive growth and community integration.

(2) Application of Social Media Platforms

(a) Utilizing Social Media Platforms for Preventive Education

Social media platforms have a broad user base and powerful dissemination capabilities. By posting preventive education content and information on social media, a large number of young people and families can be quickly reached. This widespread dissemination capability makes preventive education more popular and effective. Social media platforms offer diverse formats and interactivity. Preventive education can be presented in various forms such as text, images, and videos to attract the attention and engagement of young people. Social media platforms also provide features like comments, shares, and reposts, allowing preventive education content to interact with and spread among users, expanding its reach.

Social media platforms can personalize preventive education content. Through user data analysis and algorithmic recommendations, these platforms can provide personalized preventive education content based on users' interests, age, and geographic location. This personalized customization can enhance user engagement and acceptance, improving the effectiveness of preventive education. Additionally, social media platforms can collaborate with professional institutions, educational institutions, and community organizations to jointly conduct preventive education activities. By launching official accounts, special events, and online lectures, they can provide authoritative and reliable preventive education information and resources, enhancing credibility and influence.

(b) Analyzing Social Media Data to Gain Insights into Adolescent Behavior

Social media data analysis can help understand adolescents' activities and usage habits on these platforms. By analyzing their posts, likes, and comments, one can gain insights into their interest levels, engagement, and preferences regarding different topics. This data can assist experts and decision-makers in better understanding adolescents' interests and needs.

Behavioral trends and patterns on social media can be revealed. For example, by analyzing usage times, frequencies,
and durations, one can understand their social media usage habits and consumption behavior. Identifying preferences and behavior patterns allows for the development of more targeted preventive education strategies. Potential problematic behaviors and risk factors can also be identified. By monitoring and analyzing adolescents’ expressions, statements, and interactions, online counselors and professionals can detect possible mental health issues, bullying behavior, and addiction tendencies. This enables early intervention and guidance to prevent further deterioration of issues.

Exploring adolescents' emotional states and needs on social media is also possible. Text analysis and emotion recognition techniques can reveal their emotional states, stress sources, and psychological troubles. This aids in providing appropriate mental health support and resources to meet their emotional needs. Monitoring the effectiveness and impact of preventive education activities is another key aspect. By comparing data before and after interventions and analyzing user feedback and engagement metrics, the effectiveness of preventive education strategies can be evaluated, leading to necessary optimizations and improvements.

While social media data analysis is a powerful tool for understanding adolescent behavior and needs, it is crucial to ensure privacy protection and compliance, adopt appropriate data security measures, and adhere to relevant laws and regulations to safeguard adolescents' rights and interests.

(3) Data Analysis and Decision Support

a) Establishing Data-Based Risk Assessment Models

Using big data technology for social stability risk assessment is a new direction in stability assessment work. By absorbing and processing data and information from various aspects of society, big data technology offers a more scientific, objective, and comprehensive approach compared to traditional data collection methods. Consequently, the assessment results are more accurate, reliable, and reflective of public sentiment, facilitating timely warnings and reducing social stability risks [23]. A data-based risk assessment model aims to provide reliable support during decision-making processes. This model is constructed by collecting relevant data, selecting appropriate features, and employing statistical analysis and machine learning techniques. Once trained and validated, the model can assess risks and predict future situations. Such assessments can help decision-makers better understand and respond to potential risks, making informed decisions. Continuous monitoring and optimization of the model, along with incorporating professional judgment and experience, are necessary to ensure the accuracy and reliability of decisions. This data-based risk assessment model provides a scientific basis for decision-making, allowing decision-makers to comprehensively consider risk factors and make more informed decisions.

b) Using Data Analysis to Optimize Community Correction Programs

First, collect data related to community correction. This includes personal information of correction subjects, criminal history, social background, and other relevant data. Additionally, socio-economic statistics, correction procedure execution data, and recidivism rates can be collected. This data serves as the foundation for analysis, providing factual evidence for optimizing community correction programs.

Next, perform data analysis and mining. Utilizing statistical analysis, data mining, and machine learning techniques, the collected data is processed and analyzed. By exploring data correlations, uncovering potential patterns and trends, issues and improvement opportunities within community correction work can be identified. Based on the results of data analysis, more personalized and targeted correction programs can be developed for different groups, stages, and types of crime. Understanding the characteristics and backgrounds of correction subjects helps optimize resource allocation, formulate more reasonable action plans, and determine more effective correction measures. For instance, identifying common characteristics among certain crime types allows for specialized prevention and intervention measures.

Moreover, data analysis can assess the effectiveness and impact of community correction programs. By collecting and analyzing data, changes before and after implementing correction programs can be compared, such as recidivism rates, living conditions, and social integration levels of correction subjects. This helps measure the effectiveness of correction programs and make timely adjustments and optimizations.

Finally, data analysis can provide predictions and decision-making suggestions for policymakers. By building models and algorithms, future behavioral trends and risk levels of correction subjects can be predicted. This aids policymakers in formulating more targeted and proactive correction programs, minimizing recidivism rates and improving social adaptation capabilities of correction subjects.

(4) Community Participation and Collaboration

a) Strengthening Cooperation between Families and Schools

When correction subjects enter the community for correction, they are no longer isolated individuals but part of a larger social network [24]. Strengthening cooperation between families and schools is a crucial aspect of community participation and collaboration. Establishing good communication channels and platforms is essential for promoting information exchange and understanding between families and schools. Parents' active participation in school activities and decision-making, along with jointly setting student goals and plans, can establish mutual trust and cooperation. Implementing family-school cooperation projects and activities, providing resources and support, can enhance overall student development and learning outcomes. Additionally, establishing feedback mechanisms and evaluation systems can continuously optimize cooperation methods and effectiveness. Strengthening family and school cooperation creates a more harmonious, supportive, and developmental community environment, providing a solid foundation for students’ education and growth.

b) Cultivating Community Volunteers and Resource Sharing

Cultivating community volunteers and promoting resource sharing are key elements of community participation and collaboration. Establishing a community volunteer system, encouraging residents to participate in volunteer activities, and providing training and support can cultivate an actively engaged and service-oriented volunteer force. Promoting resource sharing and cooperation, including material resources and knowledge and skill resources, can maximize the use of internal community resources, enhancing community development and resident welfare. Incentivizing and rewarding community participation by setting up reward systems to recognize and motivate residents and volunteers' active involvement is also important. Establishing effective
communication and coordination mechanisms, such as regular meetings and online platforms, can facilitate multi-party communication and cooperation. Through cultivating community volunteers and resource sharing, community participation and collaboration are strengthened, enabling residents to better engage in community affairs and jointly create a better community environment.

5. Conclusion and Discussion

In the exploration of new paths for juvenile community correction social work in the digital age, the construction of digital community correction platforms is key. Establishing dedicated online platforms can achieve rapid and convenient information exchange, providing online education, psychological support, and social interaction services, thereby offering more comprehensive and personalized support for juvenile correction work. Additionally, fully utilizing social media platforms is a new path. Social media has a broad influence on adolescents' lives and can be used to connect with them, convey positive guidance, and provide targeted information, education, and support to help them develop positive and healthy behavior patterns.

Data analysis and decision support technologies play a significant role in juvenile community correction work. By collecting, integrating, and analyzing various data, such as crime trends and personal backgrounds, social workers can obtain accurate assessment results and intervention strategies, thereby formulating personalized and precise correction plans to enhance correction effectiveness. Finally, community participation and collaboration are also key to exploring new paths. Promoting the participation and collaboration of community residents, families, and related organizations can form common community values, solve adolescents’ problems together, integrate resources and strengths, and provide a more comprehensive and sustainable support system.

In summary, the exploration of new paths for juvenile community correction social work in the digital age involves the construction of digital community correction platforms, application of social media platforms, data analysis and decision support, and community participation and collaboration. Exploring these new paths will promote innovation and development in juvenile community correction work, providing more comprehensive and personalized support and guidance for adolescents, helping them achieve positive change and healthy growth.

The exploration of new paths for juvenile community correction social work in the digital age includes integrating innovative digital technologies such as virtual reality and online counseling, using data-driven risk assessment and intervention, strengthening online community support, cultivating adolescents' digital literacy and self-management skills, and promoting cross-departmental collaboration. These explorations offer more personalized, precise, and comprehensive correction strategies, enabling social work to better adapt to the challenges and opportunities of the digital age, helping adolescents achieve behavioral change and social reintegration.

Amid the digital wave, juvenile community correction, as a direction of correctional social work, may lack reference samples when providing services. Therefore, attention must be paid to the following points:

Privacy and Security Protection: In the construction of digital community correction platforms and the application of social media platforms, it is essential to focus on protecting adolescents’ privacy and information security. Ensure appropriate data protection measures are taken, comply with relevant laws and regulations, and safeguard adolescents' personal rights and privacy.

Quality and Accuracy: When using data analysis and decision support technologies for assessment and intervention, ensure data quality and accuracy. Correctly select and process data and use appropriate analysis methods to provide reliable assessment results and effective intervention strategies.

Balance and Guidance: In the application of social media platforms, balance the participation and guidance of social workers, allowing adolescents to autonomously acquire information and social interaction while providing necessary guidance and support. Ensure that positive values and behavior patterns are conveyed on social media, avoiding the influence of harmful content.

Integration and Collaboration: Community participation and collaboration are crucial for exploring new paths, but it is necessary to ensure a balance of interests and effective cooperation mechanisms. Establish good communication channels, actively listen to, and respect the opinions and needs of adolescents, families, and the community, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

Training and Professional Development: In the digital age, social workers need to continuously enhance their digital technology skills and professional knowledge, adapting to the use of new technologies and tools. Through training and professional development, keep up with the times and improve the quality and effectiveness of their work.

References


