CHARLES UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Law

Anastasija Levina

Criminalistics Study of Crime Victims (Criminalistics Victimology)

Diploma thesis
Abstract

The Supervisor of Diploma thesis: Prof. JUDr. Jan Musil, CSc.

Department of Criminal Law

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Abstract

This diploma thesis addresses the issue of Criminalistics Victimology, in other words

Criminalistics Study of Crime Victims. It provides a brief insight into what victimology and

criminalistic victimology is; whether (and how) we can determine who is a potential victim and

what factors increase this risk; what types of victims there are and what is the difference

between thw victim described in the Act on Victims of Crime and in Criminal Procedure Code.

It also discusses purely legislative regulation. In the context of the Czech Republic, it conducts

a historical excursus about how it was regulated before the adoption of Act No. 45/2013 Coll.,

on Victims of Crime, and gives an insight into the systematics of this Act and what it regulates.

It provides information on the most important regulations governing the position of the victim

in the international field. This thesis also provides insight into the analogous legislation of the

Slovak Republic.

The question of criminalistic traces is also addressed: in what categories and subcategories they

can be divided; what their meaning is both in general and in close relation to the victim. There

can exist situations when the victim is the only source of evidence and information about the

crime. The thesis deals with this issue as well, talking about the three most common methods

(interrogation, confrontation, recognition) used to obtain the necessary information from the

victim. It also addresses the question of what the relationship between the victim and the

offender may be and who may ultimately be more responsible for the crime that has taken place.

This thesis also outlines the issue of false accusations and the credibility of statements, with

more emphasis on false accusations of sexual offenses. It also addresses the opposite problem,

namely secondary victimisation. It shows what secondary victimisation can consist of, who has

the most power to secondary victimisate, and what prejudices and stereotypes persist in a

professional society and the general public. This thesis also tries to outline how secondary

victimisation could be minimised. It also mentions non-governmental, non-profit institutions

helping victims in the Czech Republic.

Key words: criminalistics, victimology, victim