

Women's Criminality and Criminality against Women

Abstract

The topic of the present rigorous thesis is women's criminality and crime against women, i.e. two different views of women, first as perpetrators of crime and then as victims. Although women represent more than half of the population, the topic of women's criminality is not given as much attention as that of men or other population groups (e.g. juvenile delinquency). Thus, women are perceived as victims of crime rather than as perpetrators of crime. The second part of the thesis is devoted to the topic of women as victims of crime, as this is still a very topical issue at present. The aim of the thesis is to give a picture of both types of crime, to give their specifics, to describe their causes and to focus on possible repressive and especially preventive measures that can be used to suppress or prevent this type of crime. At the same time, the work aims to compare the information found with foreign legislation (Germany), to point out the shortcomings of the current legislation and any current problems, and to outline possible changes or proposals for *de lege ferenda* regulation of the issue.

In the introductory chapter, the thesis first defines the basic criminological concepts used in the following chapters, such as the concept of crime itself, its state, scope and level, including registered and latent crime.

The second chapter of the thesis is devoted to women as perpetrators of crime; the chapter first describes the status, structure and dynamics of women's crime, defines the most frequently committed crimes by women as perpetrators using data from police and judicial statistics, and then discusses the criminal definition of women's crime. Subsequently, the thesis deals with the causes of female criminality, which it explains by means of various criminological theories, and then focuses on the control of crime committed by women, i.e. on repressive and especially preventive measures. At the end of the second chapter, the thesis compares women's crime in the Czech Republic with women's crime in Germany, first briefly outlining the state of women's crime in Germany and then comparing the data with the data and information found on women's crime in the Czech Republic.

The third chapter of the thesis is devoted to women as victims of crime. The introductory part of the chapter first defines the individual terms in the field of victimology, introduces the differences between the terms victim and victimized and further defines the terms victimhood or victimization. The following section discusses the phenomenology of crime against women, including the criminal definition of the offences of which women are most often victims. The chapter also focuses on the interpretation of the concept of domestic violence and its specifics,

gender-based violence and the lesser-known concept of femicide, presenting in particular the situation in other European countries, where the issue of violence against women, including femicide, is currently a very topical and frequently discussed topic. In this context, the thesis does not fail to mention also individual international documents serving the protection of women against violence and domestic violence, where the thesis devotes more space to the so-called Istanbul Convention and introduces its focus. Subsequent subchapters deal with the causes of crime against women and then the thesis deals in more detail with the means of protection against violence against women and domestic violence, presenting specific instruments and measures of the legal system that victims of domestic violence and violence against women can use for their protection. The work also critically analyses the specifics of particular measures (both repressive and preventive) and mentions their benefits and potential pitfalls. It also briefly introduces several organisations operating in the Czech Republic that have been helping victims (not only of domestic violence) for a long time. The final part of the third chapter focuses on a comparison with foreign legislation, in which the author first introduces the reader to the regulation of crime against women in Germany, defines the facts of the most frequently committed crimes against women under German legislation and then discusses statistical data on it, which are then compared with data on female victims of crime in the Czech Republic. The thesis makes extensive use of data drawn from official crime statistics in the Czech Republic and in Germany in recent years, with part of the interpretation also devoted to an assessment of working with this type of data, its availability or its predictive value.