

Abstract

Crime related to substance abuse

This thesis focuses on the issue of crime related to substance abuse and, in particular, on the issue of relationship between property crime recidivism and drug use. Drug use is widely recognised as a known criminogenic factor. The relationship between drug use and crime in general has been the subject of many research studies and scientific papers in the past. Property crime recidivism in relation to drug use is a similarly problematic issue. The successful reduction of recidivism rate is usually considered as evidence of effective criminal justice policy. Alongside this, property crime represents a significant proportion of total crime. Moreover, property crime is characterised by a higher recidivism rate than other types of crime. In practice, there are often visible signs of a possible link between these phenomena. A closer examination of the issue of property crime recidivism in relation to drug use raises many questions. Is there a relationship between these phenomena? And if so, is this relationship reflected enough in the interventions used to reduce recidivism? This thesis therefore analyses each of the sub-issues (drug use, property crime, criminal recidivism) in order to identify the possible relationship between property crime recidivism and drug use. It also presents this relationship in the context of related interventions. In first chapters, this thesis provides a basic understanding of drug abuse and drug addiction. After that, drug use among the Czech prison population and related interventions are presented in more detail. The issue of drug-related crime is then discussed, with a focus on related property crime. The final chapter introduces the reader to the issue of criminal recidivism and selected related interventions. A final synthesis of the findings is presented in order to identify the relationship between property crime recidivism and drug use, while summarising the currently available related interventions and finally presenting some *de lege ferenda* proposals.

Key words:

recidivism, property crime, drug use