

Abstract

This thesis deals with the topic of the latency period from the realization of paraphilic preference to the appearance of the first delinquent behavior. The main goal of the thesis is the qualitative exploration of possible triggers and barriers shaping the latency period in persons with paraphilia in protective sexological treatment. The theoretical part of the thesis introduces the issue of paraphilias, presents selected diagnoses associated with an increased risk of committing a sexual offense, and discusses also the prevalence of paraphilias in the Czech and foreign populations. In addition, the work does not neglect the risk assessment for predicting the recidivism among sexual offenders. The empirical part contains qualitative research carried out through a semi-structured interview with nine patients in protective sexological treatment or security detention. Internal and external triggers and internal and external barriers of delinquent behavior were identified using the method of thematic analysis. The group of external triggers, according to patients' statements, included: a victim in a sexual context, the absence of a relationship, work load, a dysfunctional family background and the influence of addictive substances. Internal triggers included: failing in interpersonal relationships, high sex drive and negative emotional experiences. As external barriers, the patients identified: family relationships, workload, fear of punishment, addictive substances and a healthy relationship. As internal barriers, patients reflected on moral inhibitions and self-control. The conducted qualitative research has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the needs of people with paraphilia and to better target the strengthening of protective dynamic factors for the possible reduction of the risk of delinquency of this population.

Keywords: paraphilias; treatment for sexual offenders; sexual delinquency; latency period; risk assessment