

The questions of personality of offender in Criminology

Summary

In my graduation thesis I have tried to outline the most important points of view of the theory of the personality of the offender in Criminology. I have tried to mention some of the events relating to this subject as well.

Doubtless it is difficult to contribute significantly to enrichment of the theory of the personality of the offender or to broadly accepted characteristics of this topic which plays very important role in the causation and prevention of the criminality. It is virtually almost impossible to provide a comprehensive summary of the criminological conceptions and theories relating to the personality of the offender and this attempt would considerably surpass the framework of this graduation thesis. In my thesis I am focused on a brief summary and well-arranged schema of existing knowledge about personality of offender. Because of huge amount of different doctrines and opinions I have paid interest to, from my point of view, the most important and interesting authors, doctrines and subjects.

For approximately the second half of the thesis is focused on criminality of women and the recidivism of criminality. With regard to the fact that world-wide more than 90% of in-prison population consists of men it is nothing to surprise that the criminologists have not paid heed to the female offenders for a long time. The research of the criminality of women from the seventies of last century up to this day has shown that the difference between criminality of men and women exists not only in relation to the quantity of the criminal behaviour but in relation to its quality as well. This knowledge is mainly today believed to be linked to the doctrines of social roles and the lack of the opportunities. The more serious criminal activity and recidivism of criminal behaviour we can find rather sporadically in a case of women. Despite it the last decades has world-wide shown gradual increase of criminality of women, particularly in the age group 30 – 40. The area of criminality of women is still explored insufficiently. I assume that within the context of increasing rate of women on employment market and their increasing socioeconomic status we will notice subsequent increase of criminality of women in Czech Republic in the future. On that ground I believe that it would be useful to focus on long lasting and methodical research of female offenders more intensively and more deeply henceforth.

On the contrary, the criminology has elaborated very well the questions of recidivism of criminality. Even in this case we can find a lot of diverse attitudes to causations of recidivism of criminality and the likelihood of successful reformation of the personality of habitual offender. In connection with a high share of crimes of habitual offenders in overall criminality it is very often doubted about the educative function of the punishment. Damage caused by the defective process of socialization thus seems at time to be unavoidable. From my point of view the most effective way how to solve these problems is to pay attention to prevention of criminal behaviour. In my opinion the experts should mainly focus on the endangered groups of children, juvenile offenders and family which is considered to be one of the key elements participating in origin of the recidivism of criminality.

The conclusion of the thesis is devoted to individual prediction of criminal behaviour. The aim of this prediction is to determine the individual inclination to criminal behaviour, discover its starting mechanism and thus help to ensure sufficient time interval for providing the effective relief to the individual earlier than this person

commits a crime or to work up the program of individual treatment in case that the crime has already been committed. I find the relevance of individual prediction of criminal behaviour not only in its relation to criminality prevention but also in relation to the offenders of serious crimes. It is also necessary to mention the importance of the prediction within the context of endeavour to reform the personality of habitual offenders because there is, with regard to assuring of effective protection of society, necessity of careful creation of their social prediction before setting these persons free from the execution of a punishment.