

PROBLEM OF CRIME IN OUR SOCIETY

Crime has been around us for many centuries. Every day when we open a newspaper or turn on a TV almost all we read or hear is about criminals and their illegal activity. According to the law, people who commit a crime must be punished, imprisoned or even sentenced to a death penalty. To my mind, without punishment our life in the society would be less secure, although sometimes punishment isn't strict enough.

Crime is increasing in our society. We often ask ourselves „why?“.

There are many reasons for that:

Firstly, the law isn't strict enough for criminals, so many of them aren't afraid of punishment. Criminals spend too little time in prison and they have very good conditions there. In many countries, as in Ukraine, there is no death penalty, but to my point of view it would help us to stop increasing violence and crime in society. It would be a kind of warning for criminals.

Second problem is homeless people. They often commit crimes in order to go to prison because of free food and accommodation, TV and other benefits. I think that our government should pay more attention to this problem and try to help them (give them some dwelling, meals).

Everybody knows that many crimes are committed by teenagers. They often want to have more friends and they decide to commit a crime in order to impress them. Youngsters always try to be independent of parents, get money without work and to be self-sufficient. To a greater extent the TV affects their behaviour. In different movies, e.g. thrillers or crime series they see the world full of crime and brutal sex, without friendship, love and other important feelings. It isn't strange that after watching a film, like „Pulp Fiction“ or „Rambo“, crime may seem funny for teenagers. Also there is some bad behavior in cartoons, for example the protagonist of the film constantly beats and humiliates everyone. The main idea that young people don't understand when watching such films is that main characters don't die there but in real life people do.

Nowadays, our society is divided into classes: wealthy people, middle class, poor. People from poor families or families with the problem of alcoholism or drugs, need money and may attack wealthy people (or middle class) in order to get their money. They usually hate them, because they also would like to live in beautiful villas and have expensive cars. It may be the third cause of crime.

Sects and football fans are also very dangerous. Adults often don't have enough time for their children and teenagers feel themselves unnecessary and abandoned so they join these groups. Later, they can commit serious crimes with their new „friends“.

The next problem is robbery, shoplifting, pick pocketing. We can meet robbers everywhere: on the street, at school, in shops, in the park. Robbers, for granted, want to seize your money and, of course, by refusing their offer you risk to meet the next morning in the hospital room.

Another reason of crime is illegal weapon turnover and illegal possession of firearms. Criminals can freely buy any weapon on „black market“. If criminals have guns, they feel safe and use weapon against innocent and defenseless people.

The next profound problem is alcohol and drugs which have a great impact on crime in our society. Often junkies in order to obtain money for drugs can attack people. The percentage of crimes committed by intoxicated people is overwhelming.

Cesar Lombroso who was a famous scientist and criminologist put forward the theory of an innate offender. He postulated that criminals represented a reversion to a primitive or subhuman type of person characterized by physical features reminiscent of apes, lower primates, and early humans and to some extent preserved, he said, in modern "savages". Lombroso's theory of anthropological criminology essentially stated that criminality was inherited, and that some "born criminals" could be identified by physical defects.

Through years of postmortem examinations and anthropometric studies of criminals, insane people and normal individuals, Lombroso became convinced that the "born criminal" could be anatomically identified by such items as a sloping forehead, ears of unusual size, asymmetry of the face, prognathism, excessive length of arms, asymmetry of the cranium, and other "physical stigmata". Specific criminals, such as thieves, rapists, and murderers, could be distinguished by specific characteristics. Lombroso also maintained that criminals had less sensibility to pain and touch; more acute sight; a lack of moral sense, including an absence of remorse; more vanity and impulsiveness, vindictiveness, cruelty; and other manifestations, such as a special criminal argot and the excessive use of tattooing.

Besides the "born criminal", Lombroso also described "criminaloids", or occasional criminals, criminals by passion, moral imbeciles, and criminal epileptics. He recognized the diminished role of organic factors in many habitual offenders and referred to the delicate balance between predisposing factors (organic, genetic) and precipitating factors such as one's environment, opportunity, or poverty.

To sum up, I should say that crime prevention in our society is an extremely difficult and complicated task because we should change our social and moral principles in general. We should devote more time to our family, we ought to help and co-operate with each other, give money to the poor, pay attention to people who ask for help. This is an easy way to live better and safer.

Список використаних джерел

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