

PROSTITUTION AS ONE OF THE SOCIO-PATHOLOGICAL PHENOMENA

PROSTITÚCIA AKO JEDEN ZO SOCIÁLNO-PATOLOGICKÝCH JAVOV

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Abstract: The contribution points to socio-pathological phenomena as unhealthy, deviant, general, undesirable social phenomena. It points out selected serious socio-pathological phenomena such as drug addiction, crime, prostitution and other addictions. It stresses the frequent link between drug use and prostitution.

Key words: Socio-pathological phenomena. Undesirable social phenomena. Drug addiction. Prostitution. Crime.

Abstrakt: Príspevok poukazuje na sociálno-patologické javy ako nezdravé, deviantné, všeobecné, nežiaduce spoločenské javy. Poukazuje na vybrané závažné sociálno-patologické javy ako je drogová závislosť, kriminalita, prostitúcia a iné závislosti. Zdôrazňuje časté prepojenie používania drog s prostitúciou.

Kľúčové slová: Sociálno-patologické javy. Nežiaduce spoločenské javy. Drogová závislosť. Prostitúcia. Kriminalita.

Every person, whether they want to or not, is faced with a number of ethical questions and problems in their daily lives. The world is interconnected, globalized economically, politically, in the field of science, research, informatics... We are increasingly talking about social pathology in the world, but also in our country. There is a serious ethical imperative: not everything, what a person can do and knows, is allowed to do. On the other hand, liberal values

are more intensively promoted - freedom and individual autonomy, or the right of every person to choose his/her own way of life...

Social pathology deals with deviant, unhealthy, abnormal, generally undesirable social phenomena. *“The subject of social pathology in social work as a helping profession is an individual, group, family or community who shows deviant, abnormal, unhealthy and unwanted social behaviour, but also individuals, family, group, community and society whose life, dignity or integrity are the consequences of such behaviour.”* (Mátel, 2011, p. 242).

Socio-pathological phenomena are one of the most serious problems of the current social development, they are closely related to the state of society and react sensitively to social changes and their consequences. Socio-pathological phenomena in our culture include: drug addiction, crime, alcoholism, prostitution, gambling and other addictions.

The most serious socio-pathological phenomenon is crime – i.e. the crime that represents the most serious violation of social standards from a particular society perspective and to which society responds by a specific system of sanctioning standards as expressed in the Criminal Code.

The term “criminality” has its root in the Latin noun *crimen*, which has several meanings: accusation, indictment, cause, pretext, error, misdemeanour, offense, felony. Fischer, Škoda (2009) define crime as the occurrence of criminal behaviour in a given society and which is punishable. This is the sum of crimes that have occurred and are committed in a particular society, committed intentionally or negligently, criminally responsible individuals in the same place and for a certain period.

Over time, crime is constantly changing. A distinction is made between overt act, which is registered by the state and covert act - latent, which the police, the prosecutor's office and the courts are not aware of for various reasons. Crime rate is a socially conditioned phenomenon and its causes lie in the contradictions and shortcomings of each society, as well as in the personal characteristics of the perpetrators. New phenomena in crime rate and the world include terrorism, organized crime, the increase in drug-related crime, the economic crime of multinational organizations using or damaging computers, the destruction of the environment, vandalism, etc.

Novotný, Zapletal (2008) divide crime rate into:

Violent crime which in every society is associated with violence and terms such as aggression and aggressiveness. Aggressiveness is manifested by a certain amount of energy and certain modes of expression. Aggressiveness is more or less attenuated or promoted. Aggression also becomes a component of various activities. Violent crime is one of the most serious crimes.

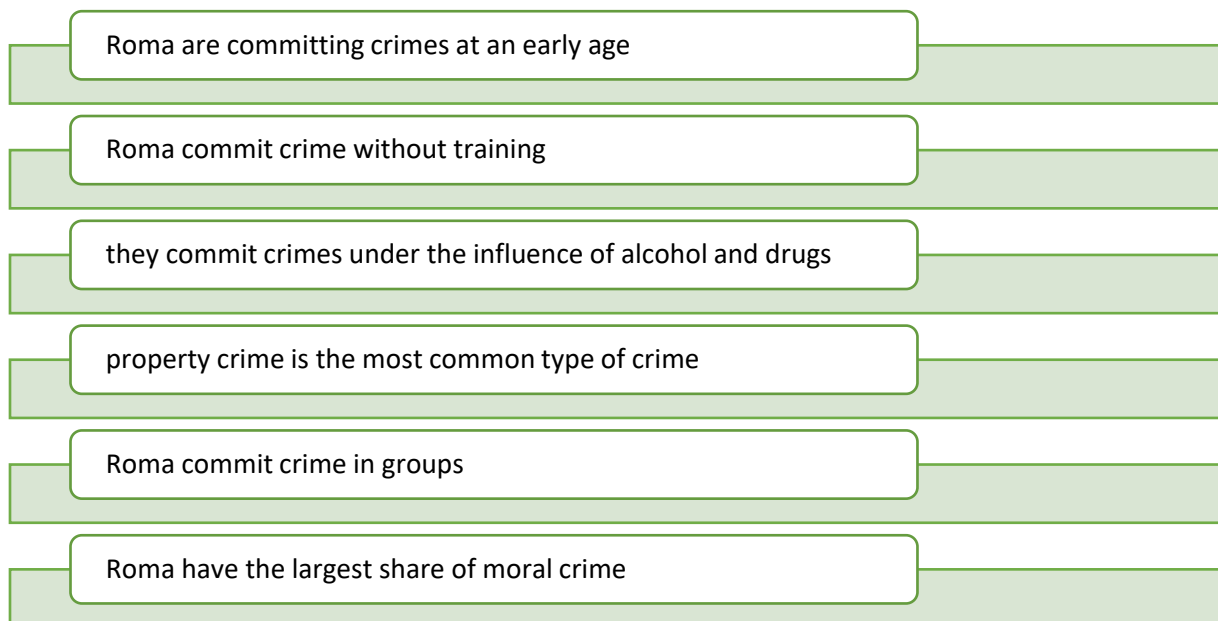
Violent crime includes extortion, brutal coercion, enforcement, robbery, damage on health, fires and explosions, as well as the crime of dissemination of an alarm message.

Moral crime is a special type of crime in which human dignity is a specific generic object. Moral crimes include offenses of rape, sexual abuse, and sexual violence as well as the crime of pimping.

Property crime is the crime with the highest number of crimes committed. It is typical of property crime to attack the property of someone else.

Organized crime is a specific type of crime that is increasingly intense and transnational in the current globalization. The aim is to generate large profits from illegal activities and to try to penetrate all social, economic and political circles. Organized crime is a systematic and planned crime committed by a hierarchically structured group of persons among whom there is a division of activity.

In our society, the issue discussed is the committing the crime by Roma minorities, where statistics show that Roma minority commit crime more frequently comparing to other minorities. The crime of the Roma minority is characterized by several features:



Source: HRONCOVÁ, J. 2004. *Sociálna patológia*.

Like crime, drug addiction is a societal problem and affects people regardless of age, gender, nationality or social stratification. The close connection between crime and drug addiction is a well-known fact. "The concept of drug crime differs from the general concept of crime in that it is mainly linked to the illicit manufacture and possession of narcotic and

psychotropic substances, poisons, precursors and the spread of toxicomania." (Prikryl, 2006, p. 80).

Drug addiction is both a mental and a physical state characterized by behavioural changes that always involve the urge to use the substance permanently or regularly for its psychological effects. Another sign of drug addiction is the tendency to increase the dose and psychological and physical dependence on the substance with substance withdrawal syndrome after discontinuation.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), it is primarily the desire for a drug that consists of four characteristics:

insurmountable craving or the need to continue drug use and to get it in any way

tendency to increase consumption doses

psychic and general physical dependence on the effects that the drug can produce

devastating effect on the individual and society

Source: World Health Organization (WHO)

Physical (somatic) addiction -stands when the organism adapts to the use of drugso that the drug is incorporated into the metabolic chain of the organism. The organism requires its administrationas a norm and the non-use of the drug causes a severe reaction (withdrawal syndrome).

Psychic addiction - the drug satisfies a certain psychological need of a person, e.g.: it gives him joy, pleasure, calmness. Psychic addiction usually precedes physical addiction.

Social addiction - the need for drug use does not result from physical addiction or from the subjective need to use the drug, but use is part of a ritual of a particular social group. However, it can be understood as a psychological addiction in which pleasant feelings are mediated indirectly through the strengthening of social ties in the community and not directly by the drug.

“Addiction is a complex disorder- how a person becomes addicted is probably as difficult as the brain itself. Despite research to date, not all aspects of addiction syndrome are clear enough - for example, the areas of craving and loss of control. There is no linear

relationship between the amount of substance used and the intensity of addiction, there is no clear relationship between the nature of use and the onset of addiction, nor is there a firm relationship between experimentation and addiction”(Nábělek, 2007).

We usually set aside three levels of prevention:

Primary prevention is aimed at protecting an individual from contact with the drug and provide sufficient information about the consequences of possible drug addiction.

Secondary prevention of drug addiction deals with the identification of individuals - drug users who are still in the early stages of addiction and the elimination of addiction through medical and psychotherapeutic procedures. The purpose of secondary prevention is to return the individual to its original state and to control it systematically due to the risk of repeated failure.

Tertiary prevention is the care to prevent recurrence of drug addictions. The role of tertiary prevention is to cure drug addiction and compensate its negative consequences through special therapeutic procedures and rehabilitation. Comprehensive medical, counselling, psychological, legal and social assistance is provided to addicted or cured individuals.

We have noticed two drug trends in the world. One trend is the constant fight against drugs, enlightenment to discourage people from using them. The second trend is the efforts to legalize the so-called “soft drugs” (e.g. marijuana), as there are claims about their therapeutic effect and the alleviation of symptoms in certain diseases. Mass media are also important opinion-makers in this area.

At present, prostitution, as one of the socio-pathological phenomena, is closely linked to the drug problem. The word prostitution comes from the Latin word prostituere, which means offering oneself, exposing yourself publicly. The definition of prostitution is that it is “a specific type of business whose means is the provision of sexual services for remuneration. (Urban, 2008 p. 53) It also has two forms, namely public, legal, which is mostly organized in erotic and massage parlours. The second is non-public, hidden, and most often illegal. (Hroncová, 2004, p. 143). It provides women with quick and easy earnings and for men it is an oasis of freedom where they can satisfy their sexual needs without permanent commitment (Chmelík, 2003). It is important to realize that such trade can also have many negative consequences, such as disruption of a functioning marriage and family relationships, a threat to public morality, as well as STD transmission, the most serious of which is HIV / AIDS at present.

Chmelík (2003) divides prostitution into five basic forms according to the environment where it is performed:

Private prostitution - they are prostitutes with their own permanent clientele, it is performed by men and women who can and are able to accompany their client in his social duties and also in public.

Hotel prostitution - is similar to private prostitution, but the clientele is not stable, it consists of foreigners and people with good behaviour and performance, where at this type prostitution, taxi drivers and hotel staff benefit as well.

Housing prostitution - this form of prostitution is performed by prostitutes in their own flats where the husband or father of a prostitute is a pimp.

Bar prostitution - prostitution, which is carried out in erotic establishments and sex bars in which prostitutes are usually foreigners, often forced, this prostitution is associated with trafficking in women, extortion, rape, and luring women to prostitution by fraud.

Street, highway and road prostitution - this is a problematic form of prostitution in which the age category of prostitutes is usually low, low level of education, mostly people with mental retardation, and addicted to drugs. Especially in this form of prostitution there is a very high risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases. This prostitution is characterized by anonymous, fast and cheapest sex of all kinds. (Chmelík, 2003).

In our society, alcohol is the most well-known addictive substance. It is of natural origin, belongs to legal drugs and is highly accepted by the public. Alcohol at public events is heavily incorporated in various social rituals in which the mood after alcohol is cheerful, sometimes aggressive and sometimes depressing. "Alcoholism is a worsening problem for the younger generation, even though it is explicitly forbidden to sell and offer it to young people" (Prikryl, 2006, p. 83). Alcoholism is understood as a regular and excessive consumption of alcoholic beverages and is one of the most widespread toxicomania in the world. Regularity and excessive drinking is a major risk of developing addictive behaviour as a kind of social pathology with harmful effects not only on the drinking individual but also on the family and society.

In terms of long-term alcohol use, alcohol can cause mental and physical conditions in the body. Pathological gambling is also characterized as a pathological disorder. In addition to various types of betting, draws and casinos, it is mainly gaming machines, whether entertaining or winning, that can cause addiction.

In the prevention of pathological gambling we can talk about several levels, whether at the level of family, school, society - reducing accessibility, gambling offers. Prevention at the level of the individual is best – to find a valuable and meaningful sense of life. Prevention in mass media, based on true information, no gambling promotion and advertising, plays an important role.

Social counselling plays an important role in social pathological phenomena. An important role is also played by the media which point to many ethical problems as well as ways of solving them.

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