

THE PROBLEM OF JUVENILE CRIME IN UKRAINE AND MEASURES FOR ITS PREVENTION

Bohatyrov I. H., Yarmysh O. N., Dębiński Antoni

INTRODUCTION

Juvenile crime is deviance of a minor from socially established norms and rules. Unfortunately, that kind of crime is the most negative part of the deviant behavior of minors, so domestic and foreign scholars have a long-held belief that one of the most important problems of the research of criminology is juvenile crime.

Covering the problem of juvenile crime in Ukraine, the author follows the fact that its scientific-theoretical analysis should be considered as a part of the overall crime in society because it evolves under the effects of the same factors that the crime in general. For this very reason, it is impossible to build a good democratic society without paying due attention to minors.

Moreover, juvenile crime is an indicator of sustainable development of transitive society and rather mass social phenomenon which takes place in all countries, and therewith it always gains the attention of society. Unfortunately, our country is no exception. Thefts, fights, carjacking, the consumption of alcoholic beverages and drugs (dealing), acts of cruelty, violence and even rapes and murders have become the lifestyle for many minors. But most importantly, juvenile offenders annually fall into the ranks of adult crime¹.

Hence, it is essential to support the standpoint of domestic scholars that juvenile crime is one of the urgent criminological problems which reflects the main crime trends in the country. It is an indicator of the moral health of society and allows predicting general prospects and possible directions for the development of crime manifestations for the future.

Studying causal chain which clarifies criminal behavior of minors and is a quite complicated and multifarious one, it is possible to

¹ Богатирьов І. Г. Кримінологія : підручник / за заг. ред.. І. Г. Богатирьова, В. В. Топчія. Київ : ВД. Дакор, 2018. С. 132.

understand it only by using knowledge in a range of sciences – philosophy, psychology, law etc. It is worth highlighting three main links in the causal chain, which causes unlawful acts of minors.

The first covers that which precedes the criminal activity of a minor, that is, the period of formation of the criminal personality and interaction with a specific life situation.

The second unitei cause and effect, there is the criminal personality with his will and consciousness.

The third (consequence) includes the origin of a causal link from an act of illegal behavior to the occurrence of a criminal result. Most authors, who have dealt with the issue concerned, also agree with such a standpoint.

Thus, when studying juvenile delinquency in Ukraine, it is important to take into account that this phenomenon is part of overall crime and evolves under the influence of the same processes and factors as a crime in general.

The purpose of the article is to update and clarify the problem of juvenile delinquency in Ukraine as well as to identify the determinants of this negative phenomenon to develop relevant prevention measures.

Considering the problem of juvenile delinquency in Ukraine, the author could not ignore its methodological tools as a specific cognitive discourse of the problem by using research methods. Such an approach is substantiated by the correlation of methodological and theoretical approaches of the science of criminology to the study of the problem of juvenile crime in Ukraine.

In this context, it is worth supporting the idea of a Ukrainian scholar H. Yu. Lukianova, the methodological provision of science, the accuracy of research methods assists researchers to find new ways of learning the processes and phenomena which are studied, their adequate reflection in the system of scientific knowledge. None branch of science can exist or advance without a methodological framework².

At the same time, the idea of the domestic scholar criminologist O. H. Kulyk is interesting in the context of the article. He argues that the use of complex methods is expedient only in cases when the

² Лук'янова Г. Ю. Методологічні основи дослідження права у сучасній юридичній науці. *Науковий вісник Львівського державного університету внутрішніх справ. Серія юридична*. 2011. № 4. С. 33.

establishment of certain trends and patterns of crime is impossible by other means³. The author believes that the studying of the problem of juvenile crime in Ukraine is that kind of complicated process which is necessary for research method of this legal phenomenon.

Thus, methodological set of tools of the focus of the paper is to study the system of scientifically-based general and special methods of scientific cognition to obtain reliable data on the results of juvenile delinquency in Ukraine and to improve the practice of its prevention.

1. Criminalization of juvenile delinquency

Taking into consideration the fact that crime in Ukraine is the most negative part of the deviant behavior of minors, domestic criminologists concur that juvenile crime is one of the most important problems in the science of criminology.

L.M. Dubchak states that it is quite predictable as the young generation is a natural reserve for social development. Breach of the criminal law by young people is the basis for predicting the advance of recidivism⁴.

Moreover, the age of juvenile offenders in Ukraine has become younger every year. It is no secret that the level of these offenses entirely depends on the norms of social development of the society as a whole, its culture, the upbringing of children inside the family, at school: the lower the level, the higher the percentage of juvenile delinquency and the social consequences of their actions.

It's unfortunate but juvenile crime also engages females. Sometimes, girls outperform boys by their actions. At the same time, criminologists are convinced that the vast majority of offenders are male minors.

H.V. Didkivska writes that adequately reacting on the social processes which take place in the society, juvenile crime "aimed at a certain result – to cause socially dangerous harm to the social environment". According to the above scholar, juvenile delinquency is a negative social phenomenon having a self-regulating set of interconnected elements, quickly responds to changes in society as a type of crime the

³ Кулик О. Кримінологічний аналіз злочинності в Україні: напрями вдосконалення методології та методик. *Право України*. 2009. № 7. С. 53.

⁴ Дубчак Л. Злочинність неповнолітніх як віддзеркалення недоліків шкільного та вузівського виховання. *Підприємництво, господарство і право*. 2006. № 7. С. 46.

specifics of which is conditioned by probabilistic observation resulting from the study of crimes and offenders aged 14–17 years⁵.

Domestic scholar V.A. Mozhova considers juvenile crime as a relatively mass social phenomenon which is expressed in the statistical aggregate of facts of unlawful (criminally forbidden) behavior of crime perpetrators aged between 14 and 18 in a certain territory for the relevant period⁶.

At the same time, among the main causes of juvenile delinquency, the authors of the monographic research “Criminological Problems of Prevention of Juvenile Crime in a Big City” mark as follows: inadequate attention to the problems of minors on the part of the state and the public; the impact of internal and external social conditions on the commission of various offenses by minors; unfavorable situation in the family and its negative impact, etc.⁷

The last cause is worth noticing because that the general and specific reasons do not coincide as the criminality itself is not an ordinary set of crimes, and therefore the causes of criminality cannot be considered as an arithmetic supplement to the causes of individual crimes.

General causes of a negative influence of family create the ground for individual criminal behaviour, conditions for the distorting of moral education of groups and persons who have committed a specific offence. This process is considered through the prism of their identification as determinative, social causes of crime. All depends on the specific living conditions where a particular person is, that is, on a lifestyle, a microenvironment, a relevant life situation.

Analyzing the causes of the negative impact of the family on juvenile delinquency, some scholars mention ones which are connected with the negative conditions of moral formation of the personality in the family. In particular, they are as follows: a poisonous situation in some families; alcoholism of parents who sometimes accustom their children to alcohol; quarrels and scandals; the influence of parents and other

⁵ Дідківська Г. В. Сімейне неблагополуччя в системі детермінантів злочинності неповнолітніх в Україні : монографія. Вінниця : Нілан ЛТД, 2017. С. 24.

⁶ Мозгова В. А. Поняття та особливості злочинності неповнолітніх. *Юридичний вісник*. 2014. № 2 (31). С.143.

⁷ Кримінологічні проблеми попередження злочинності неповнолітніх у великому місті: досвід конкретного соціологічного дослідження : монографія / В. В. Голіна, В. П. Ємельянов, В. Д. Воднік та ін. ; за заг. ред. професорів В. В. Голіни та В. П. Ємельянова. Харків : Право, 2006. С. 59–61.

relatives on family relationships, and all of these things create the conditions for violence.

Some of these effects may be caused by the impact of genetic factors and some – by education system within the family. Thus, the negative influence of the family on juvenile crime is triggered by:

1) family ill-being, negligence of parental duties towards the natural needs of children (nutrition, clothing, housing, training, recreation, treatment);

2) physical abuse (causing bodily harm, mental humiliation, compulsion to commit forced labor);

3) sexual abuse (rape, involvement in prostitution, etc.);

4) unresolved social and economic problems (insecurity of the future, the difficult financial situation of the family, consumption of alcohol and drugs by family members, begging and homelessness of children, lack of family values, inability to protect own rights and freedoms);

5) high level of isolation of private houses and separate apartments that leads to the formation of the stereotype among the population “it’s neither my headache nor my piece of cake”.

6) low level of public confidence in law enforcement bodies, and in particular, in the police.

It seems the criminalization of juvenile crime is also affected by:

1) age and gender discrepancies between spouses;

2) poor living conditions and a significant difference in social roles and statuses;

3) disruption of normal family structure and housekeeping;

4) mental and physical health;

5) shortcomings of psychosocial communication of spouses, including the distinction between value orientations, levels of emotionality;

6) regular conflicts in the family etc.

Particular attention should be paid to the sixth factor of criminalization of juvenile delinquency – regular conflicts in the family. The author believes the factor has a pivotal role in the genesis of family violence. Therefore, criminogenic conflict of domestic violence should be considered as a consequence of family contradictions, which are contrary to socially established standards of cohabitation, the standard of

a mode of life of the majority of law-abiding citizens and the requirements of law and order.

In general, family conflicts are primarily reduced to increasing divorce rates, lowering birth rates, and a growing number of unhappy marriages. Moreover, they lead to an increase in juvenile delinquency and crime. Such families do not fulfill their main function – the upbringing of children.

Given the above, an unhealthy family atmosphere can provoke aggressive behavior and contribute to domestic crime, but the family may play a re-socializing role if its members have not lost empathy.

Many researchers believe that prevention of juvenile delinquency requires comprehensive and multidisciplinary activities and strategies whose participants and subjects are not only government agencies and law enforcement bodies but also non-governmental organizations, the private sector, volunteers etc. Strengthening and improving the institution of the family in the country is also directly related to the decrease in the level of domestic violence.

Given the State of Judicial Administration of Ukraine (SJA), juvenile crime over last three years shows the urgent need to organize and join efforts of society and the state to prevent such a crime due to its growth.

In particular, in 2016, 6 041 criminal proceedings against 7 438 minors were under consideration of the courts of original jurisdiction. In 2016, the courts of general jurisdiction concluded the trial of 4 240 criminal proceedings of that number of cases, including:

1) 3 099 proceedings with the pronouncement of judgment (255 were based on the conciliation agreement, and 59 were the plea of guilty);

2) termination of proceedings – 535 against 574 minors;

3) 140 indictments against 190 minors were sent back to a prosecutor;

4) 12 criminal proceedings demanding involuntary treatment were against 13 minors. Thus, at the end of 2016, the number of pending juvenile criminal proceedings was 1 801.

Over 2017, the number of criminal proceedings against minors increased by 6.1%. In 2017, the courts of general jurisdiction concluded the trial of 4 240 criminal proceedings of that number of cases, including:

1) 2 854 proceedings with the pronouncement of judgment (237 were based on the conciliation agreement, and 89 were the plea of guilty);

2) termination of proceedings in juvenile case – 545;

3) 90 indictments against 128 minors were sent back to a prosecutor;

4) 15 criminal proceedings demanding involuntary treatment were against 16 minors. Thus, at the end of 2017, the number of pending juvenile criminal proceedings was 2 536.

In 2018, the number of criminal proceedings against minors increased by 6.8%. The courts of general jurisdiction concluded the trial of 4 640 criminal proceedings in 2018, including:

1) 2 654 proceedings with the pronouncement of judgment (247 were based on the conciliation agreement, and 94 were the plea of guilty);

2) termination of proceedings in juvenile case – 515;

3) 80 indictments against 138 minors were sent back to a prosecutor;

4) 18 criminal proceedings demanding involuntary treatment were against 20 minors. Thus, at the end of 2018, the number of pending juvenile criminal proceedings was 2 728.

The foregoing statistics of the increase of annual pending criminal proceedings involving minors is mainly caused by the lack of judicial staff and the increase of criminal proceedings in their workload. It requires the creation of a post of the juvenile judge under the local courts that will allow other judges to relieve and to conduct proceedings on juvenile delinquency professionally.

In domestic criminology, the following scholars pay attention to the study of juvenile crime and application of effective preventive measures: I.K. Andriiv, Yu.A. Ambrosimova, A. M. Babenko, V.M. Burdin, K. S. Varyvoda, V.O. Hlushkov, V.V. Holina, V.K. Hryshchuk, L.M. Davydenko, H.V. Didkivska, I.M. Danshyn, O.M. Dzhuzha, V.P. Yemelianov, A.P. Zakaliuk, O.M. Kostenko, V.I. Lanovenko, O.M. Lytvak, I.V. Odnolko, V. A. Mozghova, M.I. Panov, O.M. Podilnyk, O.S. Steblynska, I.K. Turkevych, A. P. Tuzov, N.S. Yuzikova, S.S. Yatsenko et al.

According to domestic scholar N.S. Iuzikova, research studies of the problems of juvenile delinquency as well as the conceptual

approaches to the formation of policy on juvenile crime have not yet been analyzed comprehensively.

As the above-named scholar states, despite the numerous research papers devoted to the problems of juvenile delinquency and measures for its prevention, nowadays, no comprehensive studies are covering the problem of the interconnection of socializing functions of the social institutions and juvenile crime at the multidisciplinary level. Juvenile crime is characterized by certain innovations compared to one of the Soviet period. The crimes are committed with extreme cruelty and cynicism; their organised nature and autonomy, arms and resources provisions are growing⁸.

Furthermore, it should be noted that juvenile crimes are due to their idleness, lack of entertainment and clear motivation for the future. Absence of parental supervision is a distinguishing feature of the modern juvenile offender.

According to the data of the school of sciences “Intellect”, juvenile offenders are mainly represented by those who at the time of crime commitment neither worked nor studied – they just dawdled, consumed alcohol, tobacco, drugs. Moreover, in trying to become popular, they openly adhere to values that are condemned by the staff of the correctional facility.

Moreover, one -third of the convicted juveniles serving their sentences in correctional colonies committed crimes together with adults, mostly under their direct supervision. Usually, these adults already had a criminal record and deliberately involved young people in illegal activities⁹.

Besides, juvenile delinquency, as defined by most criminologists, has a predominantly group nature. As a rule, greed, revenge, jealousy and hooliganism act as triggers of juvenile crime.

O.S. Steblynska in her research marks that socially dangerous consequences of juvenile crimes committed in a state of intoxication require not only the application of socio-economic, medical, legal and other measures of influence but also the implementation of scientific and

⁸ Юзікова Н. С. Проблема кримінально-правового захисту інтересів неповнолітніх : монографія. Дніпропетровськ : Вид-во Дніпропетровського ун-ту, 1999. С. 3.

⁹ Матеріали узагальнення наукових здобутків школи «Інтелект» / укладачі: І. Г. Богатирьов, А. І. Богатирьов, М. С. Пузирьов. Київ, 2017. С. 11.

theoretical study of the condition, the determinants of the spread and the search for effective methods of preventing this dangerous socially-legal phenomenon¹⁰.

According to criminological indicators, juvenile delinquency should be gradually reduced or kept at the same level over the coming years in the structure of crime in Ukraine as a whole. All will depend on significant demographic changes, improvements in the economic and family and domestic spheres, the development of a democratic state of law in the framework of lawmaking and law enforcement activities on the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Besides, among all regions of Ukraine, domestic criminologists O. M. Lytvak and I. V. Odnolko mark the largest number of juvenile drug crimes in Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Donetsk, Kharkiv and Kyiv regions¹¹.

2. The causes and conditions of juvenile crime

In the process of studying the causes and conditions of juvenile crime, it is obligatory to consider them together as they cannot be examined separately from one another. However, according to the research, causes and conditions of juvenile crime depend on criminogenic motivation, the socially negative needs of the minor, the desire to solve problems as an adult at the level of own interests, which are manifested when committing a crime.

Therefore, the causes and conditions of juvenile delinquency can be considered as general, in-depth, stable relationships and trends that determine the nature of a particular crime, the contradictions forming it. Among the main causes and conditions of juvenile delinquency are as follows:

1) **family sphere.** The author supports the standpoint of O. M. Dzhuzha that the negative influence of the surrounding environment, in particular family plays a decisive role for a juvenile

¹⁰ Стеблинська О. С. Запобігання злочинам, які вчиняються неповнолітніми в стані сп'яніння: монографія. Івано-Франківськ, Надвірна: ЗАТ «Надвірянська друкарня» 2011. 280 с.

¹¹ Литвак О. М., Однолько І. В. Запобігання наркозлочинності неповнолітніх в Україні кримінально-правовими засобами : монографія. Днепропетровськ : ДДУВС, 2012. С. 123.

offender¹². It is a bad influence on the part of parents or other family members that shape a personality through behavior and actions. Difficult financial terms can be a motivation for committing a crime at a young age.

In such families, as the domestic scholar I.K. Andriiv states, there is a mood of hopelessness, social envy and resentment due to a difficult financial situation. Without social support, these circumstances trigger crimes – theft, hooliganism etc.; – negative impact of the immediate environment – domestic, educational, production, both peers and adults – incitement of adult offenders; quite often such situation is connected with the previous involvement in drunkenness, gambling games, other forms of criminal antisocial behavior in combination with propaganda of “advantages” of criminal life¹³.

In the literature on criminology devoted to juvenile delinquency, the record shows that most of the perpetrators of violent crimes were subjected to humiliation and punishment in childhood as well suffered from cruelty and violation of adults;

2) **social sphere**. Homelessness and child neglect often force children to commit petty offences as in such a way they try to get their attention or take revenge on the outside world. There is an unfavorable situation in secondary general institutions. If the school administration does not provide adequate control and educational measures, the risk of juvenile delinquency is significantly increasing.

In this regard, we draw attention to the research of domestic scholar O.M. Podilnyk who believes that sometimes juvenile offenders have an inherent sense of shame, however, in a weakened form, that often makes them unrestrained and violent that complicates their condition even more. Who is guilty? No doubt, adults are, as they have been unable to give due attention to their children and help them in a black moment. It is possible to minimize the phenomena of juvenile crime by joint efforts and intelligent approach.

However, as the abovementioned scholar marks, minors have a natural striving for self-assertion, the desire to be a leader in a group combined with limited capabilities can be manifested in a particular

¹² Профілактика злочинів : підруч. / О. М. Джужа, В. В. Василевич, О. Ф. Гіда та ін. ; заг. ред. О. М. Джужи. К. : Атіка, 2011. С. 56.

¹³ Андріїв І. К. Причини злочинності неповнолітніх у світлі кримінологічних теорій. *Вісник Львівського ун-ту. Серія юридична*. 2002. Вип. 37. С. 471.

crime specifically. Thus, during the offences against a person, there is senseless cruelty, infliction of numerous injuries on the victim¹⁴.

Particular attention should also be paid to the impact of the Internet on juvenile delinquency. K. S. Varyvoda believes that modern development of technologies influenced on the fact that most minors nowadays prefer computer games and the Internet but not walking outside. The all-encompassing popularity of social networks among young people often causes various unpleasant and difficult situations in the context of the insufficiently formed psyche and consciousness, when there is no full comprehension of the difference between good and evil.

According to the above scholar, modern minors live in the information society where any media product is a kind of advertisement of lifestyle and certain values that influence the outcome of their choices. Teen psyche is often not mature for an information blow-up and becomes quite vulnerable without adequate protection¹⁵.

It also worth turning attention to the viewpoint of the domestic criminologist A. M. Babenko who states the system of prevention of juvenile delinquency has to take into account particular regional peculiarities and include the following components:

- a) assessment of the criminogenic situation of the region based on the comparison with socio-economic indicators of a particular region;
- b) comparison with national indicators and crime trends;
- c) analysis of the effectiveness of crime prevention in the region;
- d) identification and elimination of criminogenic factors that cause juvenile delinquency in a particular region;
- e) taking into account the positive experience of combating juvenile delinquency in other regions and countries of the world;
- f) development of regional programs for the prevention of juvenile delinquency and combating neglect among minors;
- g) harmonization of regional programs for the prevention of juvenile delinquency and combating neglect with integrated programs of socio-economic development of the region¹⁶.

¹⁴ Подільник О. М. Особливості злочинності неповнолітніх жінок. *Питання боротьби зі злочинністю* : зб. наук. праць. Х., 2004. Вип. 8. С. 124.

¹⁵ Варивода К. С. Інформаційна безпека підлітків в Інтернет-мережі. 2016. № 3. С. 365.

¹⁶ Бабенко А. М. Запобігання злочинності в регіонах України: концептуально-методологічний та праксеологічний вимір : монографія. Одеса : ОДУВС, 2014. С. 243.

3) criminal sphere. According to domestic criminologists, a serious challenge in the prevention of juvenile delinquency is the negative impact on minors by the organized crime groups. A situation where minors are actively involved in committing subordinate or direct criminal acts becomes more popular.

The entertainment network for minors created with the direct participation of the organized crime contributes to their drag into the consumption of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors, alcohol and equally dangerous ideology of rejection of established social norms that is expressed in minors' unwillingness to study and work.

As a rule, juvenile offenders take well so-called criminal romanticism and consider it as the manifestations of courage, bravery, "masculine strength". It is general practice they don't think about harmful, sometimes tragic side of criminal acts, and therefore they do not have it on their mind and cool on the victims.

The majority of juvenile offenders show, verbally and by virtue of activity, high self-esteem, low level of understanding of responsibility for their actions, lack of shyness, sympathy for other people.

According to domestic criminologist V.M. Burdin, it is introduced values and behaviour models, which are approved or not approved by the society, through the video culture, and mutual influence of institutions of video culture and dominant values of youth environment is carried out¹⁷.

In the context of prevention of juvenile delinquency, the author shares the idea of Yu. A. Ambrosimova who marks that such prevention will be more effective and efficient when it is addressed, oriented on specific individuals, conditions and activity. For this very reason, improvement of the effectiveness of the activity on prevention of juvenile delinquency is closely related to the regional characteristics, cause factors and complex social impacts that can be identified and taken into account at the regional level and which can be subject to preventive measures¹⁸.

Highway route map for the prevention of juvenile crime envisages:

¹⁷ Бурдін В. Особливості кримінальної відповідальності неповнолітніх в Україні. К. : Атіка, 2004. С. 89–90.

¹⁸ Абросімова Ю. А. Злочинність неповнолітніх та запобігання їй на регіональному рівні : автореф. Дніпро. 2009. С. 19.

– creation in Ukraine of powerful information and analytical support for the prevention of juvenile crime, that is, based on legal, organizational, technical and methodological fundamentals – purposeful activity on gathering, processing, storage, use of information necessary for the effective functioning of the system for the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

As a result of such activity, it is obtained information on the status, dynamics and structure of crimes committed minors, the impact on that kind of crime of the socio-economic status of the state, the activities of the subjects of its prevention;

– *normalization of living conditions and education of minors, improvement of social environment.* Unfortunately, the lack of state-run programs for support of minors shows that the state has delegated the function of children upbringing only to family. Moreover, domestic legislation on children's rights is still incomplete taking into account that there are significant reserves for further legal actions on minors.

It is a case of the inconsistency of state policy in carrying out its international obligations to provide children with the standard of living that is necessary for their physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development, protection against abuse and “careless” attitude. It is high time for the adoption of a unified law on children's rights.

It seems the family, unfortunately, is not able to get through the problem of proper, law-abiding education of the child independently. Moreover, if a family experiences violence, children can automatically adopt it as a means for resolving conflicts or getting a wish.

Primarily, they transfer these skills to the external environment in kindergarten and school, then to friends and close relationships and, consequently, to their families and children. At the same time, children recognize that pressure and aggression lead to the desired result and don't look for other ways for communication with people;

– *cooperation of police officers with the authorities and academic staff of education institutions to conduct preventive conversations, lectures not only for school children and students but also for teachers;*

The very school is a universal mass social institute of positive socialization of minors under the condition of its normal functioning. A school is a place where one can implement educational and preventive potential without any obstacles and apply modern approaches to working with children to form their anti-social motivational behaviour.

– *running various subject-matter events with minors by authorities of the police, education sector, social services, libraries.* For example, to discuss what offense is, punishments are prescribed for their commission. Screening of documental films on juvenile delinquency is a very effective way of influence on young spectators as it is possible to develop one of many topics (orally) for hours without effect, and the visible material seen with own eyes changes the perception of boys and girls of many things;

– *conducting raids by police squads to identify the facts of attendance of shopping and entertainment centers by minors under 16 years of age without parents at after 10 pm.* If such facts are found, the parents are subject to Art. 184 of the CAO of Ukraine for improper fulfillment of parental responsibilities;

– *preventive registration of minors, who are inclined to commit a criminal offense, in the police.* It is expedient to agree with A.P. Tuzov who wrote in the last century that “prevention of juvenile offenses contributes, on the one hand, to the adequate upbringing of the younger generation and, on the other, to the eradication of offenses as a whole”¹⁹. In the context of individual prevention, the possibility of crime commitment is anticipated by eliminating the external and internal factors which determine the decision on its commitment.

In each case, the decision in individual-preventive influence is taken towards a particular person, who has a disposition towards crime commitment. It is another story when the measures are taken against a group which has a criminogenic influence on a person who is under prevention effect. In this case, the purpose of the effect is to improve the deviations of the person and his behavior, which requires a broader application of the forms and methods of such influence by the subjects of prevention.

Individual prevention also includes such influence when its object is a group of persons or a work collective. A characteristic feature of individual prevention is a deliberate positive effect not on a separate isolated factor or element of the causal mechanism of individual criminal behavior but on the whole set of causes that may determine criminal behavior.

¹⁹ Тузов А. П. Профілактика правопорушень серед молоді. К. : Вид-во політ. л-ри України, 1978. С. 62.

Juvenile offenders, who break norms of behaviour established in the society, abuse alcohol and drugs, kick up a row, ignore parents' demands for proper behavior, react aggressively and inadequately, need special attention on the part of bodies of the National Police, in particular:

- preventive registration of such persons;
- administrative accountability for the crimes committed;
- close cooperation between the police and the public in identifying violations rules of conduct in the community by minors, etc. Besides, according to crime statistics, the very close cooperation between the police and the public most often makes it possible to prevent juvenile crime.

Among modern measures for prevention of juvenile crime by the police, it is essential to mark as follows: involvement of cliff dwellers in the protection of public order in their district; provision of recommendations for reinforcing the front door with metal and putting metal bars on the windows; positively cooperate with courtyard cleaners and watchmen in the context of detection of juvenile offences; creation of guard detachments under the settlement communities.

Finally, it should be noted that a crucial measure to prevent juvenile delinquency is the availability of relevant political will as a basis for such prevention. It is the political will that determines the content, and hence the effectiveness of the other two main factors in crime prevention – the proper legal framework and the activities of law enforcement and other bodies towards its application. The latter, depending on the political leadership of the state, can be used for different purposes, with different efficiency factor.

According to domestic criminologist L.M. Davydenko, in the context of lack of the political will, the most perfect legal support for crime prevention, including juvenile delinquency, is doomed to declarative existence and the activity of law enforcement agencies – to simulate counteraction to criminal acts²⁰.

CONCLUSIONS

The authors study the problem of juvenile crime, which gives grounds to argue that 14-16 years are an age range of its criminological manifestations among minors. Besides, it is the age when most minors

²⁰ Давиденко Л. М., Бандурка А. А. Противодействие преступности: теория, практика, проблемы : монография. Х.: Изд-во Нац. ун-та внутр. дел, 2005. С. 31.

are under the influence of adult crime and, consequently, they are most often exposed to the various temptations and desires to get everything they want immediately.

On the other hand, it is established that juvenile crime by its nature has a venal, venal-violent and violent orientation. At the same time, almost half of the crimes committed by minors belong to the category of serious and particularly serious ones. And this is the biggest problem of juvenile delinquency. Unfortunately, police officers today do not have a criminological set of tools to prevent such crime, thus creating distrust of the police in the country.

Among the most typical juvenile crimes, it is worth marking a theft (characterized by the theft of items made of ferrous and non-ferrous metals, so-called home burglary, thefts in booths, crowds, motor vehicles, etc.).

Thus, the analysis of criminological literature gives grounds to conclude that a significant place in the system of criminogenic factors of formation of a child's personality is occupied by deficiencies in the work of educational institutions, in particular, preschool, secondary and extracurricular educational institutions, training schools, orphanages, foster homes that along with the indifference to children in the family, society and a number of other criminogenic factors cause an increase of juvenile delinquency.

SUMMARY

Scientific domestic literature considers the problem of juvenile crime in Ukraine and measures for its prevention as one of the most topical. The paper substantiates the idea that modern strategy for the prevention of juvenile crime should be developed taking into account moral principles and traditional values of Ukrainian society which are aimed at building up the family and moral health of a child. Based on the analysis of scientific papers of domestic scholars, the authors specify the reasons and conditions for the origin of that kind of crime in the modern context and propose own highway route map for the prevention of juvenile crime.

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Information about the authors:

Bohatyrov I. H.

Doctor of Law, Professor,
Honoured Scientist and Engineer,
Professor at the Department of Criminal Law and Criminology,
National University of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine

Yarmysh O. N.

Doctor of Law, Professor, Corresponding Member
of the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine,
President of the International Association of Historians of Law,
Senior Research Associate of the Legislation Institute
of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Dębiński Antoni

doctor habilitowany nauk prawnych,
ksiądz profesor, rector,
Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II
(Rzeczpospolita Polska)