

The Effectiveness of an Individual Approach and A Comprehensive Assistance System in The Prevention of Female Crime

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Abstract

This article discusses the effectiveness of an individual approach and a comprehensive assistance system in the prevention of female crime. In addition, the author reveals the distinctive aspects between the concepts of prevention and deterrence of female criminality. The article also presents proposals and recommendations aimed at increasing the effectiveness of an individual approach and a comprehensive support system in preventing crimes committed by women.

Keywords: Women, criminality, liability, physical, individual, prevention, prophylaxis, approach, medical, psychological.

Introduction

Like any sphere of social governance, crime prevention must meet certain requirements and be based on specific principles, namely legality, democracy, humanism, justice, and scientific validity. Only under such conditions can the goals of crime prevention be effectively achieved. When applying one or another preventive measure, it is necessary to take into account the specific conditions of a given area, the existing situation, and the type of social activity of individuals. Some researchers interpret the concepts of "crime prevention" or "crime deterrence" as a system of legal, educational-preventive, socio-economic, moral-ethical, medical, psychological, organizational, and other measures encompassing general, special, individual, and victimological prevention of crimes.

Based on an analysis of national legislation, it can be stated that crime prevention consists of the following types:

- 1.general prevention of crimes;
- 2.special prevention of crimes;
- 3.individual prevention of crimes;
- 4.victimological prevention of crimes.

Furthermore, scholars such as M.S. Zaripov, V.A. Mishota, S.V. Fomov, S.S. Niyozova, N.B. Qurbanov, E.A. Xasmamedov, R. Imamov, and U. Abduganiyev classify crime prevention into “general social” and “special criminological” types.

A.G. Zakirova, N.S. Salayev, Sh. Berdiyev, S.V. Polubinskaya, O.A. Petryanina, and Ye.B. Kurguzkina distinguish between “general” and “special[1]” prevention.

M.V. Malchanova and S.V. Fedyaev divide it into “general” and “individual[2]” prevention, while Sh.A. Ganiyev and A.Sh. Eshchanova identify “general,” “special,” and “individual[3]” types of prevention.

Unlike the aforementioned scholars, S.B. Kho‘jaqulov concludes that crime prevention should be classified into criminological and victimological types according to the objects of preventive influence: the first group includes individuals who have committed offenses or are prone to committing them, while the second group consists of individuals who have suffered from offenses or are at risk of becoming victims.

Unlike the above-mentioned scholars, S.B. Kho‘jaqulov came to the conclusion that “it is necessary to classify offense prevention into criminological and victimological types according to the objects of preventive influence (the first group includes individuals who have committed offenses or are prone to committing them, while the second group consists of individuals who have suffered from offenses or are at risk of victimization)[4]”.

Moreover, when determining measures for the prevention of crimes committed by women, primary attention should be given to identifying the causes and conditions leading to the commission of these crimes, as well as to eliminating the socially dangerous consequences arising as a result of criminal acts.

Based on the above, we consider it appropriate to study the types of prevention of crimes against the sexual inviolability of minors within the framework of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the Prevention of Offenses” (2014), taking into account research conducted in this field and the preventive practices applied by practitioners in crime prevention. Accordingly, these types are classified into general, special, individual, and victimological prevention of offenses.

S.B. Kho‘jaqulov, having conducted scientific research on the general prevention of offenses, defines it as “an activity that encompasses a set of legal, social, psychological, medical, pedagogical, and other (economic, educational, organizational, informational, special) measures carried out by subjects of offense prevention, aimed at preventing antisocial behavior or the commission of offenses, as well as at identifying, studying, and eliminating (neutralizing) the causes of offenses and the conditions facilitating their commission.”

General prevention of offenses is characterized by specific advantages, such as the possibility of exerting preventive influence simultaneously on tens, hundreds, thousands, and even millions of people, requiring minimal effort and financial resources, achieving time efficiency, ensuring a comprehensive approach to preventive measures, and necessitating the elimination of the causes of offenses and the conditions enabling their commission[5].

General prevention of female crime is a broad and systematic approach aimed at preventing crimes committed by women. This includes organizing lectures at the local level on crimes committed by women and their consequences; strengthening public awareness through television, radio, the Internet, and social media regarding the causes, conditions, and protective measures related to such crimes; enhancing public oversight in the prevention of female crime; and working with

individuals at risk, as well as developing a system for providing them with legal and psychological assistance.

Regarding special prevention of offenses, M.J. Eshnazarov states that “special prevention of offenses is a system of measures aimed at developing and implementing special actions focused on the prevention of certain types of offenses or antisocial behavior by subjects directly responsible for offense prevention; eliminating the causes of such offenses or antisocial behavior and the conditions enabling them; identifying individuals prone to committing specific categories of offenses, those who have committed offenses, persons with a high level of victimization, and victims of offenses, and exerting preventive influence on them; as well as eliminating risks and threats that encroach upon public safety and public order, and the interests of the individual, society, and the state”[6].

Furthermore, S. Niyozova states that “special crime prevention is a system of measures aimed at preventing the commission of crimes, identifying the conditions, causes, and determinants of criminality, as well as preventing crimes that are being prepared or have already been initiated”[7]. In our view, M. Eshnazarov approaches this issue comprehensively, based on the tasks of special prevention of offenses, whereas S. Niyozova approaches it in a general manner and does not take into account the specific purpose of conducting special prevention of offenses.

General prevention of female crime, within the overall framework of combating crime, is constructed with due consideration of the specific characteristics of women's social status in modern society, as well as the complex of social and role functions they perform. The criminological behavior of women has the most destructive impact on the younger generation: it is evident that women involved in theft, chronic alcohol consumption, or prostitution are unable to provide proper upbringing for their children. Therefore, the author indicates the closest connection between female crime and juvenile delinquency. Among crimes committed by women, offenses such as theft of state property, theft of private property, fraud, bribery, murder, robbery, and other crimes are widespread. At the same time, the number of girls among juvenile offenders is increasing, and they are more actively involved in drunkenness, alcoholism, drug addiction, and prostitution.

Understanding the causes of women's criminal behavior is of great importance for the prevention of female crime. Therefore, when discussing the causes of women's criminal behavior, it is generally necessary to analyze the entire criminal chain that begins in childhood and within the family. The influence of the family on personality formation occurs literally from the first days of life and usually continues throughout an individual's life, becoming particularly significant during adolescence-a period of special importance in the process of social development. The system of values prevailing in the family and behavioral stereotypes are firmly assimilated by its members due to constant interaction and the specific emotional nature of intrafamilial relationships.

“Special prevention of female crime is understood as an activity carried out by bodies and institutions responsible for and involved in crime prevention, depending on seasonal factors or the criminogenic situation, at the national, regional, or city-district level, or within a specific small area or facility, aimed at preventing female crime, eliminating the causes of such offenses and the conditions that facilitate them, identifying women exhibiting antisocial behavior, those prone to committing offenses, and those who have committed offenses, and exerting preventive influence on them”

The rights and obligations of women to whom individual preventive measures are applied include the right:

- to be informed about the grounds and legal consequences of individual preventive measures applied to them;
- to familiarize themselves with collected documents and other materials;
- to submit petitions;
- to receive legal assistance;
- to lodge complaints, in accordance with the procedure established by law, against decisions of bodies or institutions directly implementing offense prevention, as well as against actions (or inaction) of officials.

Early prevention of offenses, identification of their causes and conditions, examination and elimination of the factors that give rise to them, as well as efforts to improve the moral and psychological climate in families within assigned administrative territories, are of great importance for community organizations. In order to fulfill these responsible tasks, members of civil community organizations are required to establish strong cooperation with the general public. Furthermore, it is necessary to create a comprehensive assistance system for victims of female crime, to ensure the social reintegration of offenders who commit crimes against sexual inviolability and sexual freedom, as well as individuals prone to sexual violence or engaging in unlawful sexual acts, and to hold those who commit such assaults criminally liable. The subjects of special criminological prevention of sexual crimes are, first of all, law enforcement agencies, as well as other specialized bodies in the fields of healthcare and education.”

Individual (personalized) prevention measures for female crime generally include activities aimed at identifying, monitoring, and preventing criminal acts by individuals and groups with a high likelihood of committing crimes. The purpose of these measures is to identify individuals prone to criminal behavior and to carry out individual preventive work with them.

Below are measures related to individual prevention of female crime:

- continuous monitoring of women with a high risk of committing crimes;
- maintaining and regularly updating an open register of women who have committed crimes;
- conducting individual interviews with women who are likely to commit various crimes and providing them with psychological assistance;
- engaging individuals at risk of committing crimes in socially beneficial activities;
- ensuring social adaptation of individuals through rehabilitation programs;
- focusing on educational work aimed at forming and strengthening moral values;
- working with family members of women at risk of committing crimes;
- providing psychological and pedagogical assistance to create a healthy family environment.

Victimological prevention of female crime is also of great importance. According to S.S. Niyozova, who studied victimological prevention of offenses, “victimological prevention of crimes is an activity carried out by the relevant subjects aimed at preventing individuals from becoming victims of various types of crimes and reducing their level of victimization, as well as eliminating the causes and conditions that contribute to vulnerability to victimization and the likelihood of becoming a victim”[9].

N.I. Bumajenko provides the following definition: “Victimological prevention is a subsystem of general social and special criminological measures integrated into the social system of crime

prevention, aimed at eliminating negative circumstances that lead to victimization, enhancing the capacity to protect potential victims of crime and ensure their safety, as well as reducing individual and mass victimization”[9]

Q.A. Saitqulov offers a more comprehensive definition compared to other authors, stating that “victimological prevention of offenses is a system of general, special, and individual legal, social, organizational, psychological, medical, pedagogical, and other measures applied by bodies or institutions directly implementing offense prevention, aimed at reducing the risk of individuals becoming victims of offenses by identifying and eliminating victimogenic factors, conditions, situations, and causes that lead to victimization, as well as by identifying persons who have suffered from offenses or who, due to their own antisocial behavior, are at risk of becoming victims of offenses”[10].

Based on an analysis of the above definitions, we believe that the victimological prevention of crimes and offenses committed by women should be aimed at preventing individuals from becoming victims of offenses due to their antisocial behavior, physical or physiological condition, or various life situations and factors, as well as at identifying and eliminating the factors that lead to victimization through the development and implementation of appropriate preventive measures. In addition, based on the analysis of the studied criminal case materials, the following victimological characteristics typical of victims of crimes committed by women should be identified:

- a) according to the examined criminal case materials, in 65% of cases the crimes were committed by persons close to the victim, namely: 5% by the mother, 19% by the stepmother, 25% by an aunt (father’s or mother’s sister), 5% by a sister, 20% by a stepsister, and 21% by neighbors and other close persons;
- b) a low level of education, immorality, and negative behavioral patterns often lead offenders to an inability to restrain themselves from antisocial acts. As a result, such individuals readily commit crimes against a person’s life and health in order to achieve their selfish goals without due consideration. However, unlike other types of crimes, the offenses examined within the scope of this research demonstrate a relatively high level of education among the accused. For example, an analysis of the educational background of women who committed crimes between 2020 and 2025 revealed that 36% had secondary education, 38% had secondary specialized education, and 20% had higher education;
- d) joint consumption of alcoholic beverages by the victim and the offender is also one of the main causes of such crimes. According to research data, in 29% of cases both the victim and the accused were intoxicated, while in 27% of cases the victim consumed alcoholic beverages together with the accused;
- e) due to the passive behavior of minor victims, 30% of such crimes were committed, and in almost all cases the accused was in a state of irritation and emotional resentment;
- f) according to interviews conducted with victims of this type of crime, in 75% of cases the victims did not comprehend the consequences of the crime (in 39% of cases the victim was in a helpless condition, in 25% under the influence of narcotic substances, and in 35% in a state of severe psychological disorder), while in 15% of cases the crime occurred under conditions of a high level of victimogenic behavior on the part of the victim.

I. Ismailov describes the advantages of offense prevention as follows: first, it is aimed at identifying and eliminating the roots, sources, causes, and conditions of negative phenomena; second, it provides an initial impact on chains of events that may cause significant harm to legally protected social relations; third, it enables influence on criminogenic factors at an early stage, when they have not yet taken firm root, requiring less effort and fewer resources to neutralize and eliminate them; fourth, it is characterized by a higher degree of humanism compared to other areas within the law enforcement system; fifth, it allows for the comprehensive application of economic, political, cultural, moral, legal, and other measures; and sixth, it is implemented based on the principles of transparency, broad public participation, and reliance on public opinion[11].

Crime prevention, including the prevention of female crime, identifies as one of its key directions the prevention of crime within the sphere of family and household relations. The significant criminological interest in this issue is largely due to the fact that crimes committed by women are most often formed on the basis of domestic and family-related problems[12].

In assessing the scope of measures implemented to prevent family conflicts, it should be noted that we lag significantly behind developed foreign countries in terms of the diversity of forces involved in stabilizing marital relations and preventing domestic violence.

In foreign countries, when cases of domestic violence arise, the police engage a wide range of institutions and organizations in working with such families, including specialized councils, family courts, local attorneys, legal aid services, specialized clinics, drug addiction treatment centers, psychological agencies, anonymous support agencies, shelters for women who have suffered abuse by their husbands, women's centers, services providing assistance to low-income families, religious institutions, centers for assisting victims of crimes and witnesses, primary social support agencies, housing services, bodies assessing economic opportunities, and other organizations[13].

Drug-dependent women primarily commit crimes related to the consumption of narcotic substances and their illegal circulation, as well as property-related crimes aimed at obtaining such substances. The results of specialized studies indicate that the majority of drug-dependent women are under the age of 30, and that they generally begin using narcotic substances between the ages of 15 and 25[14].

Based on the above considerations, we believe that in preventing female alcoholism and drug addiction, it is necessary, first of all, to improve medical coercive measures applied to women. Naturally, the importance of preventive measures implemented by the state in combating these social pathologies should not be underestimated. These measures primarily include ideological resistance to the spread of alcoholism and drug addiction, as well as activities aimed at shaping public opinion. The problems of preventing drug addiction and alcoholism as factors directly influencing female crime are closely linked to sexual degradation, both at the level of the individual and within society as a whole.

Determining approaches to counteracting prostitution as a socially negative phenomenon is one of the key features of preventing female crime. In this context, it is first necessary to develop the conceptual foundations of state policy aimed at preventing and reducing prostitution. In global practice, three main approaches (models) of legal regulation in combating prostitution have been developed: prohibitionist, regulatory, and abolitionist approaches[15].

It should be noted that approaches to the issue of prostitution vary across foreign countries. In particular, in the U.S. state of Nevada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Denmark, Canada, Costa Rica, the Netherlands, Turkey, France, and Sweden, engaging in prostitution is recognized as a lawful type of activity regulated and protected by law, subject to licensing and taxation. In contrast, in the U.S. state of California it is classified as a criminal offense, while in Belarus, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan it is considered an administrative offense[16, P.145].

At the same time, M. O'razaliyev proposes the following preventive measures of a socio-economic nature aimed at reducing the level of prostitution, namely: improving the standard of living of the population and strengthening social protection for families and youth; providing social payments to low-income groups of the population (students, single mothers, large families, and young families); reducing the working day (week) for mothers with young children (under 14 years of age) and extending the duration of paid parental leave for childcare; and creating guarantees for women's employment and fair remuneration for their labor[16, P.158].

It should be emphasized that Ch. Lombroso was absolutely right when, in his famous work "The Criminal Woman and the Prostitute," he expressed the view that women's inclination toward crime is often manifested in their engagement in prostitution. An examination of court judgments shows that the level of crimes committed by women who are morally degraded, consume alcoholic beverages, and lead a promiscuous sexual lifestyle is relatively high.

For example, according to the judgment of the Mirzo Ulug'bek District Court of Tashkent City for Criminal Cases dated September 9, 2024, criminal case No. 1-150-2015 was considered against a woman identified as D., who was found guilty of committing a crime предусмотренный by Article 277, Part 2, paragraph "b" of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Pursuant to this article and with the application of Article 57 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, she was sentenced to a fine in the amount of 30 times the minimum monthly wage, that is, 3,552,000 Uzbek soums.

According to the case circumstances, on April 9, 2015, at approximately 23:00 at night, D. and her de facto husband S., while standing by the roadside in front of the "Uzbekenergo" building on Amir Temur Street in the Mirzo Ulug'bek district, acting as a group and deliberately disregarding the rules of conduct in society, assaulted a woman identified as M., born in 1991, who was present at the scene, by beating her and causing minor bodily injuries by striking her on the face and various parts of her body, after which they fled the scene. As a result of the bodily injuries sustained, M. sought medical assistance at a hospital.

The case materials indicate that the victim M. stated that several months earlier she had worked as a prostitute under the control of the defendant D., providing sexual services to various individuals. She further explained that a few months prior to the incident she had ceased working under the defendant D. and had begun working independently, which led to a conflict between her and the defendant D[17].

In order to prevent female crime, it is necessary to regularly analyze female criminality and to further strengthen scientific research, thereby developing scientifically grounded proposals and recommendations to improve the effectiveness of crime prevention measures for offenses committed by women. Given the increasing incidence of certain types of crimes committed by

women, particularly offenses related to morality and family and household relations, the following measures should be implemented.

First, measures aimed at strengthening the role of women within the family should be carried out. Second, beginning from grades 4-in schools, special classes such as “Girls’ ethics in Islam” and “Girls’ ethics” should be introduced.

Third, in local communities (mahallas), awareness-raising and educational activities among women should be organized on the basis of monthly plans approved by women’s activists and other responsible organizations.

Fourth, it is necessary to establish and ensure the effective operation of specialized rehabilitation centers in districts and cities for women who have committed crimes, served their sentences, and returned to society.

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