

Delinquent behaviour of youth as a consequence of social uncertainty

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Abstract: The present article is aimed to consider the reasons leading youth to commission of criminal acts, to detect the dependence of the delinquent behaviour on inimical social conditions developed in consequence of social uncertainty, and to find the rational way of solving this global problem.

The subject of the research is the problem of rights-infringements made by youth rate growth, trends of its development and its connection to age discrimination, which accompanies the process of genesis of social uncertainty.

Key words: social uncertainty, delinquent behavior, youth, ageism, criminality.

Delinquent behaviour among youth is a distinctive indicator of social situation in the country. Rising crime rate points on adverse processes in society.

Research of this problem is a key to development of the most efficient methods of combating crime. It is also the way to look into the future of the problem of organised criminality in general and to reduce criminal tension in the country.

Youth crime in present time is actively progressing. It covers all aspects of youth life, such as socio-demographic, territorial and educational ones. Over the past 10 years, the growth rate of juvenile delinquency is overtaking the rate of adult crime growth by 2-2.5 times.

According to statistics, 70% of the respondents that answered the question «In your opinion, how modern teenagers spend their free time?» could not give a direct answer to it. As for other 30%, almost half of them (13%) had an answer connected to bad habits. 3% of respondents believe that teenagers' most popular way of spending their free time is asocial behaviour, and only 1% gave an overall positive assessment to the situation. So, we see disinterest of society in future-defining problem.

Modern society tends to avoid responsibility for the socialization of the younger generation. It should be noted, that process of socialization is constant and it “does not cease in adulthood as well” [1]. Actually, problems taking place during youth socialization are one of the reasons of delinquency rate growth. Furthermore, one of the most important factors in youth crime is intensification of group manifestation of delinquent behaviour.[3]. However, the main reason of these horrendous tendencies is sharp deterioration in the economic situation and social depression.

It affects all social groups, but youth is the most vulnerable to fluctuations in society. This can be explained by their unformed psyche and unsettled value system.[4]

Unstable economical and social situation leads to such manifestations as lack of jobs and crisis in education sphere. According to the French experts research, increase in unemployment by 1% leads to imminent increase in murders by 650 cases, suicides – by 820 cases, number of prisoners – by more than 3 thousand.[2]

As a result, teenagers lose an opportunity to fulfill their needs (often even basic ones) lawfully and crime becomes the only way of surviving in conditions of social uncertainty.

On the background of social decline the problem of family well-being is exacerbated and it is leading to moral and social degradation and poverty Psychogenic factors (family conflicts, stress psychological problems) can have consequences in the form of moral deformation of personality, which can be the cause of delinquent behaviour.

Topic of stray children is a direct continuation of topic of family problems. By “straying” we mean conditions when children or teenagers are out of the social control zone, regardless of having family (stray children, orphans, etc.). According to sociologists research, every big Russian city has at least 20 thousands of straying children and teenagers.[5]

It is impossible not to mention the fact of inactivity of bodies responsible for combating child crime. Commissions on minors everywhere stop their work. More than that, there is also no preventive work with adolescents. Such situation is facilitated by unfoundedness of the government programs.

One of the youth criminality reasons are, of course, drugs and alcohol addiction. Nowadays, age in which people start taking drugs tends to lower and adolescents who take drugs mostly try it firstly in the age between 12 and 16.[6]

Thus, we can distinguish the following reasons of delinquent behaviour of youth:

- economical (low income, lack of job) ;
- dysfunctional people’s environment ;
- shortcomings of internal authorities
- increase in drug and alcohol use.

The following tendencies in youth crime can be distinguished:

- rejuvenating of crime;
- increased relapse;
- feminization of youth crime;
- increase in number of serious crimes.

We have determined the ways of solving the problem of delinquent behaviour among youth and overcoming the situation of social uncertainty.

Specialized government bodies have to carry out measures in different directions, especially in priority ones, such as:

- maintenance of public order and security of citizens;
- measures for the prevention of recidivism.
- prevention of offences in the sale of alcohol production;
- continuation of the movement towards solving economic and social problems in the country.

Our youth today is our state tomorrow, and our future depends only on us, so we must find the core of the problem of our country to prosper and be proud of future generations. We should not leave our children without means of subsistence to prevent them from becoming a part of cruel criminal world, as it can have fatal consequences both at the scale of- one family end the entire state.

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