UNDERSTANDING THE CAUSES AND CONDITIONS OF CRIME: A CONCEPTUAL CLASSIFICATION

Crimes, like any human activity, are the result of the interaction of a person and the external objective situation in which an individual makes a specific decision. Therefore, the immediate causes of committing a specific crime are, on the one hand, the peculiarities of needs, interests, the system of value orientations and motivations of a person, an individual, and on the other hand, in a set of external circumstances that determine the formation and implementation of motives and determination to commit a crime. In other words, the causes and conditions of crime are reflected in the combination of a person's moral and psychological characteristics and the situation they find themselves in.

Analysis of the causes and conditions of the commission of a specific crime involves consideration of:

1. Socio-psychological mechanism of individual criminal behavior.

2. The formation of negative moral and psychological characteristics of a person, which manifests itself in criminal behavior and which causes it.

3. Conditions and specific life situations that cause, facilitate, or contribute to the commission of a crime.

External circumstances affect criminal behavior not only due to their certain objective content and meaning but also in accordance with their subjective perception and assessment of the individual, which in turn depend on the characteristics of the person. Individuals commit crimes for various reasons. For example, to obtain things they can't afford themselves, to stretch the family budget, for joy-riding or selling, to meet a personal emergency, intending to return the money, etc. The motives also vary in crimes of violence: to avoid detection, to obtain things or money, in a fit of rage during a quarrel, etc.

Biological and psychological explanations. Such studies involve differences in body type, the pattern of brain waves, and the formation of genes. None of them has been proven. Another research stresses personality differences resulting from experiences in childhood and later. It shows that many people who became criminals were neglected by their parents or were given harsh or uncertain discipline.

Social conditions. Sociologists have conducted crime studies that focus on the neighborhood and community rather than on the individual. For many young people, the excitement of the streets provides the principal escape from boredom and unsolvable problems. In addition, people fear the police and refuse to cooperate with them.

To summarise, modern criminology has discovered a new direction for the study of society's reaction to crime: it has turned to research on the victim (victim of crime) and mechanisms of social control. Now the causes of crime are approached not only from the point of view of the characteristics of the criminal act and the characteristics of the criminal. The reasons are derived from the social process in which the criminal, the victim, and society are involved. In particular, the processes in society are investigated, due to which the behavior of people and the people themselves will be determined as criminal.

Such new areas of criminology await further development, such as the investigation of family dynamics in the context of crimes among family members (which is actively developed in the West), ecological, as well as traditional areas of criminological characteristics of youth and juvenile crime, and violent crime. In recent years, criminologists have been paying a lot of attention to the problem of serial sexually violent crimes.

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