



Motivation and motives of juvenile delinquents

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Abstract

The article presents the study results of the motivational sphere of juvenile delinquents. The importance of the presented topic is due to the fact that the problems associated with the deviant behavior of minors attract scientists' special attention and are constantly considered in both domestic and foreign scientific works. Nevertheless, despite a large number and high level of research devoted to the study of personality characteristics of a minor with deviant behavior, we have to state the lack of work on this problem. The article presents the study results of the juvenile delinquents' motivation sphere which led to the following conclusions: the features of the motivation for minors' deviant behavior were established, indicating typical and individual deformations in the structure of motives, goals, needs. Types of minors were identified based on the dominant needs and motives in the motivation; a comparative analysis of motives by age was made. It has been found that the characteristic features of the motivation of adolescents' deviant behavior are: the weakening of a complex of socially useful needs; the artificial, perverted, or primitive nature of certain needs; imbalance between different types of needs; the prevalence of the need for self-assertion, which often bears a perverted character. It has been determined that the motivation of deviant behavior is such a system of goals, needs and motives, which is characterized by disharmony, contradiction, deformation of its components, prompting asocial actions and acts. The essence of the motivation sphere of minors with deviant behavior lies, firstly, in the specific composition and correlation of goals, needs and motives, and secondly, in the correlation links between the components of the motivation of deviant behavior and emotional, volitional, existential and self-regulation components.

Keywords: motives and motivation of juvenile delinquents, motivation of criminal behavior, personality of a minor

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INTRODUCTION

In the problems associated with minors' deviant behavior, attract special attention of scientists and are constantly considered both in domestic and foreign scientific works. In foreign social psychology, the problem of deviant behavior was considered in the framework of traditional theoretical orientations: neo-behavioral (Bandura 2000), psychoanalytic (Heckhausen 2003), cognitive (Myers 2000), interaction (Shibutani 1999). Among modern theories of deviant behavior of foreign social psychology, it is worth noting the concept of social deviations by Harre and the theory of behavior of voluntary risk by Ling (Asmolov 1984).

In Russian social psychology, the study of deviant behavior is associated with the study of the socio-

psychological characteristics of groups of minors with a deviant orientation: of their group needs, motives, norms, values (Khusainova et al. 2018, Sevastyanova 2004, Tachina 2003). Empirical researches conducted by Selivanova (2006), Belicheva (1993) are devoted to individual characteristics of members of minors' deviant groups.

Along with the study of groups of minors as such, a fairly large number of works are devoted to the study of motives and motivations of adolescents with deviant

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behavior (Asmolov 1979, Leontiev 1992, Mendeleevich 2001, Zmanovskaya and Deviantology 2004).

Nevertheless, despite a large number and high level of research devoted to the study of personality characteristics of a minor with deviant behavior, we have to state the lack of work on this problem. Basically, either separately motives, or value orientations, or attitudes to certain forms of teen deviations are considered.

In this regard, and taking account of the current trends in the development of social psychology, firstly, we consider it necessary to use elements of a systematic approach in studying the problem of deviant behavior of minors and, secondly, we note the special value of studying adolescents' motives and motivation in order to prevent deviations in behavior. This article presents the results of a theoretical and methodological analysis of the problem of motives and motivation in psychological science and practice and determined the methodological fundamentals of the motivational sphere of juvenile delinquents.

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODS

Adolescence is usually characterized as a crucial, transitional, critical, difficult age of puberty. A teenager is defined as "a child at the age of 14-15" in Dahl's definition dictionary. The academic four-volume dictionary of the Russian language gives an explanation that a teenager is a boy or a girl in the transition period from childhood to adolescence. Lichko distinguishes between younger adolescence (12-13 years old), middle (14-15 years old), and older (16-17 years old). At the present stage, the boundaries of adolescence approximately coincide with the education of children in middle classes from 11-12 years of age to 15-16 (Lichko and Nadezhdin 1990).

The social situation of development - parents, people around, society are not ready to consider a teenager as an adult. An adolescent is characterized by the position "I am an adult", a hypertrophied need for independence. He expects other adults to have an attitude to him as an equal person, a respectful attitude towards his thoughts, feelings, needs, interests, choices. The age crisis is caused by this contradiction. After a relatively quiet primary school age, adolescence seems to be turbulent and difficult. Teenage independence is expressed mainly in the pursuit of emancipation from adults, freedom from their care and control. Being in need of parents, of their love and care, of their opinion, they have a strong desire to be independent, equal in rights with them.

The development at this stage indeed goes by leaps and bounds, especially many changes are observed in terms of the personality formation.

And, perhaps, the main feature of a teenager is his personality instability. Opposite traits, aspirations, tendencies coexist and fight with each other, determining the inconsistency of the character and behavior of a growing up child.

Intimate and personal communication in all spheres of life is the leading activity in this age period.

In Ozhegov's (1992) definition dictionary of the Russian language "intimate" is defined as innermost, heartfelt, deeply personal, confidential.

Intimate-personal communication is one of the types of communication based on partners' personal affection towards each other, their mutual interest in establishing and maintaining trust relationships; assumes a high degree of trust in the partner, mutual deep self-revelation. It contributes to self-actualization of personality and maintaining mental health.

The formation of the position "I am an adult". The emergence of a sense of adulthood (the main psychological new formation). Age-related new formations imply those psychological and social changes that first occur at this age level and most importantly determine the consciousness of a child (person), his attitude to the social environment, the course of his/her development.

Peers for adolescents are the reference group (a group of people who are attractive to the individual and are the source of his individual views, judgments, actions, norms and rules of behavior). The task of communicating with peers is the assimilation of the norms of comradeship and friendship. There is a need for self-assertion in relations with adults and with peers. Self-assertion forms at this age can be both positive (self-education, caring for others, participation in solving complex family issues, sports, mastering knowledge, etc.), and negative (different forms of deviant behavior). Various forms of deviant behavior can lead to the emergence and development of delinquent (criminal) behavior among minors.

Criminal behavior is referred to behavior when the subject chooses an unlawful way to meet his needs and desires, using physical force or weapons with the aim of causing injury, mutilation or death. In this case, the criminal intent turns aggressive behavior into a crime. Motivation for criminal behavior may reflect not only aggression, but also other unlawful acts.

Kudryavtsev (1982), one of the leading criminologists thinks of the motivation of criminal behavior as the process of forming the motive of a crime, its development and design, and then the implementation in criminal acts and offences. He believes that the motivation must be distinguished from the mechanism of criminal behavior in terms of both the scope and content of these concepts. Motivation, according to Kudryavtsev (1982), does not cover the whole mechanism, because the latter includes the implementation of the decision and self-control. Kudryavtsev (1982) does not include an

evaluation of the situation by the subject, and foreseeing the consequences of his actions, and decision making in the motivation. Luneyev (1980) believes that along with all listed elements, the analysis of the ensuing consequences, and even repentance, are included in the motivation and the development of a protective motive.

Most criminologists understand a motive as motivation. For instance, Tararukhin (1974) defines a motive as a conscious impulse to commit a specific act of volition that represents social danger and is regarded as a crime according to the criminal law. Igoshev understands a motive for criminal behavior as a motive that was formed under the influence of the social milieu and life experience of the individual. An urge is the internal direct cause of criminal activity and expresses a personal attitude to what the criminal activity is aimed at (Igoshev 1967).

Developing knowledge of the motive and resting on the position that the motive is an urge, in Kudryavtsev's (1982) opinion, the motive for the crime can be spoken only when such elements of criminal behavior as an object or the object of influence, purpose or means of achieving a criminal result has already appeared or are being formed. Criminal behavior in this aspect is identified with a criminal motive, which, in the event that the goal is not achieved at the given moment, becomes a motivational attitude. A person is not a criminal yet (and he may never become one), but he is already socially dangerous because it has the determination (intention) to commit a crime.

Understanding it is important for the prevention of crimes, which should not consist only in eliminating the conditions of their commission, but also in changing the views and attitudes of the individual, in its rehabilitation and subsequent resocialization. In addition, Kudryavtsev (1982) writes that knowing the motives for criminal behavior is required for the implementation of preventive work with a person. Predicting the future behavior of a person can give an idea of the content, depth and the degree of stability of his antisocial views. The knowledge of motives allows one to judge the social conditions of the formation and development of a person, as well as the situation in which the criminal intention arose. To study the motives of deviant behavior of juvenile delinquents, it is necessary to identify the intentions, personality features that may lead to the emergence of motives and motivational attitudes of criminal acts and actions.

The lack of established views on the nature and structure of the motive, common knowledge and ideas about the motive leads scientists to obvious contradictions. On the one hand, as it was mentioned earlier, the researchers assert that the motive of the crime can only be talked about when the object of the impact, the purpose and means of achieving the criminal result have already appeared or are being formed. On

the other hand, it is asserted that one should not permit such an extreme, at which precisely these elements are included in the motive, otherwise it begins to embrace the whole subjective aspect of an intentional crime (Efimova et al. 2015, Kalinina et al. 2017, Masalimova and Chibakov 2016, Masalimova et al. 2014, Salakhova et al. 2017a, 2017b, Lipatova et al. 2015, Vinogradova et al. 2018).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Thus, the general situation of the problem of motivation, existing in psychology and practice, with all its contradictions is reflected in the works on the motivation of criminal behavior. Studying the motives of deviant behavior of minors, one should know about the experiences and feelings of the person who committed a crime, about his needs and interests, ideals, attitudes and beliefs, goals and means of achieving them, about the planning of the result. To understand the causes of minors' deviant behavior, it is important to know everything that was the basis of a criminal act. This is possible only if the motive of minors' deviant behavior is considered as a complex multi-component psychological construct, and the process of its formation as dynamic and taking place in stages

Luneyev (1980) says that the motive, along with its most important function of an urge, also performs the regulatory function of a filter in the selection and evaluation by the subject of what contributes to or counteracts the satisfaction of actual needs. He also considers another function of the motive - the reflective, which psychologists do not directly say about. Criminologists also say that motivation is the process of the motive formation, the motive is the result of this process.

A positive thing in criminologists' views on the motive is the position that the motivation of the deviant behavior of minors reflects not only and not so much the particular criminal situation in which it occurs, but all the previous negative influences of the social milieu that formed the personality with a deviant orientation, the personality that is characterized by a deformed motivational sphere.

Based on this assertion, it can be stated that the time limits of reflecting criminal influences in the motivation of crime cannot be limited to the framework of a specific social situation.

Studying the structure of the motive, it is necessary to study the history of the personality formation and the personality structure. Research in the field of criminology suggests that there is a relationship between the dominant aspirations of the offender and his social roles, relations. In this regard, in 70-75% of cases, personality traits are reflected in the features of motives of criminal behavior (Ozhegov 1992, Tachina 2003).

We should also note the study conducted by Golitsyn who found that the dominance of needs for the means of subsistence is characteristic of juvenile delinquents and they demonstrate the insufficient formation of the needs of development, knowledge, labor, interpersonal communication (Golitsyn and Scherbakova 1991). According to the marked feature of certain needs Feldstein divides adolescents with antisocial orientation of the personality into five groups (Feldstein 2005).

The first group comprises juvenile delinquents who accidentally followed the path of criminal behavior. They are weak and easily influenced by the social environment. Their needs are pro-social and are the cause of their antisocial behavior.

The second group includes juvenile delinquents with slightly deformed needs. They are easily suggestible, frivolous, curry favor with their fellows. The third group includes juvenile delinquents, who are characterized by a conflict between deformed and pro-social needs, interests and attitudes. The formed normative moral views in them did not become their persuasions. Such adolescents are characterized by the desire to hedonism, which leads to antisocial behavior. The fourth group is composed of juvenile delinquents with deformed needs and base motives, imitating those adolescent offenders who have a steady set of immoral needs and evident asocial orientation of the personality. They mostly commit deviant actions and deeds depending on a situation as a result of a spontaneous emergence of the motive against the background of the general orientation of the personality.

The fifth group comprises juvenile delinquents with a stable complex of socially negative anomalous, immoral, and base needs. Selfishness, the desire for hedonism, lack of ability to empathize with another and aggressiveness are combined with deliberately committed offenses among them. As the theoretical and methodological review testifies, the question of at what motivation stage criminally significant deviations of the personality start to manifest themselves is essential for criminologists. Kudryavtsev (1982) and Luneyev (1980), for example, assert that there are no needs, motives, and partly goals that are characteristic only of criminal behavior, and neither are asocial needs or motives.

The authors who adhere to the opposite point of view are criticized for the social assessment of the motive and the statement that the motive does not depend on its abstract content, but on what social relations it has been included in and what social relations it opposes. It is also asserted that needs and motives cannot be properly assessed in terms of usefulness or harmfulness, since the latter is revealed through the goal, the means to achieve it and the consequences, through the subject's attitude to social values that he neglects, implementing his desire. An urge is socially neutral, because by the

same outwardly similar urge both a crime can be committed and a noble deed.

But the motive, if understood as the basis of an act, cannot be neutral. This misconception arose in criminologists because they understand the motive too narrowly, not including in it those elements that make human behavior criminal.

Understanding a motive as the basis of an act gives ground to say about asocial motives in view of the antisocial orientation of the subject's intention. Anti-social intent becomes as such in connection with public relations, the morality of society, giving a moral assessment of a particular act. Needs in themselves, and many goals taken separately are not criminal, but other components of the motive give them a criminal tint. A component associated with moral control bears the main criminal "load" in it. It is the deformations of this component of the personality structure that lead to criminal behavior, and not self-interest, envy, revenge, discontent, offense and spitefulness. There can be a great distance from the occurrence of these states to the intention to commit a crime. There would be no crime if there was no need or a situation.

Thus, the majority of the components that make up the structure of a crime motive are not criminal. However, since a person chooses criminal ways and means of satisfying a need and achieving a goal, the motive as a whole, as well as the intent, intention, acquires a criminal character. Regarding the age characteristics of the motivation of criminal behavior, it seems expedient to note the following.

Luneyev (1980) gives the data that shows that the motives for criminal behavior vary significantly among people of different ages. Teenagers between 14 and 16 have two types of criminal motivation: self-interested; violently egoistic.

Specific causes of juvenile delinquents' deviant behavior are: the desire to have fun; show strength, courage, dexterity; assert oneself in peers' eyes; aspiration to something special. Therefore, three quarters of crimes committed by adolescents bear a situationally impulsive character.

At the age of 16-17, the number of crimes for selfish motives decreases. The motivation for the deviant behavior of juvenile delinquents is becoming more diverse. Motives for criminal behavior among people of this age are: greed; hooliganism; getting money for alcoholic beverages and drugs or psychotropic substances; revenge; conformism (following the reference group); the desire to show their strength and courage; aspiration to self-assertion (Erofeeva 2009, 2013, 2018).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Thus, the conducted theoretical and methodological analysis of the characteristics of the motives, needs and motivational sphere of the personality of juvenile delinquents, as well as their age characteristics, allows us to draw the following conclusions. The problem of studying the characteristics of the motivation sphere of deviant adolescents has been fruitfully developed for a long time in the framework of psychology. The features of the motivation of minors with deviant behavior have been identified, indicating typical and individual deformations in the structure of motives, goals, needs, types of minors on the basis of the dominant needs and motives in the motivation, a comparative analysis of motives by age was conducted.

It has been found that the characteristic features of the motivation of adolescents' deviant behavior are: the

weakening of a complex of socially useful needs; the artificial, perverted, or primitive nature of certain needs; imbalance between different types of needs; the prevalence of the need for self-assertion, which often bears a perverted character. It has been determined that the motivation of deviant behavior is such a system of goals, needs and motives, which is characterized by disharmony, contradiction, deformation of its components, prompting asocial actions and acts.

The essence of the motivation sphere of minors with deviant behavior lies, firstly, in the specific composition and correlation of goals, needs and motives, and secondly, in the correlation links between the components of the motivation of deviant behavior and emotional, volitional, existential and self-regulation components.

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