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DOI <https://doi.org/10.32849/2663-5313/2022.5.16>**Andrii Kovalenko,***Doctor of Law, Associate Professor, Professor at the Department of Criminal Law, Dnipropetrovsk State University of Internal Affairs, Haharin Avenue, 26, Dnipro, Ukraine, postal code 49005, kovalenkoandrii@ukr.net***ORCID:** orcid.org/0000-0001-9739-8219Kovalenko, Andrii (2022). Some issues of criminological characteristic of violent female crime. *Entrepreneurship, Economy and Law*, 5, 113–117, doi: <https://doi.org/10.32849/2663-5313/2022.5.16>

SOME ISSUES OF CRIMINOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTIC OF VIOLENT FEMALE CRIME

Abstract. Purpose. The purpose of the article is to study the main aspects of violent crimes committed by women and their criminological characteristics. **Results.** The article considers the issue of violent female crime, the behaviour of female offenders, analyses the motives for such crimes, specificities of the growing trend of female crime, as well as the clear study of their criminological description. The article defines the concept of female crime, as well as studies the place, role, causes and symptoms of violent and cruel female crime. Given the fact that female crime is now gaining ground faster than male, it rightfully causes greater concern for society. Aggression, cruelty and murder were associated with males all the time, but sometimes a woman can seriously outdo the “strong half of humanity.” In modern Ukraine, the focus is on the aggressiveness of women who commit crimes: 35% of convicted women are punished right for violent crimes. Every fourth woman in correctional facilities is convicted of violent crimes committed by women due to prolonged domestic conflicts, and less frequently in connection with jealousy and lucrative motives. The author draws the attention of the readers to the fact that the analysis of the motives for the violent crime committed by a woman shows that they are often caused by the grave social and economic situation of women within the system of social relations. Women used to commit crimes on emotions, and now a woman is more often carrying out a planned, premeditated and serious crime. The article underlines a gradual transformation of the negative behaviour of women and their mastering of the type of social behaviour previously characteristic of male criminals (use of excessive quantity of alcohol, drugs, immorality, lack of spirituality, etc.). **Conclusions.** To sum up, the emphasis is placed on increased female aggression and criminal-dangerous actions in domestic conflicts, and the general increase in the cases of violence, tension and conflict in the State, violent crimes, aggressively committed by women, reflects the ethical state of society.

Key words: woman, offender, characteristic, female crime, aggression, violent crime.

1. Introduction

It is no secret that female crime is several times less numerous than male. Therefore, it is not surprising that female crime is not so under focus as male. As noted by some scientists, female crime is defined as secondary to male (Kubalskyi, Momotiuk, 2018, p. 67). Others consider female crime as a certain exception from general crime (Chaplyk, 2012, p. 114). However, female crime is now gaining ground faster than men, which rightfully causes greater social concern. However, despite this trend toward the increase in the number of female crimes, Ukraine now has a significant lack of information on the status of female crime.

Therefore, it is obvious that the issue of aggressive female crime and its criminological description is increasingly relevant.

The following Ukrainian and foreign scientists, in particular, those who studied

female crime in the textbooks on Criminology, were focused on the topic of female crime: Yu.M. Antonian, V.A. Badyra, A.B. Blaha, M.Yu. Valuiska, A.P. Hel, V.V. Holina, I.M. Danshyn, O.M. Dzhuzha, A.I. Dolhova, A.P. Zakaliuk, A.F. Zelinskyi, V.O. Merkulova, V.A. Serebriakova, T.M. Yavchunovska, and others.

The growing level of female crime requires further research in this realm. The purpose of the article is to study the main aspects of violent crimes committed by women and their criminological characteristics. In order to achieve the purpose, the following task is proposed: to carry out the criminological analysis of the person of a criminal woman, as well as to identify the place, specificities, features and causes of violent female crime.

2. General features of violent female crime

Moving on to the study of the crime of criminological characteristics of violent female crime,

it is necessary to start with the fact that female crime is a combination of crimes that are committed by women on a certain territory for a certain period of time (Harhat-Ukrainchuk, 2014, p. 189), although the provisions of the Criminal Code of Ukraine provide only one composition of the crime (art. 117 of the CCU), the special actor of which is only a woman (the mother's murder of her new-born child) (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2001).

Moreover, psychologists have not yet been able to answer the question of the clear reasons for violent female crime. Someone says that the main reason for this criminal behaviour of women is the promotion of violence in the media, others believe that social conditions are all to blame. However, violence is characteristic of not only economically disadvantaged families (Rodionova, 2012, p. 145).

Most experts, who research on female violence, argue that the aggressiveness of women's behaviour is a complex of factors, among which it is difficult to separate one dominant (Antonian, Kudriavtsev, Emynov, 2004).

In modern Ukraine, the focus is on the aggressiveness of women who commit crimes: 35% of convicted women are punished directly for violent crimes (Pereyhina, 2013, p. 323). Every fourth woman in correctional facilities is convicted of violent female crimes committed due to prolonged domestic conflicts, and less frequently in connection with jealousy and lucrative motives. Almost one-third of women commit criminal acts in the state of intoxication (alcohol or drug) (Korniakova, 2016, pp. 49-50).

Female crime compared to male one is characterised with greater stability of its quantitative and qualitative indicators, structural monotony, less aggression, cruelty, vandalism, etc.

The violent female crimes committed with aggression and cruelty is an unusual phenomenon for society, which is condemned more harshly than male crime (Rodionova, 2012, p. 146). Female violent crime is more often domestic. However, in recent years, there has been a trend towards increase in the number of women who are punished for grave violent crimes against the life and health of persons, for lucrative violent acts (such as robbery and robbery with extreme violence), for crimes related to drugs (Shalhunova, Orlean, Skok, 2017).

When comparing the criminal behaviour of men and women, it should be noted that men have a logic, and women have an impulse (Zakaliuk, 2007, p. 457).

Of course, the physical capacity of women to commit violent crime is usually more limited than one of men. In domestic or other disputes, a woman often cannot cause a man a signifi-

cant harm, but, at the same time, it is worth remembering that women are more likely to commit crimes with premeditated intent. It is known that a premeditated murder is characterised by absolutely or almost complete absence of the struggle of the victim, because it is easier for a physically weaker woman (Shalhunova, Orlean, Skok, 2017).

Although there are specific crimes that are most common among women, now it is possible to see a change in the structure of female crime, in particular, the scope of violent crimes increases (Radzevilova, 2017, p. 48). In general, women used to commit crimes on emotions, and now a woman is more often carrying out a planned, premeditated and serious crime (Priadkin, 2004). Numerous cases show that women are increasingly assimilating the type of social behaviour previously characteristic of men. The negative behaviour of male criminals (the use of excessive alcohol, drugs, immoral behaviour, lack of spirituality, etc.) is increasingly common among women who commit criminal acts (Shalhunova, Orlean, Skok, 2017).

3. Negative trends in female crime.

According to T. Korniakova, negative trends in female crime are:

- the similarity with male crime as for a large number of indicators;
- increase in grave crimes in the structure of female crime, professionalism and organised female crime;
- increase of the cases of older children murder (for example, the mother's murder of daughter because of jealousy to the co-habitant);
- the murder of the lover's children in order to eliminate the "obstacles" for the husband's family's leaving;
- the woman's murder of her own children, who are "superfluous" for the idea of establishing a new family);
- etc. (Korniakova, 2016, p. 49).

With each year, violence is increasingly widespread in various spheres of human life, with regard to both the aggressiveness of violent crimes and the gravity of their consequences (Gilinskij, 1995, p. 206).

Victims of female aggression and violence usually include relatives, co-workers, lovers. As a rule, a woman should consider a murder because of prolonged conflicts provoked by the behaviour of the victim (Rodionova, 2012, p. 144).

According to L. Kryzhna, female aggressiveness and criminal-dangerous acts in domestic conflicts increase, consistent with the results of the study of criminal cases, the specific weight of women who committed domestic crimes has increased more than twice in recent years (Kryzhna, 2000, p. 8).

Some scientists underline the negative changes in violent female crime in the emotional and motivational basis of criminal acts. Especially dangerous is the spread of the motive of criminal behaviour as an aspiration to pleasure, craving for aggressive violence (Kubalskyi, Momotiuk, 2018, p. 64). At present, the specificity of the criminological parameters of female crime allows to consider these crimes as an independent group, which takes an important position in the framework of the general crime and, consequently, crimes committed by women become an independent object of criminological study (Debolskij, 2019).

When assessing the impact of gender, it should be noted that men show higher levels of direct and physical aggression, and women show indirect and verbal aggression. In general, men are prone to physical-type violence, and women often apply a psychological type of violence (Petechel, 2019, p. 180).

Men are characterised by direct and indirect physical aggression, as well as direct verbal aggression, and women are characterised by indirect verbal aggression. Male and female aggression differs in the direction of aggressive influence: if the manifestations of aggression of external open type are characteristic of "strong half of humanity", then women usually transact aggression internally oriented, accompanied by accompanied by helplessness, hopelessness, loneliness (Petechel, 2019, p. 181). According to L. Chahovets, men by the level of manifestation are characterised by primarily physical aggression, the next is verbal, the third is negativism, the fourth is irritation, and the fifth is indirect aggression. Women are characterised by a different order: the first is verbal aggression, the second is irritation, the third is physical aggression, the fourth is negativism, and the fifth is indirect aggression. Women, compared to men, are characterised by less physical aggression and negativism, and more by indirect aggression and irritation (Chahovets, 2004).

Women consider aggression as an expression – a means of manifestation of anger and stress removal through the release of aggressive energy. Men, unlike women, consider

aggression as an instrument, as behaviour model, to which they apply to receive a diversified social and material reward (Petechel, 2019, p. 183).

Usually after aggression, women are in a state of concern as for the possible consequences of such behaviour. According to H. Hekhauzen, having showed aggression, women react to it with a sense of guilt and fear (Hekhauzen, 2003). Most women consider aggression as an expression of emotional tension through anger. Females are more concerned that aggression may turn on women themselves, for example, the possibility of being retaliated by the victim (Petechel, 2019, p. 182).

O. Petechel highlights the following characteristic features of aggressive female crime:

- 1) committing crimes using a premeditated plan;
- 2) special cruelty;
- 3) lack of strong family ties;
- 4) complicity in committing crimes with men;
- 5) the spread of recurrent crime, as well as the trend towards increase in its number;
- 6) complicated process of re-socialisation and further social adaptation;
- 7) the high level of latency;
- 8) equating to male crime;
- 9) increase in the number of grave and especially grave crimes;
- 10) etc. (Petechel, 2019).

4. Conclusions

To sum up, the recent trend in increased female crime requires constant focus and study. Aggression, cruelty and murder were associated with males all the time, but sometimes a woman can seriously outdo the "strong half of humanity." At present, the increase in the number of women found to have committed crimes is ahead of the corresponding increase in men-criminals. In recent years, the number of women convicted of violent crimes has been growing with geometric progression (Rodionova, 2012, p. 144).

An analysis of the motives for the female violent crime shows that they are often caused by the grave social and economic situation of women within the system of social relations.

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ДЕЯКІ ПИТАННЯ КРИМІНОЛОГІЧНОЇ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ АГРЕСИВНОЇ ЖІНОЧОЇ ЗЛОЧИННОСТІ

Анотація. Мета. Метою статті є дослідження основних аспектів скоєння жінками насильницьких злочинів та їх кримінологічна характеристика. **Результати.** Стаття присвячена розгляду питання агресивної насильницької жіночої злочинності, поведінки жінок-злочинців, аналізуванню мотивів вчинення таких злочинів, особливостям тенденції зростаючої жіночої злочинності, а також чіткому дослідженню їх кримінологічного портрету. У статті наведено визначення поняття жіночої злочинності, а також розглядається місце, роль, причини й ознаки насильницької агресивної та жорстокої жіночої злочинності. Зважаючи на те, що наразі злочинність жінок набирає оберти швидше чоловічої, це законно викликає більшу стурбованість суспільства. Агресія, жорстокість й вбивства повсякчас асоціювалися із чоловічою статтю, однак інколи жінка здатна серйозно перевершити «сильну половину людства». В сучасній Україні привертає увагу агресивність жінок, що скоюють злочини: 35% засуджених осіб жіночої статі покарано безпосередньо за агресивні (насильницькі) злочини. Кожна четверта особа жіночої статі, котра перебуває у виправних колоніях, осуджена за насильницькі злочини, котрі жінки здійснюють через тривалі сімейно-побутові конфлікти, а рід-

ше – у зв'язку із ревнощами й мотивами користі. Автором звертається увага читачів на те, що аналіз мотивів вчинення насильницького агресивного злочину жінкою показує, що часто вони обумовлюються тяжкими соціальним й економічним становищем жінки в рамках системи суспільних відносин. Якщо раніше не викликало сумніву, що загалом жінки здійснюють злочини на емоціях, то зараз жінка частіше виконує спланований, продуманий й тяжкий злочин. У статті відмічається поступова трансформація негативної поведінки жінок та засвоєння ними того типу суспільної поведінки, що раніше був характерним для чоловіків-злочинців (використання надмірної кількості спиртних напоїв, наркотики, аморальність, бездуховність тощо). **Висновки.** Як підсумок наголошується на підвищенні жіночої агресивності й криміногенно-небезпечних дій в межах сімейно-побутових конфліктів, а також визначається, що загалом приріст кількості насильства, напруженості та конфліктності в державі, насильницькі злочини, котрі агресивно реалізуються жінками, є віддзеркаленням етичного стану суспільства.

Ключові слова: жінка, злочинець, характеристика, жіноча злочинність, агресія, насильницька злочинність.

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