

## The System Analysis of Psychological Factors Determining Victimization of Deviant Adolescents in Society

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**Abstract:** The article discusses the problem of singularity of the system of psychological factors that influence the victimization of deviant adolescents in the present social environment. Here are presented the results of comparative studies of the factors of victimization behavior divided in two subgroups: adolescents with prosocial behavior and adolescents with deviant behavior. It is shown that adolescents with deviant behavior have qualitative and quantitative characteristics on psychological factors of victimization behavior that are inadequate self-esteem, high aggressiveness, self-destructive behavior, unstable emotional background. It is stated the necessity of creating a special system of victimological prophylaxis in educational institutions, especially in rehabilitation centers.

**Key words:** Victimization, the factors of victimization, prosocial adolescents, deviant adolescents, social disadaptation, desocialization

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### INTRODUCTION

In Russian psychology the study of problems of deviant behavior of children aged 13-15 years traditionally deals with issues of juvenile delinquency, alcoholism, drug abuse and aggression. Modern society dictates the need for a comprehensive study of victimization behavior, its characteristics, causes, factors and mechanism of development in adolescence as deviation, leading to the "victim syndrome". In this regard, it should be noted that one of the most significant factors contributing to violent crime is the victimization of deviant behavior of teenagers, varieties of which are diverse and hardly identified. The system analysis of psychological factors determining victimization of deviant adolescents in which a significant role is played by personality characteristics and behavior of teenagers with victim behavior implemented will allow to develop measures of preventive work directed on prevention of violence against deviant adolescents. Victimization of underage deviants is a kind of "dangerous condition" that is often associated with a "helpless-victim status of the person" and therefore should be included in the area of special social protection of minors.

In Russian psychology there are very few experimental studies on the theme of victim behavior of the individual there are only a few studies evaluating the psychological characteristics of children and adolescents in forensic psychiatric material (E.A. Burelov, G.I. Morozova, I.V. Kuznetsov., M.A. Dogadina, L.O. Perezhogin, I.A. Kudryavtsev, V.L. Vasilyev, I.I. Mamajchuk ). However, the need for such research was becoming more important in practical terms. At this

moment unstudied was the problem of the genesis of victim behavior, the system of factors determining its occurrence, peculiarities of manifestations of these patterns of behavior in adolescents, do not become a victim of a criminal situation. Almost there is no satisfactory diagnostic material to identify potential victimization of a teenager. Also, a little developed a system of preventive measures aimed at prevention of victim behavior.

Our study was aimed at identifying and studying psychological factors of victim behavior of adolescents with deviant behavior and at the opportunities victimological prevention in these adolescents. In accordance with the set object was proposed following the hypothesis that adolescents with deviant behavior in comparison with prosocial adolescents have qualitative and quantitative characteristics on psychological factors of victimization behavior that are inadequate self-esteem, high aggressiveness, self-destructive behavior, unstable emotional background.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

In the pilot study were posed and solved the following tasks:

- Formation of experimental and control samples of psychological research
- Classification and testing of complex experimental diagnostic techniques for adolescents with prosocial behavior, deviant behavior by identifying the psychological factors that lead to victimization behavior

- Examination and interpretation of the experimental material in the sample prosocial and deviant adolescents
- Development of recommendations for the prevention of victim behavior of adolescents with deviant behavior

The methodological position of the study were determined on the basis of the fundamental provisions of Russian psychology about the objective laws of psychological development of normal and abnormal child, the foundation of which rests on the theory of cultural-historical development of higher mental functions of Vygotsky, the unity of the age patterns in normal and abnormal mental development of the child and the role of the child's activity as factor in mental development and self-development (K.A. Abulkhanova-Slavskaya, T.A. Vlasova, L.S. Vygotsky, V.V. Lebedinsky, I.Yu. Levchenko, V.I. Lubovsky, V.G. Petrov, V.I. Slobodchikov, U.V. Ulyenkova etc.) classic victimological concepts (L.V. Frank, D.V. Rivman, V.J. Rybalskaya, A.L. Repetskaya, V.A. Tulyakov) as well as the principles of determinism, systematic, development, developed in the works of S.L. Rubinstein, A.N. Leontiev.

During the research the following methods were used: method of theoretical analysis; experiment; method of comparative analysis; qualitative and quantitative analysis; methods of mathematical statistics. For the study of psychological factors in the victimization of deviant adolescents were used the following methods: Questionnaire the tendency to victimization behavior, allowing to measure the predisposition of adolescents to the implementation of various forms of victim behavior: aggressive, self-destructive, very social, dependent, uncritical. Additionally, the method allows to evaluate the level of implemented victimization of deviant adolescents. Luscher's color test which allows to study emotional state and personal characteristics of adolescents. Test includes 8 colors, which must be ranked in order of decreasing sympathy. Questionnaire of G.N. Kazantseva, aimed at studying self-appraisal of adolescents. The method includes 20 test questions and reveals too high, adequate or low self-esteem.

Mathematical processing of results of experiment was carried out using the Fisher test, designed to match the 2 samples on the frequency of occurrence the researcher is interested in the effect and the Mann-Whitney test used to assess the significance of differences between two independent samples. We used Spearman's rank correlation, allowing to limit the strength and direction of correlation between the two traits.

The base of the research was state educational institutions and rehabilitation centers of the city of Kirov and Kirov region. The study involved 150 adolescents with prosocial behavior, which were included in the

control sample and 124 teenagers with deviant behavior consisting on the account in police juvenile, formed the experimental sample.

**The study was conducted in three stages:** In the first phase the control and experimental samples were formed, which included teenagers never commit offences and teenagers with offenses and consisting on the account in the Commission on Affairs of minors or undergo social and psychological rehabilitation. Previously their behavior was monitored and the conversation relating to the characteristics of the relationship with social groups was held. To differentiate adolescents the test-questionnaire of tendency to victimization behavior was conducted. The second phase was actually carried out an experimental study of the factors of victim behavior of adolescents, comparative analysis of the obtained results, makes conclusions and generalizations.

The 3rd phase developed recommendations for the prevention of victim behavior in an environment of deviant adolescents; carried out the systematization and presentation of materials research. During the organizational phase of the experiment were formed two samples of adolescents by the existence of deviant behavior and the implemented victimization. Adolescents with prosocial behavior with no experience of victimization behavior were not included in the control group. Adolescents with prosocial behavior, with experience in victim behavior were included in the control group. Adolescents with deviant behavior and experience of victimization made up the experimental group.

In the course of the experimental phase was measured the susceptibility of adolescents to the implementation of various forms of victim behavior: aggressive, self-destructive, very social, dependent and uncritical. We studied emotional state and personal characteristics of adolescents and their self-esteem. We made the assessment of the reliability of differences, the assessment of impact indicators on victimization behavior. In the recommendation phase were formulated recommendations for the prevention of the victimization of teenagers in conditions of educational institutions and rehabilitation center.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Analysis of the data on test-questionnaire of tendency to victimization behavior showed that adolescents with prosocial behavior have a minimal predisposition to victimization behavior. Teenagers with deviant behavior are most prone to aggressive conduct, self-destructive behavior, non-critical behavior and have a high level of implemented victimization (Fig. 1). The results of the statistical analysis of the study criteria of victimization at the U-criterion of Mann-Whitney show

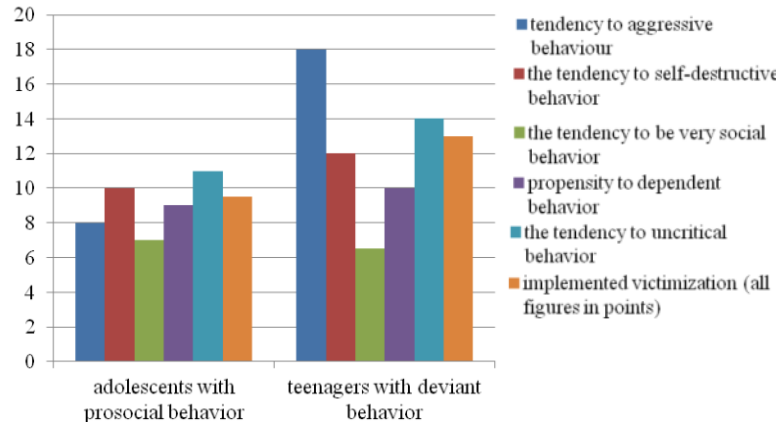


Fig. 1: Comparative results of a study of the propensity for victim behavior in adolescents with prosocial behavior and adolescents with deviant behavior

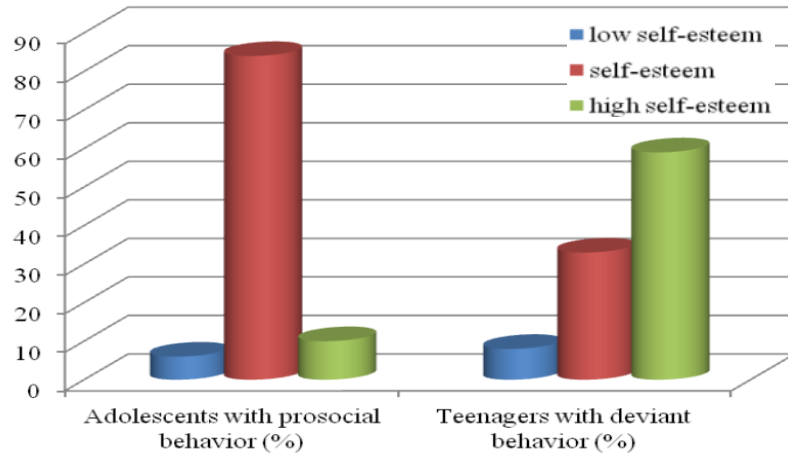


Fig. 2: Comparative results of research of self-evaluation of adolescents with prosocial behavior and adolescents with deviant behavior

that between samples obtained reliable significant differences, according to the criteria of aggressiveness, self-destructive behavior, uncritical behavior and level of implemented victimization ( $U_a=5$ ,  $U_a=0$ ,  $U_a=0$ ,  $U_a=0$ , if  $U \leq 398$ ). Using the methods G.N. Kazantseva found that adolescents with prosocial behavior dominated by the middle level (self-esteem) - 84%, high self-esteem at 10% of adolescents and 6% low self-esteem. Adolescents with deviant behavior characteristic of high self-esteem - 59% of adolescents, adequate self-esteem 33% of adolescents and 9% of adolescents low self-esteem (Fig. 2)

The results of the statistical analysis of the study of self-assessment according to the criterion of angular conversion Fischer show that between groups of study participants obtained significant differences (empirical value is in the area of significance,  $\varphi * EMP = 4.385$  when  $\varphi \leq 2.31$ ). Data analysis on the test of color choices by M. Lusher interpretation of layouts shows that prosocial adolescents (45%) is characterized by the need for change

fellowship and has a light entering into different social roles, the demonstrative, the need to please others, dependence on environmental effects, the search for recognition and a desire for involvement in interpersonal interaction, the immediacy of emotional reactions.

In 56% of deviant adolescents are marked emotionality, subjectivity bias, vulnerability, sensitivity, which lead to difficulties in social adaptation. The protest reaction to the situation, an uncompromising attitude towards the positions of others, intolerance to opinion of others, active resistance to external pressure, environmental influences are typical for almost half of the subjects of this group. Experiencing stress, anxiety, 63% showed that the self-esteem of adolescents with deviant behavior affects their victimization ( $R_s = 0.5$ , if  $0.41 = R = 0.52$ ) Personal qualities and related features contribute to the victimization of victimogenic deviant adolescents, as well as predispose to behavioral deviations. This leads to necessity of creation of special

system of victimological prophylaxis in educational institutions, especially rehabilitation centers. In basis of the system is identification of victimization of deviant adolescents, specific and focused work with each of them. It is in such individual prophylaxis is hidden a big potential in the real possibility of successful struggle against crimes against deviant adolescents.

Thus, the deviant behavior of adolescents is a high degree of victimization. Victimization behavior of deviants occurs mainly in the active form. It cannot be hidden from ordinary observation. Many of the signs of victim behavior, in the role of criminogenic factors become conditions of crimes. It is therefore necessary to neutralize the aggressive manifestations of the deviants, thus preventing their victimization and criminalization. It is advisable to allocate the following forms of victimization and of victimization characteristic of deviants: multiple victimization; pulse victimization and aggressive victimization. In the heart of the problem of victimization of deviant adolescents is the aspect of self-assessment this category of teenagers. In adolescents with deviant behavior is dominated by high self-esteem. This can be attributed to improper formation of the image "I", features of behavior (to look more authoritative than the rest) and inadequate education. High self-esteem, which receives no public recognition and satisfaction leads to alienation from the social system of values, pushing in search of a poor lifestyle.

Thus, adolescents with deviant behavior have a high level of implemented victimization. This is due to their behavior (nervous flash, unbalanced temperament), personality characteristics (lack of self-esteem, problems in communicating with others). Implemented victimization suggests that the teenager quite often gets into trouble or even dangerous for his health and life situation. The reason for this is the internal predisposition and readiness of the individual to act in a defined leading to an individual profile ways. Most often it is the pursuit of aggressive, hasty action, spontaneous nature.

They are most prone to aggressive conduct, self-destructive behavior, non-critical behavior. Aggressive behavior is a realization of the typical deviant adolescent antisocial orientation of the personality, in which the aggressiveness manifests itself in relation to certain persons and in certain situations (selectively) but it could be "blurry", non-personal object. There is a tendency to antisocial behavior, violation of social norms, rules and ethical values, which are often subject to neglect. These teens easily give in the emotions, especially negative character, clearly express them, dominant, impatient, quick-tempered. With all the differences in the motivation of behavior the presence of violent anti-social personality is evidently. Deviant teens with uncritical behavior demonstrate carelessness, imprudence, inability to correctly assess the life situation in the result of any

personal or situational factors: emotional state, age, level of intelligence, the disease. Teen non-critical type seems to have a penchant for alcohol, promiscuity in the dating, credulity, levity. It has fragile moral principles that are enhanced by the lack of personal experience or ignoring it. They are inclined to idealize people, to justify the negative behavior of others, not notice danger. Self-destructive behavior is characterized by its unawareness. Within this type are presented: the conscious instigator (requesting the infliction of harm), reckless instigator (behavior objectively in the form of any request or in some other way provokes the perpetrator to cause harm but the victim of this in the conscious), conscious self-causer (persons deliberately causing themselves physical or property damage), reckless self-causer (harm is caused by your own careless actions in the process of committing another intentional or reckless crime).

## CONCLUSION

Thus, in the analysis of the research, we have identified the following factors that can lead to victimization behavior: inflated self-esteem, high levels of aggression, inappropriate behavior (and uncritical self-destructive behavior), previously implemented victimization, unstable emotional background. Our study did not study the gender aspects of victim behavior deviant adolescents, which may become a promising direction of development of this subject.

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