

Seventh Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia



***Security and victimization: Challenges of
social reaction and victims' protection***

Book of abstracts

Belgrade, 24th and 25th November 2016

VII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia
Security and victimization: Challenges of social reaction and victims'
protection

Belgrade, 24th and 25th November 2016

PROGRAM

I day (24th November 2016)

09.00 – 09.30 **Participants' registration**

09.30 – 10.00 **Opening of the Conference**

- Prof. dr Slobodan Savić, President of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Mr Rodoljub Šabić, Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and Personal Data Protection, Serbia
- Mr. Saša Janković, Protector of Citizens (Ombudsman of Serbia)
- Mr. Branko Stamenković, Deputy Republic Prosecutor, Serbia
- Prof. dr Gorazd Meško, President-elect of the European Society of Criminology
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, Director of the Victimology Society of Serbia

10.00 – 10.30 **Victimology Society of Serbia Awards**

10.30 – 12.00 **Plenary session 1: Security and victimization: Challenges of social reaction and protection of victims**

Moderator: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović

- Prof. dr Nataša Mrvić-Petrović, Institute of Comparative Law and Law School, University Union in Belgrade, Serbia: *Legal protection of victims of terrorism in Serbia - achievements and possible improvements*
- Prof. dr Gorazd Meško, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor, Slovenia: *Local safety and security – the importance of victimological perspectives in (community) policing*
- Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia: *Migrant and refugee crisis – victimological aspects*

12.00 – 12.30 **Coffee break and poster presentations**

12.30 – 14.00 **Plenary session 2: Assistance and support to victims**

Moderator: dr Sanja Čopić

- Dr An Verelst, Victim Support Europe, Belgium, Levent Altan, Victim Support Europe, Belgium: *Analysis of victims' rights and services in Serbia and their alignment with EU Directive 2012/29/EU*
- Ilse Vande Walle, international trainer and consultant specialised in supporting children and young people as victims of crime, Belgium: *Practical assessment of victims' needs: an introduction to the latest methodologies*
- Sue O'Sullivan, Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime, Canada: *Working for Victims: Canada's Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime*

14.00 – 15.00 **Lunch break**

15.00 – 16.30 **Thematic sessions**

Thematic session 1: Victimization and security

Working language: English

Moderator: dr Sanja Čopić

- Kjell Elefalk, International Management and Police Consultant, Trygghet and Management Company, Sweden: *Local Safety Measurement System for Police Efficiency - A proposal to better combat crime, disorder and victimisation in Policing globally*
- Jeta Shkurti, Albanian General Prosecution Office, Victims of Crime Assistant Office, Albania: *The role of victims' assistant in fulfilling the victims' rights during criminal proceedings: The case of Albania*
- Dr Filippo Balistreri, EuroCrime Research, Training and Consulting srl, Florence, Italy: *Indicators, surveys and results of the MARGIN project: Tackle insecurity in marginalized areas*

Thematic session 2: Victimization and social response

Working language: Serbian

Moderator: prof. dr Dragana Batić

- Prof. dr Dragana Batić, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia: *Parental alienating syndrome as a kind of emotional abuse of children of divorce parents*
- Doc. dr Vesna Stefanovska, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia: *Criminal justice, social and restorative response to hate crime*
- Doc. dr Danica Vasiljević-Prodanović, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Serbia: *When a house becomes a prison*
- Dr Anja Mirosavljević, Faculty for Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Zagreb, Croatia: *Victim-offender mediation in Croatia: offender oriented model?*

- 16.30 – 17.00 **Coffee break and poster presentations**
17.00 – 18.30 **Thematic sessions**

Thematic session 3: Assistance and support to victims of crime and war

Working language: Serbian

Moderator: Jasmina Nikolić

- Mirela Mujagić, Cantonal Court in Bihać, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Olga Lola Ninković, District Court in Banja Luka, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Marija Pavlović, District Prosecutor's Office of East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Challenges and progress: Psychological support to victims of conflict related sexual violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the district level/cantonal courts and prosecutors' offices*
- Dr Branka Antić-Štauber, Snaga Žene, Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Life away from life*
- Jasmina Nikolić, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia, Bejan Šaćiri, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *An analysis of the VDS info and victim support service in the period from 2013 to 2015 with particular reference to the use of restorative dialogue and solution focused practice*
- Bojana Tankosić, Institution for Children and Youth "Dr Milorad Pavlović", Children's village, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, Ana Vidović; Institution for Children and Youth "Dr Milorad Pavlović", Children's village, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, Ivana Milosavljević-Đukić, „Centre for Protection of Infants, Children and Youth“, Belgrade, Serbia, Jara Petković; Centre for development of social welfare services "Princess Ljubica", Kragujevac, Serbia, Bojana Luković, Centre for development of social welfare services "Princess Ljubica", Kragujevac, Serbia, Marija Marković; Foster home for children and youth "Dusko Radovic", Nis, Serbia: *Previous experience in practice „Units for the protection of child abuse and victims in judicial proceedings“*

Thematic session 4: Victims of various forms of victimization and the importance of support

Working language: Serbian

Moderator: dr Filip Mirić

- Prof. dr Slađana Đurić, Faculty of Security Studies, University of Belgrade, Serbia, Ana Paraušić, MsC, Faculty of Security Studies, University of Belgrade, Serbia: *Victimization of immigrants: Experience of developed European countries*

- Doc. dr Bogdančo Gogov, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia: *The victim of the state crime in Macedonia*
- Dr Filip Mirić, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, Serbia: *The city of Skopje in times of adversity (1963): The Victimological Aspect*
- Doc. dr Tatjana Gerginova, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia: *Need for protection and support of victims of terrorism*
- Slobodan Stojanović, Member of the presidency of the The Association of Trade Unions of Pensioners of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia: *Pensioners as victims of the economic policy*

Poster presentations:

- Dr Michaela Stefunkova, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, Prague, Czech Republic, Zuzana Kostelnikova, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, Prague, Czech Republic: *Victimization Survey – What’s going on in the Czech Republic*
- Aleksandra Jovanović, Leskovac, Serbia: *Gender socialization and exposure of women living in rural areas to marital violence*
- Jelena Cvetanović, Belgrade, Serbia: *Mobbing experiences - Victims or survivors in healthcare institutions*

II day (25th November 2016)

10.00 – 11.30 Plenary session 3: Victimization, empowerment and recovery

Moderator: prof. dr Gorazd Meško

- Prof. dr Natti Ronel, Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University, Israel: *Becoming a victim - between primary and secondary powerlessness: implications for recovery*
- Prof. dr Nina Peršak, Ghent University, Faculty of Law, Gent, Belgium: *The burkini debate, radicalisation and the freedom to (un)dress: empowering or victimising?*
- Prof. dr Mally Shechory Bitton, Department of Criminology, Ariel University, Israel: *Posttraumatic Growth Following Exposure to Terror Events Among Israeli Mothers*

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break and poster presentations

12.00 – 13.30 Plenary session 4: Victimization and protection of victims: the experience of different countries

Moderator: dr Sanja Čopić

- Prof. dr Chadley James, Department of Criminology, California State University, Fresno, US: *Victim Participation in the Criminal Justice System: Re-evaluating Impact Statements*
- Sarah Simons, Executive Committee Member, World Society of Victimology, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University, Wales, UK: *Re-Victimization by the Media: Advocating Duty-of-Care for Responsible Journalism in Africa*
- Jelena Watkins, MA, ASSIST Trauma Care, UK: *Peer support for cross-border victims of terrorism: Lessons learnt in the UK after 9/11 and Paris attacks*

13.30 – 14.30 **Lunch break**

14.30 – 16.00 **Thematic sessions**

Thematic session 5: Children and juveniles as victims and offenders

Working language: Serbian

Moderator: prof. dr Oliver Bačanović

- Dr Sanja Čopić, Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research and Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *Victimisation of minors in Serbia: Results of the International Self Reported Study*
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade and Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia, M.Sc. Ljiljana Stevković, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade and Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *Happiness as a factor of victimization and delinquency of minors*
- Doc. dr Nataša Jovanova, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia, Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia: *Correlation between delinquency and victimization among school children*

Thematic session 6: Victims of violence: from victimization to empowerment

Working language: Serbian

Moderator: prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović

- Prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović, Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies, Educons University, Novi Sad, Serbia: *Firearms possession and domestic violence in Serbia*
- Dr Zorica Mršević, Institute for social studies, Belgrade, Serbia, M.Sc Svetlana Janković, Strategic Research Institute, Serbia: *Implementation of the principles of local ownership: From victimization to empowerment of women*

- Jelena Tadžić, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Serbia: *Integrated Response to Violence against Women in Family and Intimate Partner Relationships in Serbia*
- Jelena Grujić, MA, Educons University, Novi Sad, Serbia: *Victimisation of older people by violence in the Republic of Serbia - Empirical research in the municipality of Novi Sad in the period 2006-2015*

16.00 – 16.30 **Closing of the conference**

Program Committee of the Conference

- Prof. dr Alenka Šelih, professor emeritus at the Law School, University of Ljubljana and a member of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Slovenia)
- Prof. dr Jaishankar Karuppanan, professor at the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University and editor in chief of the International Journal of Cyber Criminology and International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences (India)
- Prof. dr Janice Joseph, distinguished professor at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey (USA)
- Prof. dr Robert Peacock, professor and head of the Department of Criminology, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein (South Africa)
- Prof. dr Natti Ronel, professor at the Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University (Israel)
- Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, full professor and the Dean of the Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski"- Bitola, Republic of Macedonia
- Dr Uglješa Zvekić, Former Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva, President of the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) from 2011 to 2013, Research Fellow and Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Law, University in Belgrade, Faculty of Law, University Roma Tre in Rome, Free International University for Social Studies (LUISS), Rome, Senior advisor, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI), Geneva
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, full professor at the Faculty for Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, director of the Victimology Society of Serbia and former president of the European Society of Criminology
- Prof. dr Slobodanka Konstantinović-Vilić, retired full professor of the Law School, University of Niš
- Prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović, associate professor at the Faculty for European Legal and Political Studies, EDUCONS University, Novi Sad
- Dr Ivana Stevanović, senior research associate and director of the Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade, president of the Child Right's Center and a member of the Council of the Government for children rights

Organizing Committee of the Conference

- Prof. dr Slobodan Savić, full professor at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, President of the Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, full professor at the Faculty for Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, director of the Victimology Society of Serbia and former president of the European Society of Criminology
- Dr Sanja Čopić, research associate at the Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade and president of the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Jasmina Nikolić, manager of the victim support service VDS info and victim support in the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Bejan Šaćiri, researcher and coordinator in the Victimology Society of Serbia

PLENARY SESSIONS

Plenary session 1: Security and victimization: Challenges of social reaction and protection of victims

Legal protection of victims of terrorism in Serbia - achievements and possible improvements

Prof. dr Nataša Mrvić-Petrović

Institute of Comparative Law and Law School, University Union in Belgrade, Serbia

The main focus of this paper is on explaining specificities of legal protection of victims of terrorism in Serbia. This kind of protection is provided for in the criminal justice system, through civil procedure and within health and social-welfare system. There are special rules of the state liability for a damage caused to citizens by terrorism and other acts of political violence. The scope of guaranteed rights is wider compared to the standards in the Germanic, Roman and Nordic jurisdictions, as well as in the countries in the Balkan region. This concept guarantees, for example, the right of full reparation and compensation (for material and non-material damage) through the court procedures followed by the rights from health and social-welfare systems. However, victims of terrorism can hardly exercise their rights to access the justice and to compensation from the offender. Moreover, victims can rarely realise their right to get compensation from the state, because they cannot prove the fact that they have been victims of politically motivated violence in a current situation, especially when the offender is not identified, or there was no criminal procedure. Protection of victims' rights in practice is also ineffective because victims of terrorism are not separated according to their legal status from other crime victims or beneficiaries of social protection. Additionally, there is no special service for prompt disposal, support and legal assistance to victims of terrorism nor any other organisational and material conditions for the effective implementation of the existing legal framework. In order to improve the position of victims a special state fund for compensation for victims of violence must be established, as well as special services and mobile teams for the effective risk management and prompt compensation. The author is convinced that in this way possible problems regarding cross-border victimization could be reduced, which is an important task that must be met by the European Union Member States.

Local safety and security – the importance of victimological perspectives in (community) policing

Prof. dr Gorazd Meško

The paper presents findings from the research project on safety and security in local communities in Slovenia (2015-2018) conducted by the researchers of the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor. This project, in addition to other perspectives of local safety and security, re-examines the findings from the previous research on police officers' attitudes towards victims of crime, community policing, and criminal investigation of specific crimes. Following recommendations of the EFUS, the UNODC Manual on victimization survey, and a literature review on police work with victims of crime, we preliminarily tested some victimological perspectives of provision of safety and security in local communities, such as crime victims' experiences with the police, especially in regard to procedural justice, police effectiveness, trust in police and other criminal justice institutions after experiencing victimization, fear of crime, preventative measures and social capital, willingness to cooperate with the police and perception of police legitimacy. The findings show that people experiencing secondary victimization, being victims or witnesses of crime, are less satisfied with the police services and report inappropriate attitude and behaviour of police officers towards them. In this regard a focus group discussion on prevention of secondary victimization was organized and showed problems of police officers dealing with different victims of crime. The most positive changes have happened in dealing with victims of specific crimes, especially victims of trafficking in human beings. A case study on the work of criminal investigators with victims of trafficking in human beings is presented and discussed as the police in these cases cooperate closely with NGOs and other organizations to help victims and provide them with necessary support and protection. Their efforts to meet victims' rights, their needs and provide them with proper police services could serve as an example for other police officers who deal with victims of crimes on a daily basis. Proper job training and supervision of police officers are needed to maintain a high quality of their interactions with victims of crime, especially when it comes to young, stigmatised and senior people. Experiences with secondary victimization have a negative impact on the perception of police legitimacy and cause victims' disillusionment about professionalism of criminal justice system.

Migrant and refugee crisis – victimological aspects

Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović

Faculty of Security - Skoplje, University "St. Kliment Ohridski" - Bitola, Republic of Macedonia

Within a short introduction to this paper, circumstances and causes that led to the biggest migrant and refugee waves after the Second World War that caused the European migrant or refugee crisis, as well as victimization related to it will be discussed. The complexity of migrant and refugee crisis determines the complexity and various forms of victimization that migrants or refugees are exposed to (as potential and/or real victims) as individuals, families, entities, or groups (ethnic, cultural, religious, national, etc.), starting from the countries of origin, through the transit countries, to the countries of final destination. In this respect, there is a need to, first of all, recognize migrants and refugees as specific and vulnerable categories of victims, and to try to determine their characteristics, as well as to make a classification of appropriate forms of victimization of these victims. Next point to be made relates to the question what are the consequences of victimization and how reaction to the victimisation looks like, particularly in the Republic of Macedonia (whose experiences were especially studied), but also in the countries along the so-called Balkan route, as well as in the countries of final destination (primarily those that were most exposed during this crisis, and are also members of the EU). In this respect, the policy of integration of migrants and refugees as a part of the EU migration policy, as well as its implementation will be examined. In this context, some EU Member States arose the question of reconsidering, even the basic principles of the migration policy, which is exactly the consequence of this crisis. In the end, the author gives his observations and suggestions, arguing for the concept of migrant and refugee crisis management based on the recognized status of migrants and refugees as victims, and, consequently, on the respect of their human rights and freedoms. In finding out answers to the questions that present the subject of this paper, the author has used relevant literature in this area, and other sources, primarily secondary sources of information (e.g. the data from the Ministry of Interior, some international organizations that are working on this issue etc.), but also the data from the interviews with representatives of the Macedonian Red Cross (General Secretary and Secretary of the Red Cross from Skopje), Border police, the People's Advocate, the Helsinki Committee for human rights of the Republic of Macedonia and the International organization for migration (IOM Office in Skopje). In addition, the author attended several significant international scientific and professional conferences that were held in the Republic of Macedonia during a one year period, which were dedicated to the topic of migrant and refugee crisis. These conferences were organized by MANU, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, Faculty of Security-Skopje and other organizations and institutions. The conferences were attended by representatives of the relevant authorities, state institutions, civil society organizations, academic institutions, etc., from both Macedonia and abroad,

where the author actively participated, giving his assessments, suggestions and proposals, which are actualized, presented and explained in this paper.

Plenary session 2: Assistance and support to victims

Analysis of victims' rights and services in Serbia and their alignment with EU Directive 2012/29/EU

Dr An Verelst

Victim Support Europe, Belgium,

Levent Altan

Victim Support Europe, Belgium

Victim Support Europe worked together with the World Bank and Serbian stakeholders to carry out an Analysis on Serbia's alignment with the EU Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime (2012/29). The analysis was carried out through surveys among victim support providers, legislative review, and mapping of existing practical and institutional arrangements. The project included facilitation of stakeholder dialogue and resulted in recommendations for improving Serbian law and practice to establish comprehensive victim support services. During this presentation VSE will address some of the key findings of the compliance analysis with the EU Directive on specific topics included in the Directive such as victim support, information provision, training and protection. In general, the analysis showed foundations for meeting minimum EU standards are in place. However, it also unveiled legislative and practice gaps, coordination weaknesses, unnecessary duplication and inequalities of service provision. The analysis also highlighted promising collaborations and good practices in Serbia. Building on good practices of victim support provision in different EU Member States some recommendations made in the report are described during the presentation.

Practical assessment of victims' needs: An introduction to the latest methodologies

Ilse Vande Walle

international trainer and consultant specialised in supporting children and young people as victims of crime, Belgium

What do victims need? This question is often heard when supporting victims of crime or a disaster. The general view is clear on this. Victims need help,

preferably help by an expert, as soon as possible after the event happened. But is this true? Latest research shows that most victims, whether adults or children, recover in a natural way with the help of their own social network. On the other hand, research also shows that victims want to be recognised: they find it very important that they are contacted and offered support by organisations like Victim Support. But how do we find a good balance in this as a Victim support worker; that we give a victim what they need? Based upon the latest research and the daily practice of Victim Support, the author has set up a project to improve the assessment of victims' needs. A guideline, handout, and training have been developed. In this paper, latest research, victim' needs and a tool to assess victim's needs will be presented and discussed.

Working for Victims: Canada's Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime

Sue O'Sullivan,

*Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime, Government of Canada, Ottawa
Canada*

The Office of the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime (OFOVC) in Canada was created in 2007 to help victims of crime and their families. In a pre-taped video presentation, the author will speak to the role and mandate of her Office, as well as the work she is doing to encourage the federal government to enhance Canada's programs, policies, laws and services for victims of crime. The OFOVC works to help victims both individually and collectively. On an individual level, the Office takes inquiries and complaints from victims and other Canadians about federal programs, laws, policies or services. The Office also provides victims who contact the Office with information about the resources available to them in their community. Collectively, the author assists all victims of crime in Canada by making recommendations to the federal government about how to enhance its law, policies and services for victims, in order to better meet their needs. The author will also discuss her place within a federal context, her Office's mandate and the types of impact her work has on victims. She will also share some of the most current development in victims' rights at a federal level in Canada and her work at the international level.

Plenary session 3: Victimization, empowerment and recovery

Becoming a victim - between primary and secondary powerlessness: implications for recovery

Prof. dr Natti Ronel

Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University Israel

The main object of this paper is to analyze a unique phenomenology of individuals who survived past victimization, and to suggest a way of recovery that targets this phenomenology, named Graceway. A basic assumption is that harmful events and experiences, whether it involves a single or recurrent events, are always forced upon their victims, who never choose to be hurt. Because of different reasons survivors could not escape the harm inflicted upon them, be it either direct or indirect harm. While harm is an external experience, victimization is a personal one, an experience of the self. This experience involves a twofold powerlessness over the process of becoming a victim: 1. A primary powerlessness over the harmful event(s); 2. A secondary powerlessness over the influence of the event(s) on their life afterwards. The primary powerlessness is inherent to the victimization itself. It lies in the past and it is impossible to be changed. Although it is a very unpleasant experience, for recovery purpose it must be accepted as a fact of the past. The secondary powerlessness is mostly manifested in the survivor's reactions to the primary powerlessness. On the process of becoming a victim, the survivor adopts an identity typified by a recurring attempt to overcome the primary powerlessness by set of reactions. These reactions might negatively impact the everyday life of the survivors. Such reactions might limit and harm the survivor's relationships with others, with oneself, with the world and with God. The secondary powerlessness continues from the time of the victimizing event through present time and might continue in future time. Recovery targets the secondary powerlessness of the present time and provides means to reduce it, thus to change the future time. Graceway is a 12-Step based, professional model of recovery that emphasizes this process. It suggests the recovering individuals a way of life that includes inter-personal, intra-personal and spiritual aspects, all aimed at accepting the primary powerlessness and gradually becoming free of the secondary one. Initially, it provides survivors with various practical solutions which enhance their inner strength and enable them to overcome their secondary powerlessness. Subsequently, as a spiritual, non-religious, faith-based model for self-change, Graceway directs survivors towards a meaningful spiritual life.

**The burkini debate, radicalisation and the freedom to (un)dress:
empowering or victimising?**

Prof. dr Nina Peršak

Ghent University, Faculty of Law, Gent, Belgium

Fear from terrorism and radicalisation has been known to fuel many recent punitive laws and prohibitions in Europe. One of them is the recent burkini ban,

i.e. ban on wearing a full-body swimsuit on a beach, enforced in France, Cyprus, Sardinia and contemplated in many other countries, including Belgium. The aim of the paper is to look at the recent media debates on this topic and investigate the logic, justifications and other normative considerations behind burkini prohibitions. We shall first inspect whether terrorism and radicalisation are likely to be influenced by such societal reactions, and in what way. While acknowledging that the terrorist threat is certainly real in countries like Belgium, it may be argued that countering societal fears and frustrations by prohibiting Muslim to bathe in burkini is a misplaced societal reaction with possibly unintended consequences. Further, we shall inspect the possible likelihood and success of using the burkini prohibition to empower Muslim women and change the mentality behind the veiling of women (the latter often assumed as representing oppression and devaluing of women) by drawing on socio-legal and social psychological research. Can "progress" or "liberation of women" be achieved telling them how to dress, more specifically, by insisting they disrobe? Lastly, we shall inspect the media debate on this topic (in France, Belgium and UK) and note the characteristics behind certain types of media discourse (including some tell-tale silences) as well as the potential power of the new media.

Posttraumatic Growth Following Exposure to Terror Events Among Israeli Mothers

Prof. dr Mally Shechory Bitton

Department of Criminology, Ariel University, Israel

The idea that stressful events or life crises may lead to positive personal change has been suggested in ancient literature, philosophy, and religion. Yet, only during the last two decades, in line with currently prevalent positive psychology theories was the term posttraumatic growth (PTG) proposed by Tedeschi and Calhoun (1996). PTG refers to the experience of positive psychological change that relates to survivors' perception of self, relationships with others, and philosophy of life, accruing from their attempts to cope with trauma and its aftermath. The link between PTG and PTSD has been characterized in different ways. Those who believe that high levels of distress are prerequisite for PTG, argue for a positive association. Those who consider PTG to be an adaptive outcome of successfully coping with trauma and its negative psychological consequences, argue for a negative association between the two. Some researchers found no association between PTSD and PTG. Finally, there are researchers who assert a curvilinear association, with the highest levels of PTG experienced by individuals suffering from intermediate levels of distress. In light of the ambiguity characteristic of the literature on the relationship between

PTG and PTSD, the current study aims to broaden the knowledge regarding the association between post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), posttraumatic growth (PTG), and coping strategies among Israeli mothers exposed to ongoing missile attacks. Thus, we examined the association between post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), posttraumatic growth (PTG), and coping strategies among Israeli mothers with prolonged exposure to rocket missiles. Questionnaires were distributed and administered during 2009 (June-November). One hundred and fifty two mothers, from the Western Negev region of Israel, took part in the study. Overall, the results indicate that prolonged missile attacks left their mark on the respondents even if they were not hit or injured themselves. A positive correlation was found between PTSD and PTG. Mediation and moderation effects for emotional and problem-focused coping were examined. Results indicate that problem-focused coping mediates the relationship between PTSD and PTG; the higher the PTSD the greater the use of problem-focused coping, and the greater the posttraumatic growth.

Plenary session 4: Victimization and protection of victims: the experience of different countries

Victim Participation in the Criminal Justice System: Re-evaluating Impact Statements

Prof. dr Chadley James

Department of Criminology, California State University, Fresno, USA

The old adage of victims being the forgotten actors in the criminal justice system (CJS) seems to no longer apply. Today, victims' rights ensure the participation of victims at various stages of the criminal justice process. The most notable form of participation is the delivery of a victim impact statement at the sentencing phase of a criminal trial. However, the use of such statements has ignited a debate to who actually benefits: the victim? Or the CJS? Research has shown that the emotionally charged statements lead to more punitive sentencing decisions, and do little in the way of victim satisfaction and recovery from the trauma they experience after exiting the system. Despite evidence that suggests that victim impact statements do not accomplish what they set out to achieve, a rethinking of the statements use is needed. This paper analyzes the process of creating and delivering victim impact statements, and argues that it is the CJS that benefits from its use. Given that the inclusion of these statements is here to stay, potential solutions to the victim benefiting when making these statements are presented. Doing this is argued to better prepare and manage the victim during the process and hopefully elicit the victimological yield intended for these statements.

Re-Victimization by the Media: *Advocating Duty-of-Care for Responsible Journalism in Africa*

Sarah Simons

Executive Committee Member, World Society of Victimology, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University, Wales, UK

In the ‘global village’, the media plays a pivotal role in information collection and dissemination at all levels. The current globalized nature of both print and electronic media facilitates the transmission of both bad and good news across the world swiftly. In addition, the consumption of media feeds is no longer a one-way affair whereby journalists packaged their interpretation of facts into programs for consumption by a passive audience. Today the world-wide-web has provided interactive, mobile and inexpensive ‘new media’ platforms like *twitter, facebook*, etc. through which a global audience is able to participate in content collection and dissemination by posting images and stories to media websites, real-time, from anywhere in the world. Nonetheless, the editorial challenge to automated media networks in filtering incoming information prior to broadcasting online and in live-streamed reports, still remains a professional ethical challenge, as well as a responsibility that journalists cannot ignore. A surge in number of libel cases in recent years against comments on social media, and of defamation cases against traditional media, attests to the potentially serious and costly consequences of misrepresentation of facts by the media. Every institution is expected to strive towards compliance with universal guidelines regarding the treatment of those harmed by crime. Such guiding instruments include: the *Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*, and *United Nations Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law*, among others. This paper will highlight some concerns about instances when the media may have reneged in their professional conduct, by projecting disrespect for victims’ dignity, and in compromising the safety, physical and psychological well-being of vulnerable individuals and communities. Using a sample of open-sourced news reports on terrorism-related events in Africa, I will illustrate how these have the potential to re-victimize people, who had already experienced the initial harmful impacts of criminal events. In presenting these facts, my intention is to highlight specific mechanisms by which journalists could exercise duty-of-care in reducing the vulnerability of the (potential) victims covered in their stories. This presentation advocates for responsible journalism in Africa.

Peer support for cross-border victims of terrorism: Lessons learnt in the UK after 9/11 and Paris attacks

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Terrorist attacks seem to erupt more and more frequently in this time of global upheaval. For those directly affected, the trauma of such attacks may take a lifetime to heal, if it ever does. The traumatic reactions become even more severe when people are victimised in a foreign country as they often face additional legal, political, cultural and financial complexities. This paper will look into peer support, in its different forms, as an effective form of support for people affected by cross-border terrorist attacks. Setting up of support groups for victims of terrorism, however, is not without challenges, which will be explored. The focus of the paper is on two major international incidents affecting British nationals, the first one being the attacks of 11 September 2001. There were 67 British citizens who died in the attacks and several other victims with family connections to the UK. As one of the bereaved relatives, the author was actively involved in organising peer support in the UK after the attacks. The second international incident was the Paris attacks of 13 November 2015, and the author's role was as a trauma psychotherapist within a service delivered in collaboration with Victims Support and financed by the Ministry of Justice. She was also a creator and facilitator of a peer support group for the UK based survivors. In spite of reported benefits and people's expressed preferences for peer support, the set up of such groups remains an ad-hoc rather than systematically planned support service in the UK. The writer's intention is to raise awareness of the value and importance of peer-support groups post-terrorism, especially in cases of more complex problems such as with cross-border victims of terrorism.

THEMATIC SESSIONS

Local Safety Measurement System for Police Efficiency - a proposal to better combat crime, disorder and victimisation in policing globally

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The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of a new possible approach to the tasks concerning better police efficiency in combating crime and victimization. Unfortunately, these approaches are not common in Police Services globally, on the contrary seemed rare. Every Police Service needs to challenge the present internal paradigm of policing and there are unluckily few deeper concepts of that kind, so far, globally. With challenges, I mean a number of factors that influence Police management in general and specifically the delivery of Community Policing to combat victimization. How do the Police measure performance in the delivery of Community Policing? How do The Police increase the public's influence in Community Policing? How do the Police measure the real crime rate and the victimization figures? No doubt that a lot of initiatives in the area of public influence has been taken throughout the world, especially in the fields of community policing, however there are few systematically done in a long sighted attentive way. I am going to supplement my hypothesis with concrete police research examples from Sweden last decades and a few illustrations from my work in Albania 2012-2015. I try to contribute with more or less embryonal answers to the questions. Let's start with Sir Robert Peel's principles, the legendary so called founder of modern policing introduced for almost 200 years ago. Reading the principles, we can find, at least to my mind, one of the principles if not totally forgotten, never exercised systematically in Police Services today. "*The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, and not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them.*" In my modern reading of Peel means such a mandatory statement that Police services have to methodically measure the volume of crime, victimisation figures, disorder problems and disturbances to the peace in suitable intervals. The primary purpose of the paper is to discuss an intelligence-based working method to increase Police and Crime Prevention, reduce exposure to different crime types covering strategic crimes, victimisation and enhance the prospects of improving safety for all living in the local community. The working method is tried in both The Swedish Police and the Albanian State Police during the last decade. The main instrument is the analysis of the safety situation including the level of real victimization in local communities by means of respondents living in the local residential areas.

The role of victims' assistant in fulfilling the victims' rights during criminal proceedings: The case of Albania

Jeta Shkurti

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At any time and place, when someone has been in serious psychological, social and economic situation as a result of a criminal offense, in one way or another, assistance is offered. Thirty years ago, in the U.S. this type of assistance was requested and was decided to be institutionalized through legal mechanisms. Even in Albania, has come the day that the constitutional body which conducts the criminal prosecution decided to establish the Victims of Crime Assistant Office. People, once forgotten by justice, such as child victims or disabled persons, victims of domestic violence, victims of sexual exploitation, trafficking and terrorism, now have an office which provides information and advice on their rights in the criminal process. The assistance to victims of minor age, their accompaniment by psychologist during interrogation sessions or during leisure activities, their involvement in everyday life and in activities that would bring their re-socialization, have been the spotlight of the Albanian General Prosecution Office. Also, its focus has been establishing cooperation relationships with non-profit organizations and available state services which operate in the justice arena, and provide pro-bono psycho-social-medical services to victims. The purpose of this paper is to raise awareness on the role of victims' assistant during criminal proceedings as an important factor in meeting the rights of victims. As provided in the recently approved law on the Organization and Functioning of the Prosecution Office in the Republic of Albania, the Victims of Crime Assistant Office is foreseen as the sector of assistance to individuals with special status, and aims to expand the network of cooperation with all stakeholders of the justice system in order to satisfy the expectations of the victims of crime through inclusion of their needs and requirements in the process.

Indicators, surveys and results of the MARGIN project: Tackle insecurity in marginalized areas

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The purpose of the paper is to present the results achieved by the MARGIN Project to date. The transnational and multi-sector research on the perceptions

of (in)security among different demographic and victims groups has been funded by the EU Horizon 2020 Programme and it involves seven leading institutions in social researches from five EU countries (Spain, Italy, France, the United Kingdom, Hungary). MARGIN overall objectives are: 1) to identify, validate and analyze factors influencing public and personal perception of insecurity; 2) to analyze the relationship between socio-economic inequalities, victimization and crime: explore the impact of insecurity among different demographic and socio-economic groups. Analyzing data on crime and victimization in five countries, MARGIN identified a series of demographic, socio-economic and socio-geographic variables influencing the perception of insecurity. On this basis, the project developed and validated a thematic module capable to assess the impact of those variables on the perception of insecurity. On July 2016 the process started and the quantitative survey using the module had been implemented on a sample of 15.629 citizens in Italy through the CATI method, including a CAMI and CAWI correction plan. The frame population is composed by three subgroups: a) the Italian municipalities with a resident population between 50,000 and 199,999 inhabitants; b) the Italian municipalities with more than 200,000 inhabitants; c) the four major Italian municipalities. The first two subgroups have been sampled using a proportional criterion, whereas the one defined by the major Italian cities by a purposive sample design. The sample is divided among the three subgroups in a non-proportional manner. 1,000 CAMI interviews had been implemented thanks to a database of pre-validated mobile phone numbers, generated using a RDD technique. The survey had been accomplished on October 17th 2016. The data will be processed and analyzed in order to: 1) explore the cross-cultural potential of the module; 2) to provide a set of validated indicators enabling the assessment of insecurity among different demographic and socioeconomic groups. By deepening the understanding of the root causes of insecurity, the research will provide policy makers with evidence-based tools for developing and assessing strategies targeted at better facing risks and increasing the public and personal perception of security.

Thematic session 2: Victimization and social response

Parental Alienating Syndrome as a kind of emotional abuse of children of divorced parents

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Children are particularly vulnerable to the divorce of their parents since they face big changes and loss of family support during the process of parental divorce. Additionally, many parents show decreased parental capacities due to the stress associated with divorce. What harms children the most is placing them in the very core of the conflict between parents, particularly when their emotions are used as a weapon. Although most parents learn how to communicate on a parental level or at least not to damage child's relationship with the other parent, there is still a small percentage of parents who stay in a constant interpersonal conflict, manipulating with their children and harming relationships between a child and the other parent. Conflict between parents keeps them in a condition of anger that reduces emotional potential for raising children. In this case we could speak about emotional abuse of a child that may result in child's temporal or permanent rejection of the other parent. This paper attempts to explore and explain emotional abuse of children, associated with parental divorce, and negative effects of parental alienation on children, using historical perspective and overview of the research results. One disorder is *Parental Alienate Syndrome*, when custodial parent teaches a child to reject the other parent, resist contact, or show extreme reluctance to be with him/her. In that case, children reject contacts with a parent with whom they previously had a good relationship, including contacts with his/her family, often paralleling the other parent's negative attitudes. The other disorder - *Malicious Parent Syndrome* presents not only an attempt of alienating a child, but also direct attack on the other parent, often using extreme behaviour, such as falsely blaming him/her for sexual abuse of a child. As a result of all these manipulations, conflict of loyalty appears among children, which has many negative effects: strong anxiety, lowering of self-esteem, repressed anger, that all together make the adaptation on divorce more difficult and child suffers long-term consequences. Consequences of emotional abuse could be even harder than the consequences of other forms of abuse. The biggest one is an interruption of contacts with other parent, while even children themselves give up the need and will to have contacts with that parent. Consequently, children face negative image of themselves and lower self-esteem, which negatively impacts child's mental health. The cases of emotional abuse as a result of alienating are hardly recognised, even by the court or experts, who, unfortunately, sometimes assist in alienating, because they cannot believe that children could be taught to turn against the other parent. Taking into account the consequences for children, this problem requires more attention, education and cooperation between relevant institutions.

Criminal justice, social and restorative response to hate crime

Doc. dr Vesna Stefanovska

Hate crime is defined as a crime in which the victim is determined by the prejudice of the offender towards a particular group of people. Due to this bias motivation, there are different views on the use of restorative justice as non-traditional and informal response to hate crime. Most critics refer to the possibility of secondary victimization and the ability of offenders to engage in open dialogue because they have a deep-rooted attitudes and prejudices that cannot be easily overcome. Despite some threats, proponents of restorative justice argue that when it is based on the principles of respect, understanding, voluntary and open dialogue, apology and genuine remorse for the crime, it can reach reconciliation, get answers to many questions and find resolution for the crime. Hence, restorative justice is a good way to build bridges of intercultural tolerance and integration in order to minimize negative effects when victims are from groups that are discriminated and present subject of prejudices throughout generations. Thus, issues related to pros and cons for restorative justice response to hate crime will be elaborated in the first part of the paper. The second part refers to the criminal justice response to hate crime in the Republic of Macedonia, according to which prejudices of the perpetrator are considered as aggravated circumstances when determining the sentence. The main data on the reported, charged and convicted persons for hate crimes in 2015 indicate that the biggest part of the reported crimes are not recognized as hate crimes, nor the motives of the perpetrators are considered as aggravated circumstances by the criminal justice officials. On the other hand, civil society organisations demand severe treatment and sanctions for the offenders of hate crimes, which are primarily retributive in their nature. To support this thesis, three cases related to hate crimes that were covered by certain Macedonian media will be presented. Our study is based upon detailed review of the literature (published academic and policy-related studies) about the use of restorative practices in cases of hate crimes. By providing a critical analysis of the existing research evidence in our country, the paper contributes to a more comprehensive and informed understanding of this kind of offending in order to improve policy and practice responses to it. The main aim is to adopt and support restorative justice principles which are marginalized and not recognized by the Macedonian justice system.

When a house becomes a prison

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The execution of prison sentence in premises where the convicted person resides, popularly called “house arrest”, was introduced in the criminal legislation of the Republic of Serbia in the Criminal Code Amendment Act 2009, and a legal framework has been finally set out in 2014 with the adoption of the Law on Execution of Non-custodial Sanctions and Measures. The popularity of house arrest has led to a significant increase in its application in a very short period of time. The first sentences of house arrest, with or without electronic monitoring, were executed in 2011, and during 2015 the number of penalties received in the Administration for the Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions reached 1,944 cases. The advantages that the legislator had in mind when introducing this measure were really attractive: to relieve the pressure on overcrowded prisons, to reduce the costs of enforcement, and to remedy the harmful effects of imprisonment on the convicted persons. However, the question arises whether the cure for „criminal infection“ has its side effects? When a house becomes a place of executing prison sentence, that inevitably leads to disturbances in house atmosphere and relationships between household members. Practically, they are serving a part of the sentence along with convicted person. Regulations of executing house arrest determines their obligation to talk to the commissioner (probation officer) and inform him about the movement of the convicted person, accept unannounced visit of the commissioner at a time when they are resting or unwilling to receive any visitor. Hence, they are suffering some sort of „legal infringement“ on privacy, because they formally did not agree with the execution of house arrest in their home. The influence on physical, mental and emotional state of household members can be particularly significant when it comes to children, who can react differently to an event in their environment. The paper also points to the practice of application of house arrest in the cases of domestic violence, which is contrary to the provisions of the Criminal Code, and unacceptable from the standpoint of victim protection. In these circumstances, household members who are victims of a perpetrator who is serving prison sentence in the premises he resides in, are directly exposed to secondary victimization. The aim of this paper is to provide a critical analysis of the application of house arrest in the criminal justice of Serbia, and point to some of its disadvantages that may lead to unwanted victimization of household members of the convicted person.

Victim-offender mediation in Croatia: offender oriented model?

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The study „VOM in Croatia- perspective of crime victims and youth in conflict with the law“ aimed to explore and describe victims' and juvenile offenders' experiences with victim-offender mediation (VOM) and to develop an understanding of the meaning participants attribute to their participation experience. In order to do that, the study examined victims' and offenders' perspectives of the experiences of the VOM program operating in Zagreb and Osijek using qualitative methodology. Data was collected using semi-structured interviews with 14 crime victims and 17 offenders, which was analysed using inductive thematic analysis. Despite the fact that findings in general highlight that both victims and offenders had positive experiences with VOM, the study also revealed negative cases. Namely, disrespect of the principles and standards of VOM by the mediator leads to problems during the joint victim and offender meeting and results in less restorative outcomes than those which in accordance with theories one might expect. Therefore, we will take a closer look at these cases in order to give recommendations for the improvement of the programme and to discuss about the extent to which restorative practices could adequately meet participants' needs. Therefore, we will discuss sources of dissatisfaction, secondary victimisation and adequacy of involving victims in VOM implementation from the perspective of victims themselves and offenders. According to the results, mediators need to be aware of the hazards implied in the practice and take them into account in their everyday practice. Adherence to quality and ethical standards, monitoring the daily practice as well as permanent and ongoing trainings and supervision seem to be important measures in this regard.

Thematic session 3: Assistance and support to victims of crime and war

Challenges and progress: Psychological support to victims of conflict related sexual violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the district level/cantonal courts and prosecutors' offices

Mirela Mujagić

Cantonal Court in Bihać, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Olga Lola Ninković

District Court in Banja Luka, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Marija Pavlović

District Prosecutor's Office of East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

This paper is conceptualized in a way to show two aspects of participation of victims in the judicial process. The first aspect is the role of victims with long-term consequences of traumatic experiences, with particular emphasis on victims of conflict related sexual violence, and the second aspect is the role of psychologists in the justice system in providing support to victims. In the first part, the results of the research "Psychosocial consequences of traumatic experience of conflict related sexual violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1991-1995)" are presented. The research was conducted in 2016 by Mirela Mujagić, psychologist, expert advisor at the Cantonal Court in Bihać, on a sample of 30 women who were conflict related sexual violence victims. The methodology of this research is quantitative-qualitative type, where semi-structured interviews, questionnaires, tests and assessment scales were used. Sexual violence against women is happening in a huge scale during the war, but for many victims suffering continues even after the termination of the conflict. Mental, physical and social consequences of this brutal crime are far-reaching and long-lasting. The lack of social support and stigmatization, embarrassment and shame, are frequent companions of the victims of conflict related sexual violence as well as fear for their own safety and dealing with existential problems that life brings. Therefore, these victims are often socially excluded. Results of this study will show, among other things, whether and how much is the social psychological support an important factor in dealing with victims of traumatic experience and the formal legal prosecution of conflict related sexual violence. The second part of this paper shows the development of the role of psychologists in the judiciary in BiH through presentation and analysis of the work of the victim and witness support offices in providing support to victims of various crimes. Special focus is on victims of conflict related sexual violence, since the establishment of the first offices for victim and witness support at the entity level in 2010 until today. In the past six years, psychologists in the judiciary in BiH had a number of challenges, since the establishment of the offices (today there are 16 at the entity level) until the psychologists were integrated in the judiciary. The main task and challenge was to make a balance between law and psychology, and in practical terms to meet the needs of victims in the judicial process that come with all the consequences that will be exposed in the first part of this paper and, on the other side, to meet the requirements of judicial procedures which are very often in conflict with the needs of victims. This paper will provide an opportunity for discussion about the advantages and possible disadvantages of professional institutional support in dealing with victims. The ultimate goal of this paper is to, through the prism of the experience of conflict related sexual violence victims, indicate that long-term consequences of traumatic experiences of victims have an impact on the judicial process, and vice versa, and what are the challenges in the preparation of such witnesses to participate in the judicial process.

Life away from life

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During the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina approximately 2,2 million people have forcibly left their homes, of which 1,2 million fled from Bosnia and Herzegovina and approximately 1 million have been internally displaced within the country. Displaced people/refugees have been forced to change their places of residence and they have been accommodated in collective centres across Bosnia and Herzegovina. All these people have survived various types of passive traumatisation caused by the recent war in BiH. Their traumatisation is multiple and comes in various forms. However, the fact that collective centres exist even 20 years after, shows that displaced people continue to survive and live everyday lives demonstrating their inexhaustible strength. Existence of collective centres and facing with people who still live there can teach us a lot about individual and collective trauma. This presentation will talk about various forms of trauma reflected in narratives and lived stories of BiH refugees and displaced people, in particular about shared traumas, multiple traumas Vis-à-vis accumulated traumas, repetitive traumas, including the possibility of intergenerational transmission of trauma. Association Snaga zene has been providing psychosocial and medical assistance in collective centres in Tuzla Canton for 20 years. For the past two years it has also used occupational therapy in collective centres in order to achieve economic empowerment, healing and rehabilitation, which is a strategic goal of transitional justice. The content of this presentation is based on years of our work with people in the field, inside various BiH collective centres, as well as with returnees to Srebrenica region. The paper will also present results of tests for depression, anxiety and PTSD with group of returnees and with group of people still living in collective centres. The purpose of this paper is to present and once again warn of consequences of long-term life in isolated environments – collective centres, away from their homes and away from expected future. Also, there is a possibility for discussion about the meaning and future of the displaced people, who are leaving their homes due to the war circumstances even today in search of new countries which would give them a possibility of life in peace.

An analysis of the Service VDS info and victim support in the period from 2013 to 2015 with particular reference to the use of restorative dialogue and solution focused practice

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Bejan Šaćiri

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Timely information, emotional, psychological support and practical help are of significant importance in the process of victim's recovery and his/her coping with the consequences of the crime. In this, sometimes long-lasting process of facing complex and confusing consequences of the crime, victim support services could have important role. *VDS info and victim support service* is a service for victims of crime, which was established within the Victimology Society of Serbia in 2003. It is still the only general victim support service in Serbia, which provides assistance and support to victims of crime, regardless of gender, age, form of victimization or any other personal features. The aim of the paper is to present the work of the *VDS info and victim support service* during the period 2013-2015 and to draw attention to the trends observed in comparison to the previous period. Additionally, some new trends in the growth and development of the Service will be pointed out as well. In the first part of the paper, the data related to persons who approached *VDS info and victim support service* for various forms of victimization they suffered will be presented. Second part will be dedicated to the results of the analysis of the application of restorative dialogue and solution focused practice in the work of the service in 2015. In the last part, some challenges and problems that the Service faces, as well as new trends aimed at disseminating information on the existence and availability of the Services for the citizens will be explored.

Previous experience in practice „Units for the protection of child abuse and victims in judicial proceedings“

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The subject of this paper is presentation of “The Unit for the protection of children who are victims or witnesses in court proceedings” (hereinafter referred to as the Unit), which was created within the project "Improvement of children's rights through strengthening of the judicial system and social protection in Serbia". The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by the UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Issues of the Republic of Serbia. The Units started to work in April 2015 and the first info sessions for social welfare centres, prosecutors’ offices and the police were organized in cooperation with the Judiciary Academy. The results of the so far work in practice suggest that there is a growing trend of using the Unit’s services, as evidenced by the increasing number of children to be included in the service. Since the beginning of the project, following activities were implemented: psycho-education (informing) about the trial (before arrival at the court) was provided to 54 children; 21 children received support during the hearings; forensic interview was conducted with 26 children, while in 20 cases a counselling interview after child’s testimony was conducted. The Units mostly provided services in the context of criminal proceedings for offenses in which children were witnesses or victims of rape, murder and domestic violence, but also in civil proceedings as a part of divorce procedure. The effects of the Unit’s work reflect in the fact that, apart from being adequately prepared for the hearing, children also avoided cross-examination, which is allowed by the Law on juvenile offenders and criminal protection of minors of the Republic of Serbia, and were questioned in separate rooms without the presence of the third parties and with the use of mobile equipment that transmits image and sound (video-link).

Thematic session 4: Victims of various forms of victimization and the importance of support

Victimization of immigrants: Experience of developed European countries

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Immigrant status implies increased vulnerability of persons marked in that way. Immigrants can be victims of diverse crimes, especially of those based on exploitation of immigrant helplessness due to their stay in a foreign country, ignorance of the language, customs, and lack of support from family and friends. In this paper we provide an overview of the most important research findings related to the problems of victimization of immigrants in developed European countries. These studies were conducted in the past decade, when academic interests for this victimological phenomenon, new questions and perspectives have emerged. Through the analysis of the findings of existing research studies, as well as examination of existing databases (*International Crime Victimization Survey; European Survey of Crime and Safety*), we managed to identify several patterns of immigrant victimization in developed parts of Europe. Findings of the analyzed studies suggest that immigrants are disproportionately exposed to various forms of violent crimes compared to natives (homicide, rape, peer victimization). Some of the explanations of the higher rates of victimization among immigrants can be, regular victimization factors (large population of young people or residing in large cities), as well as growth of intolerance towards immigrant communities. Due to the increased vulnerability of immigrants, which is associated with the fact that they are in a foreign country and usually do not know the language, nor do they have the resources or help to protect themselves, some forms of crimes present particular danger to the members of these social groups, such as hate crimes or human trafficking. One of the victimization patterns among immigrants is also the intra-group immigrant victimization. According to the findings of several research studies, the most serious crimes in which the victims were immigrants, were committed by other immigrants. In addition to greater exposure to victimization, the findings of the research studies, as well as existing databases, indicate that immigrants express higher fear of victimization, sense of alienation and distrust to authorities and police, compared to natives. Although the intensity of vulnerability can vary depending on a range of variables (type of crime, the country of origin, environmental characteristics, characteristics of immigrants: age, race, nationality, ethnic or religious affiliation, sex) we identified the pattern according to which violence against immigrants occurs more often in poor communities where immigrants quickly become a significant minority in the previous homogeneous communities. The results of the research studies on immigrants' victimization indicate that intergroup tensions between

immigrants and the natives are more intense in developed countries in Europe than in other parts of the world. Therefore, research on victimization of immigrants, as one of the most vulnerable social groups, is of at most significance for understanding migration-crime-security nexus. Insights gained in serious research studies may contribute to the development of preventive programs of assistance and support to victims, which ultimately can increase the confidence of immigrants in the state institutions.

The victim of the state crime in Macedonia

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In the Republic of Macedonia, the criminologists have not dealt seriously with the state crime in the research. Some authors dealt with certain issues that are related to certain forms of state crime, but they do that when they explore and analyze corruption and organized crime in their legalistic aspects. There is a lack of research of the state crime in terms of socio-economic consequences, and not just of the crime that is nationally and internationally sanctioned, but also of the one that is not legally defined, which is committed by powerful political and economic elites. Therefore, among criminologists and victimologists in Macedonia, victims of the state crime are not recognized, which negatively reflects on the social reaction to this phenomenon. In cases of state crimes, such as intentional and unintentional omissions of state elites and officials, as well as other categories of social damage (institutionalized racism, ethnicity, gender and class inequality), victims often do not recognize that they are, or that they were victims. Given the limited resources of the state, as well as the monopoly over information of public character of the holders of the power, perception that some behaviour is not criminal can be created in the public, and, consequently, victims become "invisible". The state crime usually threatens a group of citizens or the entire population in the country, which is an obstacle to determine who the victim is, or how big the damage is. In the paper we analyze the situation in Macedonia, firstly, the current scientific research and analysis of the existence of the state crime, and then who the victims of this crime are. Keeping in mind the absence of scientific papers in this field in Macedonia, the aim of this paper is to determine the form of the state crime, its scope through financial implications and the economic situation of the population, and public recognition of the victims of the state crime in Macedonia.

The city of Skopje in times of adversity (1963): The Victimological Aspect

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Skopje, the capital of Macedonia, has been struck by a series of earthquakes recently. Many residents of this city inevitably recalled a similar natural disaster back in 1963 when Skopje was struck by a devastating earthquake (measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale) that killed over 1,000 people, and the city sustained huge material damage. For months after this tragic event, Skopje was quite appropriately called the “city of solidarity“. This paper is actually a tribute to the city that has faced disaster a number of times and has always managed to reinvent itself. Relying on the original newspaper articles and other relevant material from the beginning of the 1960s, the author of this paper endeavours to revive the memory of the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Skopje on 26th July 1963 and point out that a natural disaster of such magnitude must be studied from the victimological aspect. It would cast more light on victimization arising from natural disasters, a new field of victimology which is quite different from victimization by a crime. This issue should be discussed and written about, and victims of natural disasters should never be forgotten. The aim of this paper is to remind us once again of how helpless and vulnerable we all are when exposed to nature, which should ultimately serve as a warning to us all to live in accordance with its rules, concurrently developing mutual respect and solidarity.

Need for protection and support of victims of terrorism

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There is a different approach to the protection and support of victims of terrorism in comparison to other crime victims. This is because of the specificity of their needs. The subject of the paper is the legal position of victims of terrorism. The aim of the paper is to analyse and explore the need for existence of different standards of protection and support for victims of terrorism. In doing so, the normative-logical method and the method of content analysis has been applied. In the introductory part, it is explained that within terrorist violence, victimization is defined as the most difficult and the most complex one, which speaks in favour of the need to have separate standards for protection and support of victims of terrorism. Particular emphasis is put on explaining which is a key element to ensure effective support to victims. In this paper, the system of protection and support at the national level of Macedonia and at the European level are explored. Additionally, it is pointed out what

measures are still needed to be included in order to enhance the status and protection of victims of terrorism. In this respect, in the final part, the author concentrates on some of the measures relevant for meeting needs of victims of terrorism, including: the need for the establishment of specialized services with people trained in providing urgent and long-term assistance and support; it is important to improve media reporting about victims and there is a need for training journalists about ethical issues in this area; it is necessary to launch a global campaign to increase awareness of the importance of the support of victims of terrorism; European standards for the protection and support of victims of terrorism contained in the guidelines of the Council of Europe for protection of victims of terrorist act should constitute a model to be used on the level of the United Nations in establishment of universal standards of protection of this category of victims.

Pensioners as victims of the economic policy

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In Serbia, a multidimensional and multilayered process of worsening of the position of the pensioners and elderly people is noticed. This specific, vulnerable and threatened group that is permanently increasing, finds itself in the ever-increasing troubles. Pensioners, *inter alia*, become victims of an inadequate economic policy. Dignity, rights, equal position and needs of elderly people are, more or less, marginalized. The Association of Trade Unions of Pensioners of Serbia conducted a survey on the impact of the reduction of pensions in Serbia on the life of pensioners. The survey was conducted from October 2015 to March 2016. It showed that there is a diverse and dramatic vulnerability of pensioners, as well as a greater degradation and ambiguous position of pensioners and the elderly in Serbia. The subject of this paper is the socio-economic situation of pensioners as a vulnerable group, primarily due to an inadequate economic policy inspired by extreme neoliberalism. The aim is to show that there are better models of economic policy (practice and examples) that are more in accordance to the needs of the disadvantaged groups. They would contribute to lessening the number of victims, since one of the causes of victimisation of pensioners and elderly is seen in the lack of the interaction between economic and social policy.

Thematic session 5: Children and juveniles as victims and offenders

Victimisation of minors in Serbia: Results of the International Self Reported Study

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The paper aims at presenting a part of the results of the empirical research of juvenile delinquency in Serbia that relates to the victimisation of minors. The research was implemented within the third round of the International Self Reported Delinquency Study (ISRD3). In Serbia, the research was conducted in 2013 and 2014 on the sample of 1344 students of primary (7th and 8th grade) and secondary school (from 1st to 4th grade) in two largest cities – Belgrade and Novi Sad. The sample encompassed students from 12 to 19 years of age. The data was collected with the standardised questionnaire, which, *inter alia*, contained a set of questions about victimisation by particular forms of domestic violence, property, violent and computer crimes, as well as with the hate crime. The research suggests that most respondents (84.2%) answered to be victimised with some of the explored forms of victimisation. Minors are particularly exposed to different forms of domestic violence in comparison to victimisation that occurs outside of the family environment. Outside of the family, minors are particularly exposed to victimisation by property crimes and cyber bullying. Boys are more exposed to victimisation outside of the family in comparison to girls. This is particularly visible in cases of robbery, physical assault and cyber bullying. On the other hand, boys and girls are exposed to victimisation by domestic violence in similar percentage, although boys are more exposed to serious forms of physical violence by their parents, as well as to physical punishment than girls. Age differences in the exposure to victimisation were found out only in cases of some forms of domestic violence: older minors were more exposed to different forms of direct and indirect violence by their parents and to physical violence by a brother or a sister in comparison to those of younger age. Finally, the research findings suggest that robbery and physical assault were most often experienced by the respondents in some public places, while hate crimes were most often (61.7%) experienced in the school or a school yard. However, even robbery and physical assaults were quite often (around one third of the last cases of these forms of victimisation) experienced in the school or a school yard, which, in general, leads to the conclusion that school seems not to be that safe place for minors. After a brief overview of the research methodology, the data about the scope, structure and characteristics of victimisation of minors in Serbia will be presented and analysed. In the final part, basic conclusions will be given and main directions of intervention pointed out, particularly focusing on the importance of proper reaction and support and protection of child victims.

Happiness as a factor of victimization and delinquency of minors

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The role of perceiving oneself as a happy and satisfied or unhappy and dissatisfied person, in recent years has found its place in criminology and victimology studies, primarily in the modern concepts of positive criminology and positive victimology. The subject of the paper is happiness as a factor of victimization and delinquency of minors in Serbia. In accordance with the subject, the paper aims at presenting part of results of the third International self-report delinquency study relating to the contribution of perceiving oneself as a happy or unhappy person to own victimization and delinquent behaviour. Using self-report survey the research was conducted by authors during 2013 and 2014 on a sample of 1.344 students of primary and secondary schools in Belgrade and Novi Sad. In the paper, the basic methodological characteristics of the survey will be presented first, with special emphasis on to the baseline observation of happiness as a factor of victimization and delinquency in international criminology and victimology research. This is followed with the analysis of the findings relating to happiness as a factor of victimization, and then as a factor of delinquency of minors in Serbia and beyond, on the Balkans, in the former Yugoslav republics. In the final part the key conclusions about how the extent to which minors in Serbia perceive themselves as happy/unhappy affects their victimization and delinquent behaviour will be presented. Finally, the obtained results will be compared with the findings from other former Yugoslav republics, bearing in mind growing up of minors in similar socio-economic circumstances that may contribute to the minor's perception of himself/herself as a happy or unhappy person.

Correlation between delinquency and victimization among school children

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In the criminological literature the question about correlation between delinquency and victimization, particularly among children, is increasingly becoming a research subject. The problem is analyzed in terms of whether there is an overlapping of a perpetrator and a victim in one person, particularly when it comes to violent crimes. Studies conducted in different temporal and spatial contexts generally confirm the thesis about correlation of delinquency and victimization, but without deeper analysis about which factor initiates the vicious circle of manifestation and experience of violence. Therefore, the subject of this paper is the correlation between delinquency and victimization, which will be studied on the basis of the data from the international research ISRD-3 (International Self-Report Delinquency Study) conducted in the Republic of Macedonia. The research results showed that there is a significant correlation between delinquency and victimization. Correlation is stronger between carrying a weapon, group fight and theft with victimization by extortion or robbery. It should be also noted that there is a significant correlation between theft and victimization of theft, which suggests that correlation between delinquency and victimization is not only characteristic for violent but also for property crimes. It is very interesting to underline the finding that there is a correlation between victimization of parental maltreatment and extortion as an offence, which can be explained by learning theory in criminology. Based on these findings, certain theories of crime that can also serve to explain correlation between delinquency and victimization or the process of influence of delinquency on victimization or vice versa will be examined. The research ISRD-3 was conducted in 24 schools (primary and secondary) on a sample of 1239 students from 13 to 15 (16) years from Skopje and Kumanovo. The data was collected from April to December 2014. The survey was used as a technique and a structured questionnaire as an instrument for collecting the data. The data was filed electronically using the electronic program Fluidsurveys.

Thematic session 6: Victims of violence: from victimization to empowerment

Firearms possession and domestic violence in Serbia

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New Law on Firearms and Ammunition (“Official Gazette RS”, no. 20/2015), in practice from 04/03/2016, provides for stricter conditions for firearms acquisition and possessing than the previous Law. The Law obliges an applicant for a firearm acquisition to submit a medical certificate proving his/her health capacity. The Ministry of Health has issued the Rules of Procedure on determining the medical capacity of individuals detailing the contents and scope of the clinical examination. This health examination must be repeated every five years. The Law introduced obligatory immediate police check of the applicant's place of residence and work place whether his/her behaviour indicates that he/she poses a danger to himself/herself or others. Persons who are lawfully sentenced to imprisonment for criminal offenses, among others, against marriage and family, are not allowed to acquire a firearm. By introducing stricter conditions for firearms acquisition and possession, the legislator has partially adopted demands of the public and civil society, particularly women's groups, made in order to contribute to prevention of gun violence in general, and, in particular, in the context of domestic violence. The new Law has made certain, but not sufficient, progress with this respect. A protective order against a perpetrator, under the article 198 of the Family Law, or under the Law on Misdemeanours, presents no legal obstacle for a perpetrator to acquire a gun. Similarly, a perpetrator under a criminal investigation is still allowed to purchase a gun legally. The firearm legislation misses a number of other necessary measures to prevent a perpetrator to acquire a gun. Easy access to a firearm and its possession still represent a high risk for the occurrence of domestic violence, often with the deadly outcome. In 2014, 27 women were killed in the family-partner relationship. Last year, 35 women were killed, and this year, 24 women, often by using a legally owned firearm. Half of the victims had previously reported domestic violence to the police. The subject of this paper is to analyze the legal solutions for acquisition and possession of firearms in terms of prevention of violence within a family and intimate relationships, taking into consideration good foreign practices. The aim of the paper is to contribute to the understanding of the issues and the need for a harmonized and comprehensive legal response to this form of violence.

Implementation of the principles of local ownership: From victimization to empowerment of women

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The paper points to the existence of a conflict between local ownership and the introduction of gender equality in the situations of the post-conflict peace-building under control of the international actors, particularly UN peacekeeping forces. Local civil or military leaders can actually consider that gender equality is not needed in their culture, and that participation of women in the security sector is not socio-culturally acceptable. That is why the UN peacekeeping forces, as the main international actors, may be reluctant to advocate for gender equality, considering it as an imposition of foreign cultural values that could potentially destabilize the security sector reform process. The paper will present illustrative examples of South Sudan, South Africa, Afghanistan, Liberia, Burundi, Mozambique, Nepal, etc. But, they overlook that women and men have different experiences of conflict, and that women in conflict and post-conflict situations are especially vulnerable to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence. Therefore, women's active participation in peace-building and ending violence and conflicts is essential for peace, security and general cessation of further victimization of women. Supporting existing power relations that are characterized by structural gender inequality and violence diminishes values of the security sector reform. Moreover, the process of peace-building is destabilized by maintaining permanent sources of victimization of women, discrimination and easy outbreak of armed conflict. This results in a security sector, which only fits the security needs of the dominant groups and protects their interests, still leaving majority of women in a situation of high risk from various forms of victimization. The paper will also argue about the essential meaning of the term "local ownership", the possible ways of its translation into Serbian language and understanding of its importance for the success of peacekeeping missions and reforms of the security sector in post-conflict societies in achieve lasting peace. The aims of the paper are: a) To demystifying conflict between local ownership and gender equality as false dilemma that only serves to protect the power of the local dominant groups, b) To recognize the complexity of a context, not just the values of the dominant social groups. c) Respect the attitudes of women themselves from the culture of the local context on what are really their perspectives, needs and interests and whether gender equality is really unfamiliar to them. Namely, when women, fighters and activists of human rights' groups are asked whether the promotion of gender perspectives is imposition of foreign values, they usually claim that national laws, policies and institutions need to ensure equality for all. For them, the full equality is local need and value for which many of their peers gave their lives. The paper will cover the following main topics: a) Possibility of successful gender-sensitive security sector reform in those places where women are marginalized, discriminated against, and exposed to violence. Integrating gender perspective into security sector reform as a necessity of inclusive and socially responsible approach to security. b) Gender-sensitive security sector

reform as a key to the development of the security sector institutions which are not discriminatory, which represent the population and are able to effectively respond to the specific security needs of different groups. c) A gender-sensitive approach to building peace and security policies that empower women, substantially contributes to building a lasting peace and a more equal society. d) Requirement of a lasting peace is a permanent transformation of social norms regulating gender relations, violence and power. The paper is based on the analysis of relevant literature in this field, media reports, web presentations, Internet resources, laws and instruments of social policies. All aforementioned sources are domestic, regional and international.

Integrated Response to Violence against Women in Family and Intimate Partner Relationships in Serbia

Jelena Tadžić

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The subject of the paper is an overview of various forms of multi-sectoral cooperation for protection of women victims of violence, developed and implemented in the period 2009-2016 at the national, regional and local level in the Republic of Serbia, as part of the projects supported and developed by the UN agencies. The paper aims to emphasize importance of the multi-sectoral cooperation between institutions and organizations primarily for providing the best protection and safety of a victim based on interventions that are effective, efficient and imply coordinated institutional actions in order to immediately stop violence, prevent re-victimisation, and at the same time contribute to the prevention of secondary victimization, as well as to the empowerment of victims through appropriate legal and psychological intervention. The paper presents a comprehensive approach to combating violence against women advocated by the UN agencies: at the level of adoption and implementation of relevant policies, the work on protection from and prevention of violence, improving the access to justice and legal protection of victims, as well as establishment of partnerships at all levels. The paper focuses on necessity of the government operations, through the cooperation of all responsible offices, institutions and organizations. These operations are prescribed by the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

Victimisation of older people by violence in the Republic of Serbia - Empirical research in the municipality of Novi Sad in the period 2006-2015

Jelena Grujić, MA

Citizens older than 65 years present a big population group in many countries with specific social status and mental and physical characteristics. They often represent a category with a high risk from victimisation by violent crimes like robbery, murder and rape, to specific forms of domestic violence that range from neglect, verbal aggression and mental abuse to physical violence. In victimology, older people are mostly explored as victims of domestic violence, which the factor theory explains by the influence of the endogenous and exogenous factors: vulnerability (due to the natural aging process and diseases), the lack of work activities, weak ties with the family members, a sense of loneliness and social isolation. The subject of this paper are forms, characteristics, and effects of victimization of older people by violence, including the dark figure of violence against older people. The goal of the paper is to describe the phenomenon of violence against older people in the Republic of Serbia, its characteristics and effects on older people and the entire society. The research method contains 1. Analysis of the so far theoretical and empirical research relevant for the subject of this paper; and 2. Questionnaire-survey on victimization by violence and on the fear from crime on a sample of 60 older people who are the users of the Gerontology center services in the municipality of Novi Sad. The time framework of the research is a period from 2006 to 2015.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Victimization Survey – What’s going on in the Czech Republic

Dr Michaela Stefunkova

Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, Prague, Czech Republic

Zuzana Kostelnikova

Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, Prague, Czech Republic

The aim of the poster is to present the project of the ongoing victimization survey carried out by the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention in Prague. The primary objective of this project (realization period 2016-2019) is to determine the extent of victimization by selected offences on a representative sample of Czech population and thereby obtain a complementary source of information about the extent of crime in the Czech Republic, including its latent part. The secondary objective is to obtain detailed information related to the experienced victimization (e.g. reporting the incident to the police, victimization impacts, etc.), as well as other opinions and attitudes of the population on issues related to the problems of criminality. Comparing to previous national surveys along with the main victimization survey the current project will also include qualitative component. Focus group with experts working with victims in the field should help to gain a broader picture of the victimization issue including assessment of effectiveness of actual legislative and practical framework for treatment with victims in the Czech Republic.

Gender socialization and exposure of women living in rural areas to marital violence

Aleksandra Jovanović

Leskovac, Serbia

The research conducted so far has shown that domestic violence is a widespread phenomenon, while the most common victims of this form of violence are women. Violence against women is a global social phenomenon; consequently, special attention has been devoted to this problem for years. The aim of this poster presentation is to present the results of the research about characteristics and ethiology of marital violence against women who live in rural areas. The research also aimed at finding out to what extent has the rigid family socialization about gender relationships influenced exposure of women to

marital violence. The data has shown that in some cases there is a strong connection between gender socialization and marital violence. The survey, which was conducted within the master's thesis, was implemented during November 2015. A questionnaire was drawn up for collecting the data. The survey was conducted on a sample of 63 women from Vlase village, in the municipality of Leskovac.

Mobbing experiences - Victims or survivors in healthcare institutions

Jelena Cvetanović

Belgrade, Serbia

The subject of the research was the experience of victimisation by mobbing in the healthcare institutions. In the theoretical part of the paper an overview of definitions, types, factors and consequences of mobbing is presented. Additionally, an overview of the results of the so far research on the prevalence of mobbing worldwide and in Serbia is given. Apart from that, consequences of the victimisation by mobbing, legal regulation in the world, prevention of mobbing, as well as support and protection of victims of mobbing are discussed in the theoretical part of the paper,. The aim of the empirical part of the research was to examine the factors and forms of mobbing victimization of both male and female persons in the healthcare institutions, as well as their relationship with persons who committed violence, consequences victims of mobbing are suffering from and seeking help and support. The survey was conducted on a sample of 17 respondents employed in the Clinical Centre of Serbia at various positions. For the purpose of the research a qualitative method was used. The research was done through in-depth interviews that were conducted on the basis of a pre-prepared semi-structured questionnaire. The data from the interviews confirmed the hypothesis that persons victimised by mobbing are those who are looking for better working conditions, higher salaries, recognition and respect for their position; those who are highly creative individuals and those who are sick; then, young, honest, capable and persons who publicly defend their positions. In addition, the data obtained by the qualitative analysis of the interviews showed that mobbing is carried out by the superiors, subordinates, and persons on the same level as a victim. Employees in the healthcare institutions who have suffered mobbing have psychological problems that influence the reduction of the quality of their work and their satisfaction with the job. Employees are not sufficiently informed about measures of assistance and support and are not sufficiently educated, while assistance and support are to a greater extent provided by close persons and not by other employees.

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