

Criminological aspects of cybercrime

Abstract

The thesis concerns the offenders and victims of cybercrime as the selected criminological aspects of cybercrime. The objective of the thesis was to particularly analyse and compare the criminological findings of the offenders and victims of cybercrime and discover and point out the specifics in comparison to the offenders and victims of the offline criminality. Both Czech and foreign literary sources were used for the purposes of this thesis.

In the first part the basic terms which are used in this thesis are clarified – cybercrime, the offender and victim including the particularly vulnerable victims.

The second part concerns the development of the image of the offender of cybercrime, his characteristics in comparison to the offenders of crimes committed out of cyberspace and his categorization. Particularly the attention was brought to the organized groups of criminals in the area of cybercrime and the motivation of the offender as one of the criminogenic factors.

In the third part different victimological aspects of cybercrime including the impact of this kind of criminality on the particularly vulnerable victims are discussed. In relation to the latency of cybercrime the causes of this latency including the reasons for not reporting this kind of criminality are examined. Furthermore, the impact of cybercrime on its victims, the relationship between the victim and offender and the methods of social engineering used by the offender to commit the crime are analysed.

The fourth part of this thesis develops the conclusions from the previous parts by examining three particular forms of cybercrime – online hate crimes, cyberstalking and online frauds while the attention is brought to the characteristics of the offenders and victims of this criminality and the forms of victimization.

Key words: cybercrime, offenders, victims