

# **Latent criminality**

## **Abstract**

This submitted diploma thesis deals with the phenomenon of latent criminality. Latent criminality is the part of criminality that is for some reason not registered by the law enforcement authorities.

The thesis itself consists of four consecutive chapters. The first chapter deals with the concept of crime. It discusses the different approaches to concept of crime in criminology and the indicators that are used to describe it. Furthermore, this chapter is dedicated to the division of crime into latent and registered crime and the sources of information about registered crime. In particular, it focuses on official crime statistics.

In the second chapter, the issue of latent crime is discussed in more detail. It defines the concept of latency, in which cases it is considered being latent criminality and what its types are. Furthermore, the ratio of latent and registered crime, the rate and extent of latency are described. At the end the possible causes of its existence are presented, one of the main reasons being the failure to report the crime by its victims.

The third chapter focuses on possible methods of detecting latent crime, where more space is subsequently devoted to the two most important methods, namely victimization surveys and self-report studies. For both of these methods, their methodology is analyzed, as well as their advantages and disadvantages. Some of the studies carried out at the international and national level, in which the Czech Republic participated, are also described in more detail.

The final fourth chapter focuses on the analysis of three selected types of crime with a high latency rate. These are sexual crime, cybercrime and corruption. For each type, their characteristic, possible causes of latency are given and possible tools for combating the high latency rate are discussed and analyzed. In the case of corruption, there is then one subchapter devoted to the issue of whistleblowing and its legal regulation in the Czech Republic, including the current bill on the protection of whistleblowers.

**Klíčová slova: latent criminality, cybercrime, corruption**