

TAMCHYNA, M. *Personality Depravation in Forensic Psychology*. Dissertation.

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Abstract: The dissertation addresses the issue of negative personality changes understood as personality depravation. The introduction discusses their increase in normally socialized (non-criminal) population and states the need for a solution of this problem. The term depravation, which is taken from clinical practice, is analyzed from a theoretical perspective in the first part of this work. This research also builds upon empirical surveys of personality of groups of juvenile and adult convicts and non-delinquent control groups, which are described in the second part. Long-term empirical surveys repeated every decade (1979 - 2013) focus on personality depravation and are based on comparative analysis of standardized and quantified data - sociodemographic data, analyses of criminal activity, personality assessments using a standardized inventory of tests designed to ascertain personality depravation, and case histories of delinquents (n=1660). Generalizations of the findings are used to capture trends of personality change in convicts. The third part of this work describes the phenomenology of a depraved personality. The discovered commonalities and differences within the whole group and among the individual groups are utilized in the fourth part for the specification of signs of depravation and to develop an operational definition of personality depravation. Differential diagnostics and practical aspects of depravation are discussed. A new definition of the concept of depravation in forensic psychology is formulated, based on both the theoretical and empirical analysis. It allows to objectively assess the type, degree, depth and form of personality depravation of an individual using a standardized methodology and inventory of tests. The work takes into consideration the socio-psychological and ethical aspects of society-wide changes with the increased egocentrism which forms the basis of depravation, without a subjective judgement but conforming to the requirements of an objective psychological method. This methodology for the assessment of personality depravation allows for screening and timely discovery of individuals who act in socially unacceptable ways but do not reach the level of a personality disorder. Apart from diagnostics, the concept of depravation is useful in prediction, therapy and other measures for the prevention of delinquency.

Keywords: personality, depravation, egocentrism, resentment, hostility, delinquency