

Abstract

The thesis thoroughly examines the issue of response to juvenile delinquency and potential solutions of their criminal liability in the European context. The thesis describes the historical development of approach to juvenile delinquency, as well as basic models of youth justice. The important part of the thesis focuses on comparative analyses of selected foreign legislation, namely the legal order of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. In depth are analyzed penalty systems of those countries and their mutual comparison. Further part is dedicated to evaluation of selected sanctions in terms of their effectiveness based on knowledge about recidivism of juvenile offenders. In relation to effectiveness of sanctions the thesis deals with question how to influence different types of juvenile offenders from the perspective of developmental criminology, especially chronic offenders. Author pays attention to the phenomenon of chronic juvenile offenders, formulates risk factors used to identify and predict the life-course delinquency. Following subpart discusses two of the most important factors influencing the committing of serious crimes by juveniles, e.g. delinquent peer groups and immigrant origin, which are relative neglected in the Czech professional literature. The importance of immigrant origin for a criminal career young offender, author illustrates with example of the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency second-generation immigrants in Germany. In conclusion, author of the thesis formulates numerous proposals *de lege ferenda* to improve youth justice system in the Czech legal order on the basis of research foreign legislation and knowledge of the effectiveness of sanctions, provides “what works and what doesn’t” and expresses her view on the approach to juvenile delinquency and its possible solution.