

Abstract

Thesis title: Significance of Victimology for the Prevention of Crime

The purpose of this thesis is to analyse the significance of victimology for the prevention of crime and to provide a summary of the basic victimological recommendations victims should remember in case they get into threatening situations.

The thesis consist of seven chapters including an introduction and a conclusion. The introduction describes the concept of the thesis and defines objectives, which the thesis should aim at. The following chapter is dedicated to victimology that comprises a scientific study focused on victims of crime: its short development, as well as its basic terms which are crucial for handling the issue. Attention is also paid to the definition of a victim and aggrieved person in Czech law and offers comparison of those concepts. The basic typologies of the victims are also mentioned.

The third chapter provides a comprehensive interpretation of the prevention of crime, first defined in general. The second section of this chapter focuses on the different types of prevention and their interaction and context.

The fourth chapter deals in more detail with victimological prevention, which is crucial for the purposes of my research. After an initial explanation of the term, is given an overview of the different types of this prevention. In a separate subchapter, the significance of victimology for the prevention of crime is reflected. It follows the evaluation of the positive features and deficiencies of victimological research as a basic source of victimological knowledge. At the end of the chapter basic institutions dealing with crime prevention within the Czech Republic are mentioned.

An overall discussion on possibilities to assist victims of crime then follows, both focusing on (non-professional) ordinary human help and on psychological, social or legal assistance as part of an expert approach. This chapter describes also Victim of Crime Assistance Act, which specified individual possibilities of assistance. Another part of the thesis is a subchapter which deals with several organisations providing assistance to victims of crime. Be it governmental bodies or non-governmental organizations, those entities are vitally instrumental in achieving the high level of assistance which currently exists in the Czech

Republic. The Thesis focused mainly on a non-governmental organisation called “White Ring of Safety”, that has no focus in its activities.

The final part of the thesis is focused more practically. I try to provide an overview of the basic victimological advice and recommendations that victims make use of if they get into threatening situations and also give an overview of safe behavior rules to prevent these situations. This chapter also describes some of the current victimological and situational prevention projects. In the last subsection evaluation of the current state of the individual types of crime prevention within the Czech Republic is mentioned.