

**Abstract:**

The bachelor's thesis deals with the examination and testing of factors that shape attitudes of university students to the imposition of criminal sanctions. The researched factors include the individual's awareness in the field of criminal justice, experience with crime and political orientation. These factors are tested in connection with measuring of punitiveness and they are also put into context with theories of punishment. The theoretical part briefly introduces the area of punitivity research and describes individual theories of punishment. Furthermore, the researched factors in connection with the research of attitudes to the imposition of criminal sanctions are presented. The results obtained through a questionnaire survey of 228 university students show that there is a connection between students' attitudes to the imposition of criminal sanctions and their political orientation, as well as a partial connection with the information of the individual in the field of criminal justice. On the other hand, the experience of crime cannot be considered a factor related to the attitude to the imposition of criminal sanctions. The analysis also reveals the relationship between an individual's awareness in the field of criminal justice and his position on retribution theory. Another factor is related to the opinion on this theory, namely political orientation.

**Keywords:**

Attitudes, criminal sanctions, punitiveness, theories of punishment