

Secondary victimization of victims of sexual offenses

Abstract

The submitted rigorous thesis on the topic of secondary victimization of victims of sexual offenses aims to acquaint its readers with the issue of secondary victimization, especially in relation to particularly vulnerable victims of sexual offenses. The thesis introduces the basic concepts important for the issue and then focuses on secondary methods of victimization of rape victims and child victims of sexual offenses, while also discussing specific options for preventing and alleviating secondary victimization of these victims. The thesis also contains a section devoted to opportunities to help these victims.

The thesis is divided into an introduction, five chapters and a conclusion. In the introductory chapters of the thesis, there is a focus on the basic terms of victimology, as understanding these terms is necessary for further content of the thesis, such as victim, its legal regulation and the evolution of victims' rights in the Czech Republic, victimology, victimization and the division of individual types of victimization, harm and victimity. The main part of the thesis is devoted to the secondary victimization of rape victims and characteristics of the crime. This part mostly focuses on various ways in which the rape victim can be secondary victimized, especially in criminal proceedings. The chapter also contains suggestions of improvement of the protection of these victims from secondary victimization. The fourth chapter is devoted to the issue of secondary victimization of child victims of sexual offenses, not only in the way, in which secondary victimization of these victims can occur, but especially the specifics of protection of these victims from secondary victimization. The final fifth chapter then deals with other kinds of protection of victims of sexual offenses from secondary victimization, especially the ones that are provided by the Act on Victims of Crime.

The individual chapters are supplemented by case studies, which illustrate and explain analyzed phenomena.