

Diploma thesis: Methods of investigation of sexual crimes (selected issues)

Key words: Investigation, Rape, Sexual Abuse, Expert Opinion

Summary

This thesis deals with problematics of sexual crimes investigation. Since the area of investigating sexual crimes is very broad, I have limited the scope of my paper to investigation of the two most frequent types of crime, which are rape and sexual abuse. Regarding the operations usually performed during investigation, I have paid close attention to expert opinions. The purpose of this paper is to stress concrete specifics occurring during investigation, which is discussed throughout the chapters.

Chapter One introduces acts of sexual crime (particularly the rape and the sexual abuse) from the criminal-law point of view as it is stated in the contemporary legal regulation in the Czech Republic. This chapter also provides statistical tables showing the evolutionary trend in the number of prosecuted and adjudicated sexual criminal acts of rape and sexual abuse between 2000 and 2010. Criminalistic characteristics of sexual criminal acts are looked at in Chapter Two, and Chapter Three presents common ways of committing sexual offences. The chapter describes what is typical of sexual offences committed by adults, and by and on youngsters. Chapter Four characterizes sexual offenders. I have briefly outlined the differences between deviant and non-deviant sexual offenders. As to deviant offenders, I have described the four most frequent forms of sexual deviation: exhibitionism, paedophilia, sadomasochism and pathological sexual deviation, and stressed the necessity of correct and timely diagnosis. The chapter also deals with offenders under eighteen years of age, including two case studies. The next chapter defines characteristics of sexual offence victims.

Chapters Six to Nine look at scenes of crime, typical traces (looked at separately as memory traces and material traces), investigational situations, and particularities occurring during investigation. Chapter Ten outlines peculiarities of subsequent operations. Special attention was paid to expert opinions. I have described in what cases expert opinions are required, what form they may have, who can provide them, and what is their purpose. Then I looked closely at the individual kinds of expert

opinions: judicial-medical, judicial-psychiatric, sexuological and criminalistic reports. As to the sexuological report, I also touched on diagnostic methods.

Finally, the paper closes with concerning specifics of criminalistic prevention in the last chapter.