

Abstract

The subject of this thesis is the issue of criminological aspects of drug-related crime. This topic is considerably wide, therefore this thesis focuses on two specific aspects of this particular crime: the relationship between drug use and crime and the criminal careers of drug-addicted offenders. Since these two aspects are still being overlooked in the Czech Republic, the aim of this thesis is to introduce this issue using foreign literature and to complement it with my own research carried out within the Capital City of Prague.

The first part of the thesis (Chapters 1 and 2) represents an introduction into the issue of drug-related crime. First, it explains basic notions that are essential to know for easy orientation within the thesis. Then, it discusses the history of drug abuse in the Czech Republic from 1918 until nowadays, and also complements current situation with an actual drug policy strategy.

The second part of this thesis (Chapters 3 and 4) focuses on acquainting with the issue of the relationship between drug use and crime and the criminal careers. Using mostly foreign literature, it looks at these specific problems from two different perspectives: describing both the most famous theories and models and the most recent or well-known empirical researches.

The last part of the thesis (Chapter 5) provides an analysis of the results of my own research. In the first place, it tries to formulate new findings about the criminal careers of drug-addicted offenders and to compare them with the criminal careers of offenders convicted of drug offenses, which were a subject to the research of the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention a few years ago. The next step within the research was to study the relationship between the abuse of specific drugs and the most commonly committed crimes. At the end of the research, four detailed case studies were added.