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What Kind of Person is the Most Liable to Commit Extremist Crimes?

Milyen személy a legalkalmasabb a szélsőséges bűncselekmények elkövetésére?

Abstract

The article deals with the question what kind of person is the most liable to commit extremist crime. The concept of extremist crime is complex and various and thus different kind of people with different types of actions might constitute different types of extremist crimes. The first chapter offers enumerates specofic extremist crimes, defines the concept of criminal. The second chapter describes criminals and their characteristic features with regard to the age, gender, education, social background etc.

Keywords: extremist crimes, age, gender, education, social background

Absztrakt

A cikk azzal a kérdéssel foglalkozik, hogy milyen személy felelős a szélsőséges bűncselekmények elkövetéséért. A szélsőséges bűnözés fogalma bonyolult és különböző, így a különböző típusú cselekvések különböző fajtái, különböző típusú szélsőséges bűncselekményeket jelenthetnek. Az első fejezetben a szélsőséges bűncselekmények, a bűnöző fogalmának meghatározása szerepel. A második fejezet a bűnözőket és azok jellemzőit írja le, kor, nem, oktatás, társadalmi háttér stb.

Kulcsszavak: szélsőséges bűnözés, életkor, nem, oktatás, szociális háttér

INTRODUCTION

Criminal offenses of extremism, as well as crimes in general, may have at first glance of various perpetrators pachatelov. As well as the form of participation in a criminal act, it can

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.32563/hsz.2019.1.17

2019. XII. évfolyam 1. szám

in principle be different on a case-by-case basis. However, if we better analyze specific cases, we focus on the perpetrators' personalities and their characters, social background, childhood, age, gender, education and employment, some common features can be found.

The analysis of these features is important for the possible concept of prevention against crimes of extremism. This requires consideration not only of the judgments relating to these crimes, but also the subsequent podrobný detailed dialogue with their perpetrators. The statistics themselves on the numbers of the accused are insufficient, since they can not be accurately identified and no longer they can not show off offender's motive.

1. DEFINITION OF BASIC CONCEPTS

Criminal law defines the term offender as the one who committed the crime himself. The offender may be a natural person and a legal entity under the conditions laid down by a special regulation. If a criminal offence was committed by two or more persons acting in conjunction (accomplices), each of them has the same criminal liability as the single person who would commit such a criminal offence.

The Criminal Code has begun to devote to the issue of criminal prosecution in matters of extremism in 2009, which is exhaustive.

According to Section 140a, the offenses of extremism are a crime of founding, supporting and promoting a movement aimed at suppressing fundamental rights and freedoms under Section 421, expressing sympathy for a movement aimed at suppressing fundamental rights and freedoms under Section 422, Manufacturing of Extremist Materials under Section 422a, the dissemination of extremist materials according to § 422b, the prevention of extremist materials according to § 422b, the denial and approval of the Holocaust, the crimes of political regimes and crimes against humanity according to § 422d, the defamation of the nation, race and belif according to Section 423, Incitement of National, Racial and Ethnic Hatred according to § 424, apartheid and discrimination of a group of persons under Section 424a and a crime committed on a special motive under Section 140 e).²

2. THE RANDOM CHARACTERISTICS

The issue of offenders of extremism is dealt with by several authorities. The Government of the Slovak Republic is also paying attention to it. Regular reports are drawn up on the implementation of the tasks deriving from the concept of combating extremism.

As far as age structure is concerned, by 2011, one of the hallmarks of this type of crime is the group action of predominantly juvenile or those at the age close to that of juveniles. In 2014, it is noted that the accused are juvenils, people aged 18 to 25, but also people aged over 25 years old.

² https://www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/4/Slovakia/show

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2019. XII. évfolyam 1. szám

These figures are relatively recent, but the judgement of the offenders might not have become final yet. The Committee of Justice's Security Policy Department (Czech Republi), which in 2012 drafted a very good and detailed analysis of the available court judgments of perpetrators of extremist, racially motivated and xenophobic violent crimes, can be analyzed more accurately from court rulings.

The research phase of the analysis includes 114 court judgments, in which 178 defendants and subsequently convicted offenders were tried. The analysis will have a verifiable value within the range of offenders who were tried in 2004-2009, as most court judgments were collected during that period. Moreover, the termination of a lawsuit by lawful trial is also a lengthy process.

The causes and conditions of extremism can be found in each individual (individual motives), as well as in the whole society (social / social motive). Then we can describe co called subjective and objective causes of extremist behavior and thought. Under subjective causes, we see human characteristics that predispose individuals to extremist tendencies, to the objective causes and factors of the experts is: high unemployment in society (this is also shown by statistics stating that these perpetrators are mostly labor-free, it follows that they may have more time and energy to deal with crime). They are frustrated, mostly unemployed, unskilled, people who perceive the present as not very prospective and do not see a place for their self-realization.

Furthermore, there is a high proportion of unqualified or low-educated people; a higher proportion of immigrants or ethnic or religious groups amongst the rest of the population; the occurrence of racial and religious prejudices and traditions (due to limited cultural and social outlook, uncritical acceptance of opinions, lack of source of information, etc.); predominant political orientation and societal trends, e.g. fashion, the likeness of preferred foreign models, manifested in Germanization, the Americanization of the way of life, the import of characteristic ideologies from abroad.

Theories dealing with personality of these individuals belonging to extremist formation are looking for the causes of extreme behavior in disorders of socialization of an individual, in educational influences (authoritarian education). These individuals usually do not have healthy self-confidence and identify themselves with the strong personalities they see in the role model.

At the same time, we may observe a strong need of these individuals to feel unity and identify with a particular group in which they are received. Attendance to such group then also mediates the individual's satisfaction of his desire for power, the possibility of demonstrating strength, and can bring a certain sense of exclusivity and superiority, all in the safe environment of that group.

It is common for offenders to see a black and white view of the world. They have simple solutions for complex problems. Typical for them is uncompromising in what they consider to be right and desirable. Persons sometimes appear to be inclined towards messiah (lacking in the material movement that is typical of the above-mentioned crimes) and megalomania and can have a high intellectual level.

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2019. XII. évfolyam 1. szám

In our latitudes, statistics show that the perpetrators of these crimes have more basic education, respectively. secondary education with an apprenticeship certificate. This, however, does not denote the intellect that the offenders have. The propensity to extremism is often the cause of a reduced differentiation and evaluation ability, what is good and what is wrong, what is normal - and vice versa - what is normal and out of the ordinary. In the view of the structure of extremist groups, one can find among their members and supporters mainly young people.

This state of affairs is due to their inadequate life experience (ignorance of history, misunderstanding of the consequences of their actions, inability to recognize propaganda, manipulation, tendency to perceive the ideology uncritically, ignorance of information distortion, etc.). This fact was also confirmed by the analysis. According to it, most of the perpetrators of violent crime with elements of extremism are aged 18-21.

On the other hand, in terms of total value, extremist crimes (not just violent) predominate those among 21-29 years old. It is also related to the adolescence of a human being and the formation of personality as a process. Not for nothing, this so-called adolescent period is called a period of defiance. The individual tends to deny established ways of thinking and acting. This is an age-old period associated with the constant search for your place. That is why the extremist group for a young person can be attractive - because of the certainty of the background it provides, the feeling that they are including somewhere.

During the adolescence the peers and their influences pay a bigger role. In connection with the aforementioned, a study of the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic has produced a study titled Qualitative description of the personality psychology of the perpetrator of extremist, racially motivated and xenophobic criminal offense. We can divide the category of the Young Extremist into two basic types.

The first type is an aggressive, impulsive individual, who has a problem with self-control, and has a reduced frustration tolerance. It shows up with an inconsolable behavior and is egoistic, indifferent to the the surroundings.

The second type does not show signs of aggressiveness or impulsivity because it is well controlled. It does not show distinctive features of dissociation, but it is too dependent on the group to which it is proclaimed and within which one satisfies the need to belong, it strengthens the importance for real feelings of insecurity and dissatisfaction with oneself. Rather than aggression, impulsiveness and lack of self-regulation, the fear of exclusion from the group is characteristic of this individual.

The Special Prosecutor's Office, under which the crimes of extremism from January 2017 belong, dealt with the offence of vandalism containing the extremist motives of 11 years old boy. In such cases, NAKA investigators must decide, in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure, to postpone the case, since it is not possible to take criminal responsibility against him for the low age of the offender. However, the Office of the Special Prosecutor's Office will closely monitor within the Inter-ministerial Commission of Experts the solution of this matter outside the criminal law in order to prevent recurrence of similar cases.

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2019. XII. évfolyam 1. szám

Certainly, however, it is necessary to realize that not every young teenager is an extremist, and not every extremist bacame extremist in the process of adolescence. As it has already been mentioned, the perpetrators of these crimes usually do not see a place for their self-realization. The starting point for themselves is seen in aggression, which can also be changed in self-destruction. Interestingly, most convicted offenders report that they had a smooth childhood in the family, only some perpetrators were from an incomplete family, respectively had a problem with their parents, whether due to strict education or alcohol dependence.

The analysis states that this crime is perpetrated most often by persons socially disturbed, people where the process of social incorporation and social firewall has failed. That is why the offenders can often find disorders in the area of emotivity, impulsivity. Another type is co called Frustrated neighbor, committing crime on the basis of certain conflicts. The perpetrator is then an older person who is committing violent extremist crime for the first time, is employed and we might look for him in a higher age category.

Criminal offenses are generally perpetrated within their domicile. Perhaps the best known case in this case would be the case in Devínska Nova Ves, where several people died and were injured in September 2010.³ It would be interesting to follow this process not only from the point of view of qualifying the act, but also of motive.

The greatest surprise in the division of perpetrators will be so called perpetrator of a Roma ethnic group who attacks with a racial or xenophobic motive. In this type (as in the so-called frustrated neighbor), there can be no talk of extremeism in the true sense of the word. They are individuals who do not organize themselves in associations and movements. Their crime therefore carries elements of racial intolerance and is more of an individual expression than a grouping. At the same time, their criminal activities are not organized and often arise as a result of situational conflicts.

Criminal offenses with an element of extremism and violence are most often carried out in public spaces such as streets, squares. Other frequent venues are: bars, discos, games and restaurants - places where alcohol can be consumed and then enjoyed, especially in the more advanced evening and night time - until 12:00 pm when the likelihood of committing the crime is greatest after midnight on the contrary, it is declining (probably due to the too high proportion of alcohol in the blood). The above-mentioned criminal activity is also committed at home or accommodation of victims. The perpetrators commit crimes mainly in the premises of their permanent residence or the actual place of residence. However, if the perpetrator in the past has been shown to belong to the movement of right-wing or left-wing extremism, the offender has decided to move the crime scene away from the place where he lives or, is staying.

Drinking alcohol, which reduces barriers and increases aggression, and the impact of a group in which, as already mentioned, young people often need to exist, plays a big role. It

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³ https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-11129844

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2019. XII. évfolyam 1. szám

acts as a strengthening factor in offending and at the same time dampens any feelings of guilt and conscience. This crime is in most cases committed in the form of complicity.

Quite often the offenders are members of the formations people of low age - ie. persons who are not criminally liable. With the age of perpetrators, the portion of this form of participation in a criminal act decreases. They are individuals who do not organize themselves in associations and movements. Their crime therefore carries elements of racial intolerance and is more of an individual expression than a grouping. At the same time, their criminal activities are not organized and often arise as a result of situational conflicts.

However, the number of older members of the right-wing movements, who have been active members of them for a long time, has begun to rise at a time when the analysis has arisen. It is mainly related to the trend of the transfer of crime in the public sphere to thoroughly prepared activities in anonymity, so very often in CYBERSPACE in this context, it is possible to mention a circle of relatively intelligent and educated individuals who can plan actions, communicate with abroad and at the same time create an impressive ideology for others.

Borderline statistics still show that men tend to have a greater tendency to commit crimes with an extremist element. It should also be recalled that the crimes are often committed with elements of violence and hooliganism, and this feature is not a general fact for women in committing crimes. These types of crime are more likely to commit cyber-space, if at all.

CONCLUSION

It is clear from the above that the greatest tendency to commit extremist crimes have young. They can be used more easily, misused to disseminate ideology, but especially to commit crimes. Frequent trigger is the use of alcohol, especially in public places, where follow-up actions are followed. Not least dangerous is the environment of the cyberpriest recently due to anonymous anonymity. Even people who can not join the company (whether work or social) and adopt standards can become smugglers.

There is no single profile of a person likely to become involved in extremism and the process of radicalisation is different for every individual.

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