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ANALYSIS OF FEMALE CRIMINALITY AND ITS GLOBAL AND LOCAL SOCIAL THREATS

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Abstract
The article presents the facts that crime is a historically changeable social and criminal law phenomenon, which is a system of crimes committed in a given country (region) over a certain period of time. Information is given that crime is considered the most dangerous type of "social pathology", about the influence of legal norms on increasing and demonstrating the importance of a person's official activity, crime prevention and identification and disclosure of the causes of crimes committed.

Keywords: Group, crime, law, offense, terrorism, extreme situation, murder, fraud, theft, drugs, globalization, prison contingent.

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Introduction

The emergence of the sociological trend in criminology was linked to the inability of biological criminological theories to adequately evaluate the state of criminality, its developmental trends, and suitable practices for combating crime, as well as to provide reliable crime forecasts for society. The formation of the sociological direction should be attributed to the French statiticians known as the "French moral statisticians," particularly Adolphe Quetelet, who between 1825 and 1830, based on collected data, established various patterns of juvenile delinquency and demonstrated that they had reached high levels. Likewise important was the work of the Belgian mathematician and statistician Antoine-Antoine C. Quetelet, whose treatise "On Man and the Development of His Faculties, or an Essay on Social Physics," published in 1836, relied on statistical data to analyze social phenomena [1, p. 30].

Criminal courts began to determine specific frequencies of offenses. From that moment forward, criminological thought shifted from studying crimes as isolated incidents to analyzing crime as a mass social phenomenon, seeking relationships between societal changes and the state of criminality. The sociological direction developed into an independent branch of criminology at the beginning of the 20th century. It gained its greatest recognition in the United States, undoubtedly because the rapid and often contradictory development of American society inevitably influenced the rise in crime. Diverse views on the interdependence of social change and crime within society gave rise to various theories under the umbrella of the sociological school.

An attempt to commit a crime is itself considered an offense. Every attempt is an act carried out with criminal intent. The presence of this malicious intent or purpose defines the essence of the attempt. An act may be entirely lawful in itself but becomes criminal due to its intention. For example, mixing bait into food is a lawful act in itself—this mixture could be intended for rodent extermination. However, if the purpose is to kill a person, the act transforms into an attempted

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murder. In such cases, a rational legal system cannot avoid considering motive merely as material, because the full harmful tendencies of an act and its illegality stem solely from the motive.

Although every attempt is an act made with criminal intent, not every act carried out with such intent constitutes an attempt. An act performed with criminal intent may fall far short of a completed crime, regardless of the perpetrator's purpose. For instance, one may purchase matchsticks with the intention of arson; yet buying matches does not constitute an attempt—it is the malicious intent alone without any harmful conduct towards the law. If one lit a match with the criminal purpose of setting fire, that act would become an attempted crime. Intending to commit a crime, preparing to commit it, and acting to commit it are distinct stages. Each crime committed with intent can be seen to involve four separate stages: intent, preparation, attempt, and completion. The first two are usually innocent. An unexecuted intent, unlike an unconsidered act, does not provide grounds for liability. Will and deed must coexist. Even an act done to realize an intent, if it does not move beyond the preparation stage, is generally not considered a crime. Thus, purchasing a firearm for criminal purposes does not in itself make one culpable. However, the final two stages—attempt and completion—give rise to criminal responsibility. How, then, do we draw the line between innocence and guilt? What distinguishes preparation for a crime from an attempt? How far can an individual go down the path of criminal intent and still retreat safely if change of heart or circumstance occurs? The law does not always provide a precise or sufficient answer to these questions. As James Stevens observes in his treatise on criminal law, "An attempt is that act or series of acts which, having begun, would have continued and resulted in the crime had they not been interrupted. The exact point at which these acts begin depends on the particular circumstances of each case."

Crime is a historically variable phenomenon—socially and legally defined—representing the system of offenses committed in a given state (or region) during a specific period. It is considered the most dangerous form of "social pathology." The most dangerous states have been recognized as Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Colombia, and Pakistan. Experts note that these countries are dangerous to be in because one may encounter serious threats. While crime rates may vary in each, common factors include political and economic instability, leading to the proliferation of lawbreaking, terrorism, and violent crime, such that murder and kidnapping become commonplace. In these contexts, human rights mechanisms are absent, and unwritten rules prevail over codified law. Societies in many African and Asian states are deeply influenced by Islam both vertically and horizontally.

Conversely, the safest states—Finland, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, and Luxembourg—are often cited. In urban areas, to prevent extreme situations, recommendations include avoiding poorly lit or sparsely populated locations; keeping cash and valuables in inner pockets; using taxis when traveling at night and refusing rides from strangers; consulting multiple people when seeking directions; carrying small change and public transport tickets; and avoiding crowds—such as gatherings, queues, or protests—where curiosity could put one at risk.

High levels of crime are among the main global problems exacerbated by the onset of a global financial-economic crisis. Crime thrives alongside inadequate order and control. Since the dawn of human history, criminals have posed threats to people, their property, and their livelihoods.

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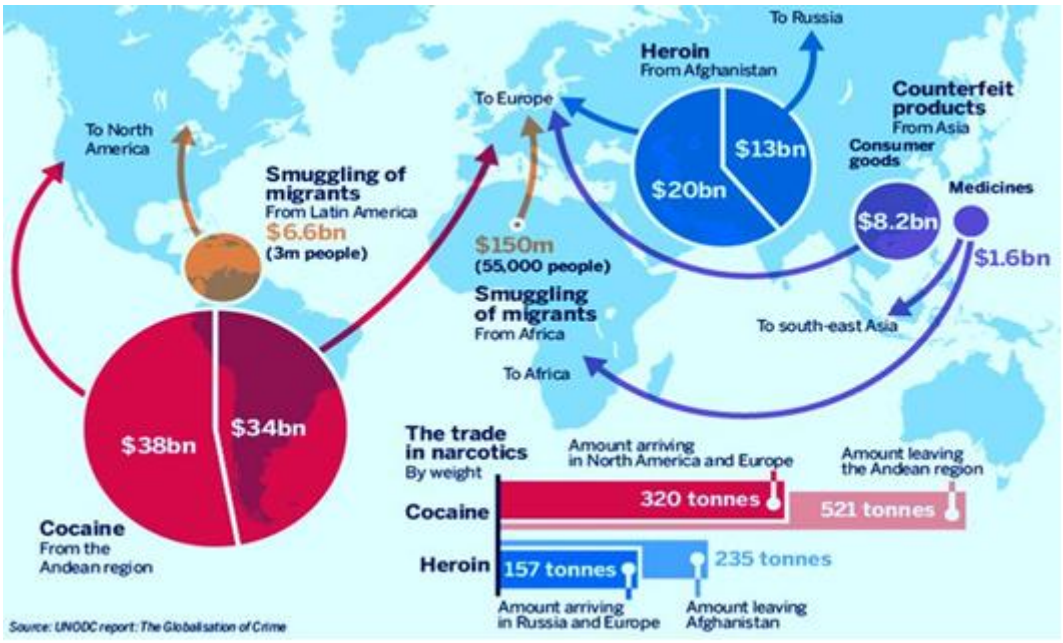
For centuries, the main issues have taken the form of traditional crimes—homicide, fraud, and theft—directed against individuals and their belongings.



However, since the mid-1980s, the nature of crime has changed. During this period, crime became organized, transnational, embedded in macroeconomic relations, and transformed into a global business alongside lawful enterprises. Crime transcended local offenses to become a widespread threat to the security of cities, states, and entire regions. Responses by the criminal justice system have been severe but largely ineffective. Security forces, equipped with military hardware, patrol urban areas to tackle gangs. Entire armies have been mobilized to combat drug trafficking; pirates and smugglers are pursued by many nations' naval forces; fighter jets and satellites are used to curb narcotics distribution.

The United Nations Security Council has been compelled to study the threat organized crime poses to national security in several countries. Strategies and doctrines for combating global organized crime have evolved, and global criminality now alarms citizens, policymakers, and the media. How did it reach such a scale? Was it a consequence of post-communist transitions and the reorientation of the world order? Did globalization, the opening of borders, simplified tourism and communication regimes, and economic integration play decisive roles? Or did widespread poverty and unemployment in many regions, along with the lack of conditions for economic and social development, further exacerbate vulnerability to crime? The causes of global organized crime probably include all of the above, but their relative weight varies by country.

When analyzing female criminal psychology, intriguing data emerge. Women often commit theft, drug offenses, and domestic crimes, which frequently lead to dire consequences. While not all are sent to correctional facilities, many do eventually offend and enter the penal system, where approximately 40,000 female convicts are held worldwide. This number would be higher if amnesties were less frequent. Women constitute about 5% of the total prison population; regardless of how they are distinguished or absolved, many offenders remain within the institutions. Worldwide, female prisoners make up between 2% and 8% of the total prison

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population. For example, in Russia, women represent 5% of all inmates; in India, 4%; and in the United States, 6.8% [2, pp. 44–61]. Thus, by official statistics, our country does not stand out for a high proportion of female offenders.

In 2021, crime among unemployed women and women aged 18–30 in Uzbekistan increased by an average of 2%. President Shavkat Mirziyoyev reported at a video-conference on measures to elevate the support system for women, strengthen their social protection, prevent domestic violence, and establish gender equality that year, crime rates rose by 1.7 times among unemployed women and doubled among women aged 18–30. Additionally, incidents of domestic abuse and pressure against women persist: nearly 39,000 women turned to prevention inspectors in 2021, a 2.5-fold increase over 2020 [3]. While these figures are not high compared to many countries, they remain significant for Uzbekistan.

Over the past two decades, female crime in Europe has surged by 400%, according to a report by the private investigation agency Miriam Tomponzi Investigations, presented to the European Parliament [2, pp. 44–61]. The study, covering ten EU countries, involved interviews with over 3,000 incarcerated women and data from interior ministries. Italy leads in female crime rates, with women accounting for 14% of offenders; 60% of child homicides there are committed by women. In Europe, women make up about 13% of homicide perpetrators, reaching 30% in the United Kingdom. According to Tomponzi, European women are responsible for 36% of counterfeit note production, 48% of designer-goods counterfeiting, 24% of general theft, and 16.2% of car thefts [2]. Shoplifting accounts for 75% of juvenile female offenders' crimes. In 2003, 475 women were detained and prosecuted across Europe. The report notes women often offend for sentimental reasons or at the instigation of close associates. Notably, female recidivism is relatively low. In response to rising female crime, two male prisons in Britain are being converted for women; currently, out of 68,357 inmates, 4,045 (approximately 30% annually increased) are women [2].

Researchers have observed particular traits among incarcerated women: many homicides by women are premeditated—67%, compared to 47% for men—often driven by jealousy; only 15% result from jealousy, while most stem from other intense emotions [4, p. 374]. Over time, disrupted family ties among women have led to tragic social outcomes; in Russia, low birth rates and high youth delinquency are interconnected. The isolation of wives and mothers in prison creates complex challenges for families and childrearing. Although women adapt well to prison environments, the consequences are often more tragic than for men, who find it easier to form new relationships. Female convicts commit a variety of offenses; increasingly, economic crimes and fraud are perpetrated by women with sophisticated methods and substantial proceeds, leaving nothing for confiscation.

Professional female criminals—thieves, drug dealers, fraudsters, brothel owners, car thieves, and even terrorists—have long existed. Experts assert our lenient laws and frequent amnesties facilitate the growth of professional female crime. Such criminals understand both legal loopholes and criminal techniques. Yet, in the global female criminal underworld, only one title remains unattained: no woman has become the principal "master thief," nor has any been crowned as such. This tradition is so deeply entrenched that wealth or connections cannot override it. However, "motherships," or female gang leaders, do exist. In every other respect, female offenders successfully compete with their most seasoned criminal counterparts.

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This issue is particularly urgent for the Western world. Numerous studies over the past 20 years document a fourfold increase in female crime in prosperous Western Europe. These are not trivial offenses. In modern Italy, 13% of all homicides are committed by women, and in the UK, one in three homicides is attributed to women, according to Western media. In the United States, the number of female prisoners has multiplied over the last two decades, with a similar trend in Eastern Europe—journalists in Poland, for example, often report on the exploits and brutality of female gangs.

Stereotypes and misconceptions provide malleable material for targeted manipulation. The construction of an "alien scapegoat" serves several "useful" purposes: it allows authorities to shift blame for their miscalculations and failures onto that group and, secondly, believing in some external threat deepens in-group cohesion [5, p. 664].

As the English sociologist Arnold Toynbee wrote, “Modern Western perspectives on history are deeply paradoxical… This is, of course, astonishing, but merely one of many contradictions characterizing our age. Unprecedented levels of humanitarian consciousness coexist with class hatred, nationalism, and racism, which find expression in cold-blooded, calculated cruelty. These two incompatible states of mind and behavior coexist not only globally but often within the same nation or individual.” [6, p. 360].

Indeed, atrocities committed elsewhere may seem unreal to us, yet violence on Earth has never diminished—from the two World Wars to contemporary conflicts. Perhaps violence, like every human trait, exists in specific proportions and competes with civilization’s virtues, ultimately triumphing despite immense sacrifices. Nonetheless, as Toynbee suggests, the vindication of civilization that deprives itself of the possibility of aggression remains dubious [6, p. 360].

Human behavior, including criminal behavior, is profoundly influenced by the economic conditions of existence. Discontent—indeed, protest—often takes the form of widespread aggression. It engenders anxiety, uncertainty about the future, loss of prospects, concern for loved ones’ material security, and, finally, fear of poverty and acute need. According to local sociologists, the early to mid-1990s in our country were characterized by high levels of anxiety and fear among the populace.

At precisely that time, a significant rise in crime was recorded. Sociological surveys show that people’s anxiety intensifies with rising prices and overall economic deterioration. In many countries, fluctuations in anxiety correlate not only with economic downturns but also with escalating political problems.

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