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RESILIENCE AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOCIETY

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ABSTRACT

Social exclusion is an essential feature of Bosnian society. Data on general, extreme and long-term social exclusion in Bosnia and Herzegovina show that a large part of the population is covered by some form of social exclusion. Causes of social exclusion are mainly related to unemployment, low level of education, outdated knowledge and skills. The aim of this paper is to indicate how much social exclusion affects the emergence of antisocial behavior of young people. In this paper, we will present various types of social exclusion and their reflection on the behavior of adolescents as one of the most risky categories of the population.

Key words: *social exclusion, youth, antisocial behavior, society.*

JEL classification: *M14, J13*

CHARACTERISTICS AND TYPES OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Social exclusion includes permanent, multidimensional and multi-conditioned deprivation of individuals and social groups, which cannot be easily overcome. To facilitate the monitoring of social exclusion, we start from the assumption of the connection between three areas of deprivation: labor (unemployment and non-participation in the labor market), economic (poverty) and socio-cultural (social isolation, lack of social contacts). All of them separately put individuals and social groups at a disadvantage, but only their combination increases the risk of social exclusion and makes it more difficult to overcome it. The concept of deprivation is accepted by many authors in empirical research as a substitute for social exclusion

Approaches to social exclusion within the European Union (EU) are mainly based on two research traditions: the Anglo-Saxon tradition of poverty research, which emphasizes the impact of the distribution of financial / material goods and “social rewards” on social exclusion (distribution aspects) and the French (Francophone) tradition which emphasizes the influence of social ties and relations (relational aspects). Distribution aspects include: income, basic living standards, labor market, education, housing, health and housing, and relational aspects include: social ties, participation in civil society organizations, participation in political life and family life.

Indicators of general social exclusion are living standards, health, education, participation in society and access to services, and 50% of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina is socially excluded from at least one of these areas. The index of extreme social exclusion (drastic exclusion from basic processes and needs) is 22%. The index of long-term social exclusion is 47%, and includes the population that has limited choices to improve their situation over the long term [5].

The connection between social exclusion and adolescents can be seen through specific types of social exclusion. Types of social exclusion can be determined by the failure or inability of individuals to function in one or more social systems, namely: a democratic-legal system, which provides for civic or civil integration; labor market system, which means economic integration; social welfare system, which promotes social integration; family system and local community system, which enable interpersonal integration [9]. These systems are complementary. In a situation where some systems are weak, others need to be strong and make up for the shortcomings of a weaker system. It is most difficult for those people who fail in all four systems, and the situation is even worse if such a situation is long-lasting. The feeling of belonging or exclusion of an individual depends on the situation in all four systems. For young people, who are impatient by nature, the long-term inability to integrate into social systems can (re) direct them towards illegal ways of overcoming this situation.

According to the criterion of risk of social exclusion of certain social groups, there are eight types of social exclusion: exclusion due to economic status (poor, unemployed,

especially the long-term unemployed, homeless, housewives, displaced persons and refugees, migrants; exclusion according to family structure (single-member households, single-parent families, children without parental care, couples with three or more children; exclusion with regard to identification (national / ethnic / racial / religious minorities, sexual minorities, persons with alternative lifestyles, eg non-conformist and deviant youth subcultures; age exclusion (young people aged 15-29; older people aged 65 and over and pensioners; crime exclusion (prisoners and ex-prisoners, juvenile delinquents, victims of crime exclusion with regard to education (persons with lower level of education); with regard to health status (persons with special needs, persons with mental illness, people living with HIV / AIDS and hepatitis C; persons with a problem of dependence on alcohol and psychoactive substances, persons suffering from genetic and chronic diseases; disability exclusion due to physical and sensory disabilities, people with mental / intellectual disabilities [7] Among some of these groups are young people who, due to the degree of social exclusion, are at risk of committing property crimes.

Characteristic types of youth deviations that are directly related to their social exclusion are, in particular, adaptive, aggression and withdrawal deviations. The first group includes various types of crime, especially property crime, prostitution, begging and vagrancy, unemployment and gambling. The second group includes various types of aggression on the micro-social level, from peer violence and vandalism to bullying. Withdrawals and drug dependence are particularly characteristic of withdrawal deviations.

Social exclusion can occur at three levels: at the level of the individual, at the level of social groups and at the level of wider communities (regional or geographical). The general criterion for determining social exclusion is the weakening of the link between individuals and society. According to this criterion, there are four types of social exclusion: exclusion from working life, exclusion from consumer society, exclusion from the society of "normal" and exclusion from the mechanisms of use of power and influence.

The educational structure and status of individuals, social groups and strata is one of the significant causes of social exclusion, because they significantly affect the ability to perform various social roles, from labor and economic, to political and social. These personal, group or layer characteristics also affect the possibility of social promotion, as well as lifestyles, social interactions and connections, and inclusion in various forms of social life in the community.

SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Without a deeper analysis, the impact of these types of social exclusion on the occurrence and juvenile delinquency can be observed. First, it is to be expected that young people who are excluded from the work process, ie those who have not been given the opportunity to work, will resort to obtaining material (financial) funds in illegal ways (property crime) or to show aggression or withdraw from normal life, e.g.

start with alcoholism. Second, young people who are excluded from consumer society due to poverty may also seek a way out of property and other crimes. Permanent propaganda and encouraging the consumer mentality can additionally encourage them to make such a choice. In a society where it is more important to “have” than to “be” [14] the imperative of possessing material things in young people arouses the desire to acquire at all costs, including the risk of sanction for crimes committed. Third, if a number of young people are excluded from society due to illness or feelings of loneliness, then it is to be assumed that some of them will seek their place in the society of the “normal” by trying to “prove” themselves through socially unacceptable behaviors. We should not neglect some kind of individual “predestination” for deviant behavior or intergenerational transmission of deviant behavior, ie. adoption of such behavior under the influence of criminal habits of parents or role models from the immediate social environment of young people [15]. Finally, the fourth type of social exclusion (inability to participate in the system of decision-making, government and influence) can provoke a kind of resistance from young people. This resistance can be manifested through the violation of generally accepted social norms in the form of aggression, destruction, robbery, theft, etc. It could be said that young people in such cases take on a “Robin Hood” role. They show resistance to those who have it through theft and (re) abduction, and they find justification in the explanation that it is not a sin to take from those who have a lot for the benefit of those who have nothing.

There is a clear link and overlap between certain elements of social exclusion and adolescent and youth crime. Crime “flourishes” in times of social crisis, value turbulence, rising unemployment and poverty. Social crises and regressions most directly create a fertile ground for the spread of different types of crime. At the same time, they contribute to the indirect multiplication of criminal activities through growing social problems, including poverty, unemployment, dysfunction and disorganization of many social institutions and services, and relationship disorders, family functions and structures have special weight and impact [11].

Some parents have failed to adequately adapt to the conditions of social crisis and confusion and perversion of values. Even in families with relatively stable relationships, overall social circumstances make young people feel disoriented, hopeless and alienated [13]. Regardless of the degree of poverty and social crisis, all modern societies can be marked as a “risk society”. The term “risk society” means that such a society creates miles for the emergence of social inequalities and social problems. Highly modernized societies are creating more and more risks for their members. The risks stem from technical and economic progress and the process of globalization, and are manifested in the form of environmental problems, terrorism, as well as moral problems such as juvenile delinquency, child abuse, weakening the family and violence. Risks affect poorer societies and lower classes more than richer societies and upper classes. However, the upper strata are not deprived of the danger of risk either, because according to the boomerang effect, the way of managing society by members of the upper strata can return to them in the form of increased crime, terrorism, deviance, environmental and technological disasters, etc.

SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXT OF YOUTH DEVIANT BEHAVIOR

Consumer culture imposes key values such as money, status symbols, possession of material values. In order to achieve these values, people undertake not only legal, but also illegal social activities. Motives for delinquent behavior of minors can be adventurism, curiosity, status proving, confirmation in the group, desire to experience danger, etc. [17].

In the era of information technologies, young people are offered information through the press, television, and especially the Internet, which is a global world medium. Not only useful and educational contents are easily accessible, but also contents of destructive and antisocial character, which can influence the acceptance of wrong patterns of behavior among young people. Effective planning and use of free time is essential in the prevention of juvenile delinquency. This means that young people's free time is filled with useful content (reading, walking, sports, creative socializing with peers, etc.).

The socio-cultural context of juvenile delinquency can be understood by considering four complex global dimensions. These are social exclusion, exposure of young people to structural and cultural violence, frustration in the realization of family functions and roles and social fear of losing life chances [2].

Many authors [4], [12], [1] considering the influences of personal, environmental and social factors on the occurrence of juvenile delinquency, believe that this phenomenon is influenced by a combination of all these factors. Some young people with certain biopsychological predispositions will respond to long-term behavior in the case of psychological trauma and environmental pressures - violations of social and legal norms. The influence of the family on the early formation of the personality of the child and adolescent is extremely significant. The behavior of children is greatly influenced by other agents of socialization - primarily peer society and the media, then school, etc. The fact is that the negative impact is stronger if the family experiences are negative. It is easier to resist the negative influence of the peer group of adolescents who have greater emotional support in the family and a more positive image of themselves as a result of positive family interactions.

The attitude of the society towards the perpetrators of criminal acts should not be neglected either. Different terminology for juvenile delinquency is pointed out in the conceptual definition. The Law on Social Protection of the Republika Srpska [3] uses the term "child with socially unacceptable behavior". This term indicates the behavior of minors that deviate from generally accepted social values and prescribed norms. Thus, the emphasis is placed on minors, and the social causes of this phenomenon are neglected. This means that juveniles, as perpetrators of crimes, are exposed to social condemnation, sanctions, isolation, labeling and stigmatization.

Numerous studies have shown that recidivism very often occurs in inadequate family circumstances, ie in families characterized by misery and poverty, unemployment of family members, bad family relationships, etc. [16]. However, recidivism is also

related to the effects of imposed criminal sanctions on perpetrators of criminal offenses, and is interpreted as the failure of imposed sanctions and inadequate treatment during the execution of criminal sanctions. Changes in domestic criminal law go in the direction of restorative justice, which gives juvenile offenders the opportunity to more successfully resocialize and prevent recidivism [9].

CONCLUSION

As parents, we often ignore the many problems that adolescents face, believing that this always happens to other children, and that it will never happen to us. Unfortunately, today we are increasingly dealing with the consequences of such problems. That is why identifying a problem is as important as solving it. Although in the last two decades we have adopted and implemented a number of normative and legal acts dealing with the problem of juvenile delinquency, from the Strategy against Juvenile Delinquency in Bosnia and Herzegovina to a number of regulations and manuals for prevention and resocialization of offenders primarily helping professions, we still face children. who chose the path of crime, violence and, with the desire to reach the goal, fame, money, salvation from problems and other difficulties they face every day without knowledge, effort, respect for the value system of the society in which they live. Behind these problems that young people face, there is always some kind of social exclusion. Unfortunately, the anomie of society encourages social exclusion and directs them towards antisocial behavior that young people recognize as the only way out of their problems. Therefore, the problem of social exclusion and deviant behavior of young people is closely linked and one of the key causes of their antisocial behavior in society.

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