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Some Suggestions to Reduce the Risk of Being into a Violent Situation

Tulyaganov Abdulaziz Abdumannop ugli¹, Ruziev Behruz Malik ugli²

- 1 Practicing Lawyer in A Private Company
- 2 Student of Tashkent State Law University Republic of Uzbekistan

Abstract: In this article was analyzed the state of crime in some countries (for some crimes). Based on a study of world statistics and experience, some suggestions were made to minimize the risk of falling into a situation of violence.

Keywords: crime, victim, violence, some factors, guilt, victim blaming (accusation of the victim), precautionary measures.

The responsibility for committing any violent crimes, including crimes against life and health, lies with the aggressor (criminal). In this case, any person can get into a situation where he becomes a victim of a crime.

In its report, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime reported that in 2017, 464,000 people were victims of intentional killings, which in turn is 5 times higher than the number of those killed as a result of armed conflicts [1].

The report provides homicide statistics by region and country. The worst indicator in the countries of Central America is 62 killed per 100 thousand people, followed by South America - 56.8 killed, while in general in America 17.2 killed per 100 thousand people. In Africa - 13 killed per 100 thousand people, in Europe - 3, in Oceania - 2.8. The smallest number of those killed is noted in Asia - 2.3 [2].

Among the factors contributing to the commission of crimes, there is no idea, still widespread in the post-Soviet space, that the victim, by his actions, can provoke crimes against him.

This approach, which involves shifting some of the blame for the act committed against the victim, is called victim blaming and, within the framework of social psychology, is based on the belief in a just world[3].

People who believe in a just world are convinced that any human actions have consequences that are predictable based on patterns, and that all events are not random. In case of occurrence unfair events, such people do not reconsider their position in relation to the world, but interpret this event in connection with the behavior or properties of the victim, and then, due to these distortions, blame the victim for what happened to her [4].

However, blaming the victim (victimblaming) is based on various kinds of intolerance towards everything that is different and uncomfortable, calling into question the usual structure of the world. The term "blaming the victim" was introduced by William Ryan in 1971 in his book Blaming the Victim [5], where he described the ideology of justifying racism and social injustice against African Americans in the United States. Racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination also use the rhetoric of victimblaming to support their beliefs [6].



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Concepts of victimology of the positivist approach in the post-Soviet states [7]. opposed to foreign victimology based on the protection of the victim [8].

As a result, in relation to domestic and sexual violence, criminologist and president of the World Victimological Society, Jan van Dijk, points out that the notion that victims provoke abusers to commit violence and must share the blame with them is based on a patriarchal mentality, which in fact is the basis such crimes [9]. Switching the emphasis on the role of the victim in the violence committed against her diverts attention from the real structural causes of violence [10].

Discussions on the problems of victimblaming contributed to the fact that specialists in gender studies began to pay more attention to the unequal distribution of power in general and gender inequality in particular [11].

Thus, in order not to commit violent crimes, including crimes against life and health, each person must take precautionary and preventive measures in order not to become a criminal (aggressor, rapist) himself.

Such measures are both legal and social in nature. First of all, we are talking about the need for a respectful attitude towards all people, regardless of their gender, age, race, nationality, linguistic, religious or other affiliation (non-discriminatory behavior), about non-interference and respect for personal boundaries and the inviolability of the body of other people, as well as about working on the development of one's own personality without comparison and competition with other people. The legal component includes the need to constantly improve the legal culture of each person, knowledge of the laws and what belongs to the category of criminal acts, as well as ensuring the inevitability of punishment for those who have committed a crime. Ideally, this is the only guaranteed effective mechanism to prevent violent crime.

However, the reality is that not all people seek to avoid the role of a criminal. In this regard, since anyone can potentially become a victim of a crime, there are a number of recommendations to reduce the risks.

Attentive and careful attitude towards oneself, taking some precautions can save a person from a situation of violence, save his life and health, and also minimize the likelihood of falling into the role of a victim (victim).

The greatest number of crimes against life and health are committed as a result of domestic conflicts, and women are often the victims of these crimes. As mentioned above, domestic violence is cyclical and tends to escalate (grow, intensify). Initial minor aggressive actions and quarrels can escalate into causing bodily harm or even murder in the future. As a rule, already in the early stages with due care signs of aggressive behavior may be observed, indicating the possibility of violence in the future.

The following are examples of recommendations that can help protect yourself from serious consequences (from violence):

- 1. Always clearly and unequivocally express your feelings and intentions, including sexually, in order to minimize the risk of a mistake on the part of the partner.
- 2. Try to avoid relationships and communication with people who treat you badly or try to subdue you.
- 3. Try to avoid being alone with people who bully and brag; show ruthlessness, insulting or mocking attitude towards people; reckless, prone to impulsive actions; physically rough; use drugs, alcohol in large quantities, substances that affect the change in consciousness; prone to outbursts of anger or jealousy, especially if they cannot get their way; often humiliate other people, treat them as a tool to achieve the desired result; do not take into account the opinion of another person in any area; They believe that laws are made to be broken.
- 4. Be as discreet and sober as possible, even when it comes to staying in the company of people you know, in order to be able to resist in the event of an attack by a criminal.



- 5. Avoid potentially unsafe places (hidden places in nature, deserted areas at night, poorly lit sections of roads and streets, apartments and other premises of unfamiliar people, etc.).
- 6. Refrain from inviting even acquaintances and partners to your home if there is no one there but you.
- 7. Develop a safety plan, especially when visiting new places with new people (put money in your inner pocket or other place for a taxi, think about ways to leave the area where you are, etc.).
- 8. Beware of ambiguous hints, especially on sexual topics, do not allow discriminatory statements about yourself and other people.
- 9. At the slightest feeling or suspicion of danger, try to stop the meeting, date, party, communication, etc.
- 10. Remember that it is better to look bad in the eyes of others alive and healthy than good dead or injured.

As can be seen from the above list of recommendations, the offender uses the state of a potential victim and external circumstances to commit serious violent crimes and then justify them. For example, according to judicial practice, more than half of cases of crimes against life and health are committed against victims who are intoxicated and drink alcohol together with the offender. At the same time, according to the studied verdicts of the district courts in criminal cases of the city of Tashkent, at least 30% of crimes against life and health were committed in conditions of inattentive and negligent behavior of the victims, which was a concomitant factor in the commission of violence.

Since in most cases the perpetrators themselves systematically drink alcohol, stricter administrative supervision could possibly have a preventive effect on the participants in the events. In this regard, the activities of law enforcement agencies should be aimed not only at working with persons who commit violent crimes or who are prone to commit them, but also at advisory, educational and educational activities among the population. Clarification of the procedure for contacting law enforcement officers and the professional performance of their duties would reduce the number of violent crimes.

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