

EXPERIENCE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES IN SUICIDE PREVENTION

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
Article history: Received Sep 15, 2024 Revised Sep 18, 2024 Accepted Oct 15, 2024 Keywords: <i>Victim, Crime, Damage, Latency, Cause, Person, Behavior, Prevention, Suicide, Foreign Countries</i>	General Background: Suicide remains a pressing global health issue, prompting extensive research into effective prevention strategies across diverse cultural contexts. Specific Background: This article delves into international practices in suicide prevention, highlighting the complexities of victimization in different countries. It emphasizes the need to understand the interplay between societal factors and individual behaviors in mitigating suicide risks. Knowledge Gap: Despite the wealth of studies on suicide prevention, there is a paucity of research specifically addressing the concept of victimology as it pertains to suicide, particularly regarding the behavioral modifications that can shield individuals from becoming victims of suicidal ideation and actions. Aims: This study aims to fill this gap by exploring how victimology principles can inform suicide prevention strategies, thereby enhancing awareness of criminal dangers associated with suicide and promoting behavior changes that lower victimization risks. Results: The analysis reveals that effective suicide prevention interventions often incorporate victimology concepts, suggesting that educating individuals about potential risks and adaptive behaviors can significantly reduce suicide rates. Novelty: This article introduces a novel perspective by integrating victimology into the discourse on suicide prevention, advocating for a paradigm shift in how we understand and address this critical issue. Implications: The findings underscore the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in suicide prevention, recommending that policymakers and practitioners incorporate victimology insights into their strategies to enhance overall efficacy and reduce the incidence of suicide globally. This is an open-access article under the CC-BY 4.0 license. 

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INTRODUCTION

If we analyze the experience of foreign countries in the prevention of suicide, for example, on February 22, 2017, in Great Britain, in order to prevent violence and suicide,

the Law "Domestic Violence: In the British Mirror" was adopted. Every week in Great Britain, two women commit suicide due to the actions of their husbands[1].

According to the legislation adopted in Great Britain, a woman who suffered from domestic violence by her husband demanded a divorce from her husband. If she does not divorce her husband, the guardianship and guardianship authorities could take the child away from her. These laws aggravated the existing situation and many crimes remained latent. In Britain, there are helplines that work not only for women and children, but also for men who are affected[2].

In addition, in the USA, in 1991, the Violence Against Women Act was passed by the US Congress, and in 1994, the Violence Against Women Act was passed, the purpose of which is to prevent this type of crime. Based on this law, 1,500 centers for victims of domestic violence have been established.

For example, based on the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, adopted by the US Congress, a national "appeal line" was established, and 1.6 billion dollars were allocated to these processes. money was allocated and spent on the training of special police, prosecutor's office and judicial system personnel[3].

Also, in the CIS countries, several laws have been adopted to prevent suicide as a result of domestic violence. For example, on March 25, 2003, the Kyrgyz Republic adopted the law "On social and legal protection from violence in the family".

METHODS

Study Design: This research employs a qualitative meta-analysis approach, synthesizing findings from various international studies on suicide prevention and victimology.

Data Collection: A comprehensive literature review was conducted using academic databases such as PubMed, PsycINFO, and Scopus. Inclusion criteria focused on peer-reviewed articles published between 2000 and 2023 that specifically address suicide prevention strategies and victimology. Keywords used in the search included "suicide prevention," "victimology," "suicide risk factors," and "international practices."

Data Analysis: The selected studies were subjected to thematic analysis. Key themes were identified regarding the effectiveness of various prevention strategies and the role of victimization in influencing suicidal behavior. This process involved coding the data for recurring patterns and categories.

Comparative Analysis: A comparative analysis was conducted to evaluate the differences in suicide prevention strategies across various countries. This involved assessing cultural, social, and economic factors that influence the efficacy of these strategies.

Ethical Considerations: The research adhered to ethical guidelines, ensuring that all data sourced from existing literature was appropriately cited and that no primary data involving human subjects were collected.

Limitations: The study acknowledges potential biases in the available literature, such as publication bias and the variability in methodological rigor across studies. Future research should address these limitations by incorporating quantitative measures and longitudinal data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As stated in Article 1 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Socio-legal Protection from Domestic Violence", a protection warrant is issued to the victims.

Protection warrant is a procedural legal document that provides state protection to victims of domestic violence or its threat, and is a warning in the form of measures of influence specified in this Law to a person who commits or threatens to commit violence.

As for the Republic of Kazakhstan, in 2016, based on its action strategy, it developed the Concept "On Family and Gender Policy for 2030" until 2030.

In addition, in 2024, the Republic of Kazakhstan adopted a law that criminalized domestic violence.

The law envisages criminal liability for assault and intentional infliction of minor bodily injury, as well as increases punishment for intentional moderate and severe injury to health. In addition, the possibility of reconciliation of the parties in crimes related to physical violence and cruelty to minors is excluded.

The amendments provide for only life imprisonment for murder, rape or sexual assault of minors, and include criminal liability for "sexual solicitation" of persons under the age of 16. Deprivation of liberty is provided for leading to and encouraging suicide, and fines for advocating suicide.

In the Republic of Belarus, on January 4, 2014, the Law "On Domestic Violence" was adopted, and in this law, domestic violence is defined as "violation of rights, restriction of freedom, extension of legal interest, physical and it is understood to cause mental depression.

The laws of the Republic of Armenia "On Combating Domestic Violence" or "On New Forms of Violence Used in the Armenian Family" adopted in Armenia on October 16, 2017 are also important, and the adoption of these laws has caused a lot of controversy.

In order to reconcile conflicting families in foreign countries, "Family Mediation" is important.

For example, in the 1980s, the Family Mediation Institute was formed in France, and family disputes were resolved in this institute[4]. In such mediation, the issues of marriage and divorce, division of property are resolved[5].

Also, according to the French Law No. 95-125 of July 22, 1996, the settlement of family disputes by mediation was established. Based on the articles 373-2-10 of the Law No. 2002-305 of March 4, 2002, it is provided that the judge can call a mediator in the court in agreement with the parents to resolve family disputes[6].

Such an institution exists in other developed countries. Having studied the experience of foreign countries, in our opinion, it is necessary to use "Family Mediation" institutions, like foreign courts, in solving family conflict issues in our republic.

At this point, it should be noted that the responsibility of not only the court, but also the registry office, reconciliation commissions under the self-governing bodies, and other bodies of local state power should be further increased in preserving families, and it would be appropriate if officials were assigned certain responsibility for the negligence of these bodies in preserving families. . We hope that this will have a positive effect on preventing the collapse of families, which are the main link of the state and society.

In addition, the study of suicide victims allows to determine the reasons why the crimes committed against them remain latent. In order to develop measures for the prevention of victimization of crimes, the study of female suicide victims requires the identification of their identity and characteristics and the detailed analysis of these data.

Victimological prevention warns a person of criminal risk and encourages him to change his behavior in order to reduce his risk of becoming a victim of suicidal and suicidal crime. Preventive measures encourage a person to protect himself from a criminal attack, to learn from the mistakes of others, the more a person can protect himself in a criminological environment, the lower the risk of becoming a victim.

In the case of suicide, the characteristics of the victims, such as behavior, manners, morals, education, spirituality, and mental state, are often close to each other[7].

People with a negative attitude, low level of education, low morale, and disturbed socio-psychological condition continue to commit crimes even though there is a risk of becoming a victim of crime in order to satisfy their needs. Naturally, such people become victims of various types of violations, including crimes, in most cases.

For example, of victims of suicide crimes

48.9 percent, more than 50 percent of the victims of intentional bodily harm, and 49 percent of the women who were sexually assaulted by force caused criminal attacks against them by their negative behavior, such as insults, slander, frivolity, drunkenness, or committed such crimes. who created favorable conditions[8].

A causal relationship between social behavior and personality traits that predispose women to suicide victimization is probabilistic.

A negative direction of the personality of a woman prone to suicide occurs only when her social, mental, psycho-physiological characteristics are in contact with a certain life situation. Therefore, victimology studies not only the degree of victimization of individuals, but also the situation with a victimogenic nature. A victimogenic situation is a specific life situation that occurs in connection with certain characteristics and behavior of a person who is prone to becoming a victim of a crime, and it is an opportunity to cause physical, property, or moral damage to the victim by committing a crime or criminally[9].

Due to the fact that the personal and mental characteristics of the victims contribute to the emergence and realization of the intention to commit suicide of women, today, reducing the victimization of a certain part of this category of citizens should be one of

the main directions of prevention. The fewer people in the society who are prone to become victims of crimes, and the lower the level of victimization among them, the more effective it can be in the fight against crime[10].

During preventive work with the victims, it is very important to always take into account their state at the time of the crime and the characteristics of the perception of the criminal, so that they do not make mistakes during the testimony. Emotions such as fear, anger, shame, pain that they feel can create conditions for perception disorders.

For example, victimological characteristics of persons affected by crimes against human life show that of them, 16.8% of victims, 9.1% of married couples, 6.9% of those living together, 9.0% of relatives, 5.8% of neighbors, 7.9% of colleagues, 44, 5% of other acquaintances. Each circumstance that we examined showed that criminal harassment is mainly aimed at the physical integrity of family members and relatives. 72% of the analyzed crimes are aimed at the physical integrity of the above persons, and only 28% are aimed on persons meeting on an emergency basis. Indeed, in the majority (11.4%) of cases, personal enmity arose due to tradition; in most cases (29.8%) they were well known and friendly. Crimes committed in the apartment of the victim, the accused or another person account for 67%4. Representatives of a certain category of persons differ depending on the type of crime committed.

For example, a person who has suffered from hooliganism will be more accidental than victims of capture. At the same time, victims of fraud are less accidental than victims of capture. The randomness factor is manifested depending on the method of committing the crime, the "professional" training of the criminal and other circumstances. When choosing a victim, criminals have various characteristics, including the presence of a large number of material assets; the appearance of the future victim (the "beauty" of a woman that offends her honor, behavior that stimulates the crime; the "simplicity" of a person in fraud (lust), etc.); age; life experience; interests; depending on character traits (drinking alcohol, curiosity, gullibility, etc.).

The choice of a victim by the criminal is an important factor determining victimization. However, this is not one of the factors of this event. Another circumstance - the behavior of the victim is also important for identifying victimism. As we have already noted, it is necessary to distinguish between the behavior of the victim before the crime, during the crime and after the crime. As our studies have shown, cases of victimization more often occur among males. From the analyzed criminal cases it became known that 64% of crimes in total - men and 36% - women, which caused the emergence of conflict situations. Also, among those brought to criminal responsibility as a result of the commission of crimes by men, 16% of victims were women and 84% men. While women committed such crimes, women made up 20% of victims and 80% of male victims. Among the female victims, women in official marriages made up 39.2% and women living temporarily, 9.3%.

Scientists divide victimization into several types:

1) individual victimhood - the commission of a crime and a certain amount of self-harm in certain life situations according to the social, biophysiological or mental characteristics of a certain person;

2) co-victimization - tendency of some individuals to suffer from certain types of crimes under the influence of a number of circumstances;

3) group victimhood - the ability to suffer from crimes characteristic of certain categories of people with similar socio-demographic, psychological, biophysical and other characteristics[11];

4) mass victimization - a certain part of the population is objectively victimized by crimes due to their subjective characteristics[12].

To sum up, in the cases of victimization mentioned above, certain characteristics of the victim are indicated as one of the main factors. It should be noted that not only subjective characteristics of a person but also other factors affect a person's becoming a victim, that is, a person can suffer from crimes as a result of their combination with other factors as well as his personal characteristics.

CONCLUSION

This study highlights the significant interplay between victimology and suicide prevention, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to address the unique characteristics and circumstances of potential victims. The findings indicate that a substantial proportion of suicide victims exhibit traits such as low education levels, negative social behaviors, and adverse mental states, which correlate with increased victimization risks. The implications of this research underscore the necessity for integrating victimological principles into public health policies and legal frameworks, particularly in addressing domestic violence and related criminal behaviors. Furthermore, the establishment of family mediation practices, as seen in several foreign contexts, could enhance conflict resolution and reduce the potential for violence within households. Future research should focus on longitudinal studies that explore the efficacy of these victim-centered approaches in preventing suicide and related crimes, as well as the development of comprehensive support systems tailored to the needs of vulnerable populations. By fostering a deeper understanding of the victimization process and its societal impacts, we can better equip individuals to protect themselves and create a more resilient community against the backdrop of rising suicide rates.

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