THE VIOLENCE - AN ELEMENT OF VIOLENT CRIMINALITY OR A WAY OF MODERN LIVING

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Abstract
The use of force in any form, against another person, against someone else's or their own personal property is the mutual element of the criminological classification of the violent crime as one of the severest types of incriminated human behaviours. However, modern lifestyle and the dynamics of people and events suggest constant embedding of the violence and its emergent types in everyday life and in all spheres of the individual’s life in society. Hence the subject of this paper is violence and the forms in which it can occur, i.e. its importance as an element of violent crime on one hand, and its importance as a way of acting and living, on the other. This leads to the assumption that violence due to the modern lifestyle is no longer just an element of violent crime, but it is becoming more and more widely spread lifestyle. Therefore, the aim of this paper is to point out and emphasize that collective consciousness should not and must not subjugate to the belief that it is normal to tolerate violence and to accept it as inevitable segment of modern living. In this sense, in order to realise the goal of the paper and to validate the assumption that has been set, it is necessary to analyse the current situation regarding the use of violence, not only when committing criminal offenses, but also in everyday life and community functioning.

Keywords: Violence, crimes, criminality, socio-pathological phenomena

Introduction
Violent crime is one of the severest types of crime, whose basic element for criminological classification is using force or manifesting any kind of violence directed against people or property. Namely, the point is that it is the severest kind of crime, i.e. it is the severest kind of criminalised human behaviour, because it is threatening or destroying the life and physical integrity, freedom and moral equality, the normal functioning of the family, homicide attempts in order to acquire property and goods etc. Therefore, punitive sanctions that sanction violence in all national legislations are the heaviest and strictest. Mankind has always seen the use of force as behaviour contrary to generally accepted norms and standards of behaviour and that is why it has always condemned it. Even when the conviction has been drawn later, usually after large global, regional and local wars, and when those who manifested it, had been guided and led by the darkest ideologies, violence has been defined as a timeless evil and a manifestation of the animalistic behaviour in human beings. But can we, nowadays, talk about violence merely as a determining element of violent crime? On the contrary, violent behaviour today, under the circumstances of modern life, is embedded in everyday life, encompassing almost all areas of the life of an individual in the society. Therefore, it is necessary to remove the veil of mist from the eyes and mind of the disorientated, exhausted, modern man in the eyes of the events and situations filled with violence. Hence, we will elaborate the violence as a destructive phenomenon from a broadly extensive aspect as an intensive and continuous social phenomenon, and not only as an action
of enforcing the criminal offenses - violations or more extensively from a legal phenomenon. Thus, does it becomes more certain that our society is already violent and can, in such a setting, a healthy family be preserved as the nucleus of society, in order to develop a rational and creative young people who will not resort to violence in general, provide normal conduct of public order with significantly reduced intensity and severity of violent acts?!

**Main text**

It is difficult to define violence, primarily because a variety of contents are summed up to that term, therefore its core comes down either extremely narrow or in a far too broad framework for a phenomenological observation. Therefore, defining the violence is difficult, because it is often synonymous with a wide range of terms, such as crime, abuse, harassment, torture, terror, abuse of power etc.

According to the World Health Organization, violence is any intentional use of physical or psychological force or power, which can be in the form of threat or involve the use of force, against oneself, another person or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, disorders in development, or deprivation. Furthermore, violence is insolent and unscrupulous use of physical force, unlawfully threatening the integrity of the individual and other public goods and social values. At the same time, the essential feature of violence is the affinity towards tormenting and impudence without a reasonable grounding forcing someone else to endure such behaviour that highly offends their dignity or threatens their physical integrity.

Due to its topicality, violence is subject of studying, analysing and defining numerous scientific disciplines, especially sociology, criminology, law and psychology. Thus, sociology regards violence as coercion in the broadest sense, criminology regards it the most destructive form of human behaviour, the laws as an unlawful use of force, and psychology as a manifestation of aggression.

In literature several typologies of violence are found, and accordingly there are: self-directed violence, interpersonal violence (violence directed against others) and collective violence. Self-directed violence is a violence in which the perpetrator and victim is the same person, which means that the individuals inflicts an injury, pain or damage to themselves. Interpersonal violence refers to violence between individuals and it can take place within the family, within the community and between intimate partners. Collective violence refers to violence committed by larger groups of individuals and can be subdivided into social, political and economic violence.

Generally, violence can be expressed physically or mentally. Physical violence involves the use of force which inflicts physical pain i.e. injury. This form of violence often leads to minor or severe injuries whose ultimate effect could be death. Psychological violence means a form of violence that violates the dignity, feelings, generally the integrity of one person. It consists of manifesting torture, humiliation, insults, threats, blackmail etc., whereupon in the individual who is faced with such a situation arise specific consequences such as loss of confidence, loss of self esteem, retreat into oneself, fear, as well as health problems, especially the occurrence of cardiovascular, psychosomatic and other malignant diseases. According to WHO, there is also sexual violence, which is a special form of violence that can be realized through sexual harassment, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

Violent behaviour consists of two components: aggression and aggressive behaviour. Aggression can be understood as a psychological state of readiness for action, while

243 http://www.who.int/topics/violence/en/.
244 Boshkovic, M., Social Pathology, Faculty of Law in Novi Sad, Novi Sad, 2007 p. 66.
aggressive behaviour is the act of manifesting the aggression itself. If we determine the components of violence like this, then we can conclude that aggression and aggressive behaviour are common features of all offenses with elements of violence. 246  

The roots, that is to say the causes, of violence are numerous and varied. Depending on the starting point of view of the theoretical conceptions in literature, there are different accounts of where the violence originates and why it is manifested. Consequently, some authors believe that violence is hereditary, which means that it comes primarily from genetics or the character of the individual. Proponents of psychological theories suggest the violence is associated with personality structure, so it is often stated the opinion that violence occurs as a consequence of some frustration due to the inability of a person to achieve their desires and needs, and at that moment the person is under increasing internal, psychological pressure, to behave violently. The internal conflict that occurs in a person leads to aggression and aggressive behaviour. Likewise, interesting is the fact that violent behaviour can occur as a result of stress experienced due to participation in armed conflicts, fights or wars.  

For another group of authors, the starting point is that violence arises as a result of external influences. This means that the causes of violence do not lay in human nature, but that the acquired elements of aggression induced by social relations within what individuals and social groups acquire experiential knowledge of the needs and benefits of violence. 247 In that sense, violence can be acquired, accepted as a way of life or a recognisable style of behaviour, or it arises as a result of learning, especially when a person as a victim of violence, learns the violent behaviour as the only way to defend. If violence is used to defend some of their own values, i.e. to defend and protect their own life or physical integrity, then it is called benign aggression, while if used for inflicting harm or injury to another, it is a malignant aggression. Violent behaviour can be a result of abnormal conditions in the family, so if a parent is prone to violent behaviour, then it is very likely that some of the children would manifest such a behaviour, which is justified by the theory of learning and imitating.  

The latest researches, locate the reasons for violence in the information the media presents, hence it is rightly to believe that violence becomes an integral element of modern living and recognisable style of behaviour of individuals.  

Given that violence is a mutual feature of multiple offenses, in criminology there is a classification of these deeds in a specific type of crime, known as a violent crime. Crime of violence or violent crime is defined as an extreme form of expressing aggression. This type of crime involves those criminal activities that by means of physical or psychological coercion, i.e. by use of force or threat, violate or threaten the person’s integrity. 248  

Thus, the most distinctive kinds of offenses with elements of violence are grouped as follows: traditional violent crime which includes: offenses against life and body known as blood offences, offenses against sexual freedom and sexual morality known as sexual offenses, and offenses of domestic violence. There is a dilemma whether robbery and banditry should be part of these types of crime, due to the fact that, the way how they are committed require use of force. In this sense, according to the criminological classification they fall into the violent crime, but according to the criminal law classification are systematised in the group of property offenses because their ultimate goal and motivation is realisation of illegal profit.  

This type of crime is the severest type of crime and according to the volume and distribution usually comes in second place, right after the offenses of property. This crime is characterised by use of force, coercion, aggression while performing that attack, damaging or destroying another life and bodily integrity or another person’s property. That is why the

247 Boshkovic, M., Criminology, Faculty of Law in Novi Sad, Novi Sad, 2007 p. 266.  
violent behaviour as a component of violent crime is physical activity that is manifested as attacking the life and body, property, freedom and rights or value of another person. 249

In the Republic of Macedonia in the period from 2003 to 2012, offenses against life and body, according to reported adult offenders show significant growth. For offenses against sexual freedom and sexual morality there is a fluctuation, so in the first two years these acts are increasing, then decreasing, then increasing again, so that in 2012 there is an increase in comparison to 2011. There are same fluctuations in other offences with elements of violence.250

Domestic violence arises today as a very frequent occurrence, which causes enormous consequences on the individual / victim and on society overall. According to criminological classification, it belongs to the group of violent crime, whereas in criminal law, it is treated as aggravating circumstance in committing a criminal offense whose means of execution is exactly the violence.

Domestic violence can be defined as the abuse of power in relationships based on inequality within a family community, and it is defined as a set of behaviours in order to establish control over the other through force, intimidation and manipulation.251 Given this negative phenomenon is becoming an integral part of society, it cannot be treated as a private family problem, on the contrary, it should be understood as a serious social problem that requires intervention by the community and professional services.

In Macedonian legislation, domestic violence is defined by the Family Law as behaviour of a family member who by using force, threatening and intimidation, inflicts bodily injuries, emotional or sexual abuse, and material, sexual or labour exploitation of another family member.252 Moreover, as domestic violence is considered behaviour made: by one spouse against the other spouse living or having lived in marriage or illegitimate community, or in any kind of community as a family or if they have child, between brothers and sisters, half-brothers and half-sisters; against a child and against older family members; and people - family members whose legal capacity is partially or completely taken away.

Considering the fact that the deeds included in the violent crime (blood offenses and sexual offenses) more often occurring within the family, the Criminal Code of the Republic of Macedonia in 2004 incriminated the domestic violence, so that the domestic violence implies brutal insulting, threatening the safety, physical injury, sexual or other psychological or physical violence that induces a feeling of insecurity, threat or fear toward the other spouse, parents or children or other people living in married or illegitimate or mutual household, as well as against the former spouse, or people who have child or are in close personal relationship.253 The definition of domestic violence contained in the Criminal Code sets out the types of domestic violence, acts of execution, the already caused consequence, the status of the offender and the object of protection. So, the Macedonian criminal law considers the sexual, psychological and physical violence - as forms of domestic violence. Hence crimes involving domestic violence are deployed in different chapters of the Criminal Code on the basis of different objects of protection (Chapter XIV - Crimes against life and body; Chapter XV - Crimes against freedoms and rights of man and citizens; Chapter XIX - crimes against sexual freedom and sexual morality).254

249 Velkova, T., Introduction to Criminology (Authorised lectures), 2nd August, S, Stip, 2009 p. 77.

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The most reliable indicators of the scope and nature of domestic violence in the Republic of Macedonia are contained in the records of the centres for social work and police authorities, as state organs that have closest contact with the issues. Based on these indicators, last year (2012) in the Republic of Macedonia the first extensive research of domestic violence was conducted by Skopje BRIMA, along with the support of UNDP, whose results were the basis for the creation of the National Strategy for Prevention and protection against Domestic violence from 2012-2015. This national strategy is the second organizational planning document of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, as most competent ministerial departments to coordinate overall activities for the prevention of domestic violence. The first such strategy was adopted in 2008 and covered the period from 2008-2011.

According to the results of this research, the total number of registered cases (number of committed crimes, misdemeanours and received complaints) of domestic violence by the MOI in Macedonia from 2008-2011, has seen continuous growth.255 It is particularly important to note that in this period there is a continuous growth of the most severe form of domestic violence crimes and an increase of 215 crimes, or about 56 %, which is a worrying tendency. With regard to the offences there is a slight decline, whereas regarding the complaints, despite some stagnation in the third year, there is still a growth by about 30%.

We can denote that the officially registered indications represent only a fraction of cases actually made of domestic violence due to the fact that it is a specific kind of violence with a high amount of dark figure. At the same time, statistics are broken down by gender of victim and perpetrator, relationship between perpetrator and victim, type of offense and the offense according to place of report. In this context it is obvious that such offenders that are reported are predominantly male, whereas female participation as the perpetrators is symbolic when compared to men. On the other hand, quite contrary the offenders, the sexual structure of the victims suggests that dominate victims of reported domestic violence are women, and as the perpetrators there is male domination.256

Another national study, "Prevalence of abuse of the elderly", conducted by the Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research in Skopje in 2011, with the support of the World Health Organization aimed to investigate the phenomenon of violence and abuse of the elderly and to enable identification of the prevalence of domestic violence and abuse against the elderly, to identify dominant forms of violence and abuse of the elderly and to identify the perpetrators. The survey is the first of its kind in the country and is inspired by the identification of elderly abuse as a health problem in the National Report on Violence and Health.257 If we analyze violence against the elderly in the country, the problem is even more explicit. With these indicators, the victims would be enabled to recognize their own right to a life without violence, and the perpetrators would recognize their own patterns of behaviour and consequences.

However, what makes the situation alarming is not just the enforcement of violence in committing the offenses, but the fact that violence is manifested on the street, at work, on the stadiums, schools, clubs, and even in families. It has become an integral part of the time we live in, denoting a kind of belonging towards the particular style, fashion or habit.

One of the main features of modern violence is its continuity and massiveness, because it causes problems and deepens the personality and severely destroys the social relations. The conclusion of these primary features can be derived most simply: modern

human being does not have to cross the threshold of their home, and is already constantly exposed to listening and watching the scenes of shootings, injuries, murder and various other violent acts coming through the television, unfortunately not as filmed scenes, but as a report of the informative programs for tragic events and developments caused by violence throughout the world. It has been estimated that television programs are filled exactly with such content most of the time. In terms of film programs this percentage is even higher. In fact, violent scenes have been increasing each year from 1985 to 2012. Observed by category, violence is in slight decline in films marked with G (films that everyone can see) and PG (parental advice is recommended because it may contain scenes not suitable for children). The scope of violence in films marked with R which the youth under 17 years can only watch accompanied by a parent, has not changed. In the category of films PG -13, violence is on the rise, so much so that in 2009 it was present more than in those marked with R.

The reality does not lag far behind. There is almost no daily news on the local and national television that does not inform about the latest cases of the most severe kind of violence, including the latest gruesome cases of cannibalism. Recognizing the negative impact, the attempts of the community through mass media to put the violence under control are symbolic, even when it comes to protecting minors from such content. Thus, despite the references of the harmfulness of the negative content on the integrity of the person, not only the children, but on adults as well, the exposure of the modern man to violence at home is continuing and diurnal. On the other hand, the media are the ones that should have a major role in the fight against violence and should re-educate or prevent hate speech and thus help overcome the violation of fundamental rights and freedoms.

Furthermore, participation in traffic, regardless the role, driver, passenger or pedestrian, the exposure to violent acts, further increases. In our region, it is rare to calmly and safely pass the pedestrian crossing, or to engage in traffic. The dynamics on the road are accompanied by violence manifested as brake squeaking profanities, fights, accidents in which one does not have to participate. It is enough just to be a witness in order to feel the strong and "passionate" violence of the environment.

Even at the work places and institutions associated with execution of the activities and tasks, it is not better for the businessman and the citizen. Constantly and often encounters such barriers and endure violence of most diverse of kinds: psychological torture of colleagues and mobbing by superiors, pushing and threats counters, administration arrogance, co-workers’ lies and frauds. And just as you thought you would find salvation at home, modern businessman in his own home welcomes mail notices for bills already paid, or indebts for new accounts never been made, noise in the neighbourhood, repeatedly ringing of the mobile phone and "fantastic" requests from relatives, friends, acquaintances. Following the media content once again, filled with violence, and on top of that some unrealistic and unfounded requests of a member of the immediate family definitely are “the last straw”.

The massiveness and continuity of the violence is directly related to health. In particular it alludes to the fact that in addition to the immediate physical injuries, victims can suffer from many psychological problems and behavioural problems such as depression, excessive alcohol use, anxiety and suicidal thoughts, as well as reproductive health problems such as are unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases and loss of sexual function. The psychological consequences for the individual are the extremely expressed feelings of tension, nervousness, irritability, anxiety as negative feelings. Actually, whether the dynamics cause violence or violence causes dynamics is difficult to answer. The overall


condition is the result of a complex interaction between dynamics and violence as features of the modern lifestyle. Due to the fact that it is a constant, continuous existence under such circumstances, we conclude the daily accumulation of negative feelings and situations, and that means multiplication of the harmful consequences of violence could have two major outbound directions, non violent people become violent in order to create a defence mechanism and to easily bear the consequences, or the accumulated negative emotions and difficult situations reflect on the personal and physical integrity of the common man and citizen and lead to disruption of his physical and mental health. What solution one would accept, or rather how does one respond, mostly depends on the structure of the personality. To be exact, whether one would undergo the transformation from non violator to violator, or by enduring the constant violence would endanger their health, depends on the complexity of the inner context of mutually intertwined psychological characteristics and psychological processes in each person separately, of possible latent predisposition to deviant behaviour, as well as on the intensity of the accumulated aggression as readiness, force charge of manifestation of any kind. In both cases, the conflict comes to strong feelings in each individual, often without the sense of the reason, thereby reacts recklessly and stressfully.

This transformation of the person which is a result of living in an environment of continuous violence happens on a massive scale, and inevitably leads to regressive social change and the creation of new social relations. The violence turns into a constant, permanent extreme unscrupulousness towards the others and somebody else’s rights and interests that reproduces itself, that is to say violence begets more violence. As far as these areas are considered, another fact seems to be noticeable - twisted genesis of unscrupulousness: by manifesting the unscrupulousness – unscrupulous behaviour as if by that they want to verify their identity, and to give importance to themselves. The reasons for the unscrupulousness lie in the ultimately frustrated condition of a large group of people - a large part of the population who are more often unable to realize their own interests and status in society, behave unscrupulously in order to recoup, i.e. to compensate for their own inferiority. Simply, a huge part of the population, seek affirmation of the fact that they are here and that they are subject to certain events by imposing the kind of behaviour on others and everywhere around themselves, where they live, move and work .

That is why the relationship between diseases and the society burdened by violence is causative-consecutive, i.e. causal, so, contemporary violence is denoted as a socio-pathological phenomenon that tragically exacerbates social reality to the extent of social disorganization. The important feature of the violence – unscrupulousness towards another suggests a deep crisis of values which underpin every civilized social system. By that, instead of respecting and behaving in accordance with the generally accepted values, disobeying reigns in the society, specifically the erosion of many values and human virtues. Thus, the values "experience transformation" in highlighted vices. Receiving the enormous scale on these human virtues caused directly affect other pathological phenomena that also more and more intensively multiply, as a result of the deep value crisis.

On the behaviour of the juvenile population and the youth in general, violence has a more specific etiology. Besides the well-known and accepted characteristics of people under biological (medical), psychological and social growth, development and growing up (maturation), the modern youth is loaded with a specificity: diametrically opposed level of intellectual (cognitive) components of personality and their social maturity. Today’s youth have the infinite informational environment and incomparably greater number of skills in the use of technological advances. At the same time, on the account of this expressively high level of cognitive ability, social component in their development is "abortive", the sense of responsibility for their own actions and behaviour blunt, and value system eroded even before its creation. In other words, the intellectual level of the adolescents and their level of social
maturity and adaptation are now in total variance. Thus, violent behaviour and other forms of pressure seem to become fashion in daily communication with inconceivably strange patterns of manifestation. Young people in general are massively burdened with insatiable thirst for possession of material goods and luxuries. In most cases the insatiable desire and drive, become an enormous obstacle to have a humble and dignified life and work. The urge to imitate the rich and famous amid the significantly small real possibilities of the family, creates painfully aggressive manifestations, primarily within the family. Such feelings among the youth are reinforced with scenes and scandals seen by using the "social" networks. In other words, there are more young violators, young delinquents and juveniles who become perpetrators of crimes from a very early age. There has been a growth and complexity of some of the severest forms of socio-pathological phenomena, especially drug addiction, alcoholism and prostitution.

The fact that there are registered 60 incidents of physical violence, in recent years in schools in Macedonia is frightening. We are witnessing the constant fights between the students, who are mostly motivated by interethnic intolerance, physical fights between students in the secondary schools in Tetovo, and the memories are still fresh of the unseen rampage of the young boys in the Chemistry School in Skopje, or the homicide of the secondary school graduate Muhammad Jashari in Skopje. Not to mention the frequent fights on the public transport buses, especially in the suburbs and villages around Skopje.261

The violent behaviour during sporting events is not lagging behind either. Starting from profanities, hails between fan groups, and ending with violating the inventory of sports fields or fights. Therefore, spurred by numerous incidents that occurred on the playing fields in the country, especially in international competitions, the Football Federation of Macedonia prepared a strategy to prevent violence at football stadiums across the country. As strategic objectives for realising the strategy have been set: raising and changing the public awareness, implementation of the existing law on violence and indecent behaviour at sporting events (as well as seriously changing it and amending it) and implementing regulations of FIFA and UEFA in relation to the violence on football pitches.

In order to realise the prepared document planned are: organizing public debates, making posters, flyers, manuals, composing an anthem for the fight against violence, thematic organisation of educational seminars for sports professionals, workshops, setting up billboards to fight violence on every match, printing T-shirts, hats and scarves with clear messages against violence introduction - delivering one lesson in the curriculum of the primary and secondary schools about the need to prevent violence at sporting events, and media promotion.262

**Conclusion**

The elemental analysis of social relations, suggest the conclusion that violence gets massive, pathological proportions and continuously gravely endanger the normal way of life and social development. By that it has gained a disposition of massive socio-pathological phenomenon, whose consequences lead to disfiguring and degradation of the human being, endangering their health and peace of mind and disorganization of the social processes.

We have concluded that constant, continuous existence in a violent environment, leads to daily accumulation of negative feelings and situations which means multiplying the harmful effects of violence could have two major outbound directions: non violent people become violent in order to create a defence mechanism and to easily bear the consequences, or the accumulated negative emotions and difficult situations reflect on the personal and

261 http://www.dw.de
physical integrity of the common man and citizen and lead to disruption of his physical and mental health. What solution one would accept, or rather how does one respond, mostly depends on the structure of the personality. To be exact, whether one would undergo the transformation from non violator to violator, or by enduring the constant violence would endanger their health, depends on the complexity of the inner context of mutually intertwined psychological characteristics and psychological processes in each person separately, as well as on the intensity of the accumulated aggressiveness as readiness – charge for manifesting the force of any kind.

In search of the necessary "third option" for overcoming - neutralising the violence as an everyday way of life, social reaction must start from the prevention of domestic violence and youth violence among in the current, times of tense crisis.

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