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PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT OF DELINQUENT ADOLESCENTS

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Summary of the PhD Thesis in Psychology

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The PhD thesis in Psychology and the abstract can be consulted at the Scientific Library of "Ion Creangă" State Pedagogical University and on the website of ANACEC (www.cnaa.md).

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CONCEPTUAL LANDMARKS OF THE RESEARCH

The actuality of the theme. Juvenile delinquency affects the essential dimensions of the child's development and disrupts the functionality of all its psychic levels. The effects are profound and harmful, they can accompany the individual throughout his life. For this reason, it is imperative to identify and treat emotional problems arising in such situations by approaching the issue of delinquency with special care.

Delinquency designates complex phenomena, common in modern societies. This makes delinquency a highly studied phenomenon, precisely to find the best means of preventing and combating various forms of delinquency. As a distinct form of deviance, juvenile delinquency is a complex phenomenon, which defines all the conducts in conflict with the values protected by the criminal norm, according to M. Rădulescu[30, p.58]. The issue of delinquency is major and global, in all countries of the world there are various forms of its manifestation, sometimes being rooted in specific cultural, economic and social practices. A large proportion of children belonging to various societies are criminals or victims of older offenders. Various authors have developed a series of theoretical and practical studies on the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency, presenting relevant cases and the way of approaching and intervening from a psycho-social perspective, such as: R. Boudon, D. Banciu, S. Rădulescu, S. Brehm, D. Farington, T. Moffit, D. DeMatteo, E. Cauffman, R. Loeber , C. Soto [4, 2, 30, 36, 41, 45, 40,37, 43, 46].

The description of the situation in the field of research and identification of the research problem. In the case of juvenile delinquency, one single theory cannot cover the complexity of the field; theories provide explanations specific to a certain level of approach, without exhausting the explanatory possibilities. It is necessary to consider the theories as plausible and alternative hypotheses of exploration of the phenomenon, being in a possible completion or complementarity. The multidimensional analysis of delinquency, according to E. Ban [1, p.14] creates the possibility of understanding the phenomenon at different levels:

- the statistical dimension refers to the size and predictability of the phenomenon according to the analysis of its dynamics (in percentages, averages, factorial analyses) in correlation with various social, economic, cultural, geographical indicators, etc.

- the legal dimension refers to the modality and forms of violation of the legal norms, the system of punishments depending on the seriousness of the acts and the ways of preventing the recidivism.

- the sociological dimension puts delinquency in relation to the social anomie, to the social maladjustment and ostracization.

- the psychological dimension refers to the structure of human psychism, personality, attitudes and motivations of the delinquent for committing the deed.

- the economic dimension refers to the costs occasioned by committing the deed, by highlighting the costs determined by the direct and indirect consequences of the various crimes.

- the prospective dimension refers to the future evolution of the phenomenon and the tendency towards delinquency of certain individuals or social groups.

A holistic, integrative vision of all these dimensions still remains a desideratum.

This notion encompasses a multitude of conducts, conditions and life situations not always related to each other, but brought to a common denominator by using the criminal law. Juvenile deviation generally refers to the maladjusted moral conduct of adolescents, to those who violate the legal framework (offenders in the narrow sense of the term) but also to those abandoned by their parents or school and who adhere to dangerous entourages, at the limit of the law, to those with conduct disorders who have fled home or school environment, as a result of the application of harsh, brutal sanctions, wandering in various places. All young people up to eighteen years old, who need protection and care for various reasons (death of their parents, disorganization of the family, manifestation of behavioral disorders) have a delinquent potential.

In this context, our research achieves a special theoretical and practical actuality, and the elaboration of the dual psychological intervention program regarding the improvement of the delinquent potential in adolescents becomes extremely current. The degree of research of the proposed problem and the premises have highlighted the scientific problem determined by the dilemma between the difficulty of investigating the delinquent pattern in adolescents within the psychiatric forensic expertise regarding the minor's discernment regarding the criminal act, and the necessity of elaborating a program of dual psychological intervention, which would improve the delinquent potential in these adolescents, led us to formulate **the scientific** problem in the following way: *What would be the alternative way of diagnosing and making the psychological intervention more efficient, in order to improve the potential delinquent in adolescents by identifying risk and vulnerability factors in generating the problematic behavior?*

The purpose of the research consisted in identifying the specific particularities of delinquent adolescents and developing and implementing a dual psychological intervention program to improve the delinquent potential of these young people.

The objectives set for the achievement of the above-mentioned goal of the research were:

- analysis, study and explaining of theoretical models regarding the development of delinquent personality.
- development of a methodology for diagnosing the of delinquency specificity in adolescents.
- comparative study of delinquent adolescents, of their psychological particularities respectively in relation to non-delinquent adolescents.
- estimation of the degree of criminal psychopathy in delinquent adolescents.

- determining the peculiarities of delinquent personality.
- evaluation of the clinical profile of young people with delinquent path.
- determining misadjusting coping strategies and the level of moral development of delinquent adolescents.
- developing and implementing a dual psychological intervention program with the objective of ameliorating the delinquent potential.
- formulation of psychological recommendations with a practical character of diminishing the specific peculiarities of the deviant pattern in adolescents.

Theoretical support of the research: Various authors have elaborated a series of theoretical and practical studies on the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency, with the presentation of relevant cases and of the way of approaching and intervening from a social perspective such as: R. Boudon [4], D. Banciu [2], S. Rădulescu [30,31,32,33], S. S Brehm [36], D.P. Farrington [41], T.E Moffit [45] D. DeMatteo [40], E. Cauffman [37], R. Loeber [43] C.J Soto [46]. Many scientific papers have studied the psychology of delinquent adolescents, referring to their patterns: E. Ban [1], S. Brehm [36], M. Dincă [7], V. Dragomirescu [8], F. Gheorghe [10], A.M Marica [16], N. Mitrofan [19], G. Visu-Petra and M. Buta [35]; articles and studies on adolescent delinquent disorders: Chiles J. A., Miller M. L., Cox G. [38], T.E Moffit, A. Caspi [45], Herrenkohl, T., I., Maguin, E., Hill, K., G., Hawkins, J. D., Abbott, R. D., Catalano R.F [42].

Methodology of scientific research: *theoretical models* - the study of the specialized literature; *empirical methods* - PCL-R test - Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised questionnaire (Revised psychopathy scale), APS-SF - Evaluation scale of clinical disorders in adolescence - scoot form, ABCD - M - Big Five Minulescu questionnaire, CERQ - Questionnaire for the evaluation of cognitive-emotional coping, evaluation of the stage of moral development after Kohlberg, *statistical methods* - calculation of frequencies (distribution of results), average (central tendency of results), test t for independent samples (significance of the difference between the averages of two distinct samples), indicator d Cohen (the size of the effect or the magnitude of the relationship between two variables), Pearson correlation test (power and meaning of correlations established between the variables of the research), U Mann–Whitney test and Wilcoxon test.

Scientific novelty and originality. For the first time at national level, a comparative experimental study on the profile of criminal psychopathy and maladjustment coping strategies was carried out in delinquent adolescents in relation to non-delinquent adolescents of the same age; a methodology for evaluation and diagnosis of the specific particularities of adolescent delinquents was established; a dual psychological intervention program was developed and applied to ameliorate the delinquent potential in adolescents.

The obtained results that contribute to the solution of the important scientific problem consist of 1). the elaboration of a model of psychodiagnosis of the specific peculiarities of delinquency in adolescents who are evaluated for the capacity of discernment regarding a criminal act. This model includes determining the level of criminal psychopathy, the Big Five personality structure, evaluating the clinical profile, identifying the cognitive-emotional coping strategies used and the level of moral development of adolescents with problematic path: 2). building, implementing and checking the effectiveness of a dual psychological intervention program aimed at improving the delinquent potential in adolescents.

Theoretical significance: consists in providing new information on highlighting the peculiarities of development occurring in delinquent adolescents and determining the risk and vulnerability factors that contribute to the emergence of juvenile delinquency. The dual psychological intervention program can serve as a methodological benchmark for specialists in the field for organizing the intervention that aims to improve the delinquent potential in adolescents and prevent relapse.

The applicative value of the work consists in the elaboration of a model of diagnosis of the specific peculiarities of the delinquent adolescents and of a formative one of dual psychological intervention to ameliorate the delinquency specific in adolescents. It can be used by psychologists working in prisons, but also by professionals in the field of psychotherapeutics, as tools for working with parents of children who have antisocial conduct disorders and for preventing relapse. The obtained results complete the present information, the work being the foundation of a methodological guide of good practices.

The main scientific results submitted for support are as follows:

- juvenile delinquency affects the personal structure of the individual but also the social life. It is a worrying phenomenon, on the rise over the last five years, which must be remedied, or at least supported in terms of preventing relapse in these young people in development.
- between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents there are significant differences in the level of criminal psychopathy, in the structure of Big Five factors at the level of personality, in the clinical profile, in the types of cognitive-emotional coping used and in the level of moral development.
- establishing the existing correlations between the studied variables can lead to the design and implementation of psychological intervention programs to diminish the delinquent potential in delinquent adolescents.
- psychological intervention through a dual program allows the identification of different influences and effects of delinquency, in this way the approach of parents and adolescent provides relevant, relatively complete, and up to date information.

Implementation of scientific results: the data obtained are used in the diagnosis process regarding the discerning capacity of delinquent adolescents; in the process of continuous and complementary training of clinical psychologists, at specialized courses at the Institute of Applied Psychology in the field of Mental Health and are recommended for the training of students and master students of Hyperion University of Bucharest. The formative program is applied by specialized psychologists, who work in the penitentiary system, in the centers and offices for evaluation and counseling or psychotherapy for the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Approval of research results. The research results were approved during the meetings of the Department of Special Psycho Pedagogy of "Ion Creanga" UPS in Chisinau, capitalized in scientific conferences organized within "Ion Creangă" UPSC, Hyperion University and within seminars, workshops organized in educational institutions and scientific journals:

1. Scientific Conference with international participation "Personal development and social integration of educational actors", UPSC Chisinau, November 12, 2021, the efficiency of the dual psychological intervention program in *adolescents who are delinquents*, published in the volume of papers of the conference, 224-233 p.
2. Romanian Journal of Psychological Studies, *Perspectives on coping mechanisms in adolescent teenagers*, vol. 9, Special Issue, 2021, 84-94 p.
3. APAR conference of the XVI-th edition, Brasov, May 12-16, 2021, *Regulating emotions through cognitions in delinquent adolescents*, published in the volume of papers of the conference, 84-97 p.
4. Psychology Magazine. Special pedagogy. Social assistance in Chisinau, *Coping in adolescents' delinquencies*, 2021, no. 1(62), 54-65 p.
5. Psychology Magazine. Special pedagogy. Social work in Chisinau, *Evaluation of delinquency in adolescents*, (co-author), 2021, no. 1(62), 3-14 p.
6. Chisinau Perinatology Bulletin, *The development of personality at the delinquent adolescent*, 2021, no. 1(90), 30-35 p.
7. International Scientific Conference "Problems of the Socio-Humanistic Sciences and the Modernization of Education", UPSC October 8-9, 2020. *Personality factors involved in structuring the delinquent pattern in delinquent adolescents*, published in the volume of papers of the conference series 22, vol.1,370-378 p.
8. Conference of PhD students and postdoctoral students of the State Pedagogical University "Ion Creanga" in Chisinau, May 16, 2019, *Personality factors involved in juvenile delinquency*, published in the volume of papers of the conference, No.18, part III, 142-195 p.

9. Conference of PhD and Postdoctoral Students of the "Ion Creanga" State University of Medicine and Public Administration, Chisinau, May 17, 2018, *The need to study endogenous factors in delinquent adolescents*, published in the volume of papers of the conference, No.16, part II, 85-96 p.
10. Psychology Magazine. Special pedagogy. Social assistance in Chisinau, *Risk factors in delinquent behavior*, (co-author), no. 4(49). 2017, 35-44 p.
11. Conference of PhD students and scientific annals of PhD students and competitors of the State Pedagogical University "Ion Creanga" in Chişinău, 2017, *Research of risk factors in adolescent delinquents*.
12. Journal of Psychological Studies in Bucharest, with the article *Theoretical approaches to delinquent personality in adolescents*, 2016, no. 3, 193-215 p.
13. Smart PSI National Psychology Conference, ninth edition, November 23-24, 2019, *The role of family factors and parental styles in the development of antisocial behavior in adolescents*.
14. Smart PSI National Psychology Conference, eighth edition, November 24-25, 2018, *Personality factors involved in juvenile delinquency*.
15. Romanian Journal of Psychological Studies, *when knowing is not enough. Psychological dimensions in various human contexts*, 2015, no.2, 137-149 p.
16. APAR Conference, X-th edition, Brasov, April 24-26, 2015, *Psychological expertise report in the field of judicial clinical psychology*.
17. Journal of Comparative Research in Anthropology and Sociology in Bucharest, *Dynamics of personality factors involved in juvenile delinquency*, 2021, nr. 12 (1).

Important aspects of the investigation were also presented and discussed in the Scientific Committee of the International Conference 50 SHADES OF BULLYING. Approaching the Bullying Phenomenon, Bucharest May 17-19, 2019, a committee of which the undersigned was a member.

Publications on the topic of the thesis: 13 scientific papers: of which 7 articles in national and international scientific journals, 6 articles in scientific conference materials.

Volume and structure of the thesis: The thesis consists of: annotations in 3 languages, list of abbreviations, introduction, three chapters, general conclusions and recommendations, bibliography of 235 titles, 6 annexes, 143 pages of basic text, 51 figures and 8 tables.

Keywords: juvenile delinquency, antisocial, adolescent, personality, disorders specific to adolescence, relapse, maladjusted coping, criminal psychopathy, formative program.

THESIS CONTENT

In the *Introduction*, the actuality and importance of the research theme, the degree of research of the problem are argued, both the purpose and the objectives of the research, the important scientific problem solved, the scientific novelty of the results obtained from the research, the theoretical importance and the applicative value of the work are explained and the way of implementing the results is exposed.

In *Chapter I*, entitled "*Theoretical-scientific perspectives in personality research in delinquent adolescents*" are exposed modern theories regarding the concepts of personality, delinquency and the risk and vulnerability factors that increase the probability of developing a delinquent behavior are described. The particularities of these factors in the occurrence of juvenile delinquency are analyzed and the important psychological mechanisms underlying the development of formative programs to improve antisocial conduct disorders in adolescents and to prevent relapse are highlighted.

In *Chapter II*, entitled "*Experimental research of the personality of delinquent adolescents*" are presented: the purpose, objectives, hypotheses, methodology of the research and the experimental results of the research in which participated 210 adolescents aged between 14 years and one day and 17 years and eleven months, divided into two groups: one consisting of 102 adolescent delinquents (GD) and the other consisting of 108 non-delinquent adolescents, high school students (GnD).

The purpose of the ascertaining research is centered on identifying the particularities that determine the delinquent potential in adolescents and studying the level of their manifestations at the given moment.

The objectives of the research: 1). Investigation of the link between socio-demographic factors and juvenile delinquency; 2). Estimation of the degree of criminal psychopathy in delinquent adolescents; 3). Determination of the particularities of personality development that occur with the appearance of the deviant pattern in adolescents; 4). Research of the clinical profile specific to adolescent delinquents; 5). Study of cognitive-emotional coping strategies used by delinquent adolescents; 6). Evaluation of the level of moral development of the adolescent with a deviant pattern.

In this experiment we have enunciated the following **general hypothesis**: we assume that the psychosocial and clinical profile of the delinquent adolescent is different from that of the non-delinquent adolescent. The manifestations, levels and dynamics of delinquent behavior in adolescents are determined by a complex of dynamic risk and vulnerability factors such as the level of criminal psychopathy, the type of personality traits, the particularities of the clinical profile, the coping strategies used, the level of moral development, but also by static factors such as: factors associated with the family climate, factors associated with the school environment and factors associated with the community. The general assumption allowed the emphasizing of the following operational hypotheses:

Hypothesis 1. Suppose that delinquent adolescents have a disharmoniously structured personality like the prototype of a criminal psychopath in relation to non-delinquent adolescents; **Hypothesis 2.** We assume that delinquent adolescents report a distinct personality profile from non-delinquents; **Hypothesis 3.** We assume that delinquent adolescents report a more clinically accentuated profile in terms of psychopathological disorders compared to non-delinquent adolescents, especially on the outsourcing scales (do. Conduct, substance dependence, predisposition to violence, school problems); **Hypothesis 4.** We assume that delinquent adolescents use different coping strategies from non- delinquents; **Hypothesis 5.** We assume that delinquent adolescents have a significantly lower level of moral development than adolescents without a delinquent path.

Variables of the finding experiment are:

Independent variable: juvenile delinquency (the one specific to adolescents);

Dependent variables are: 1. the level of criminal psychopathy; 2. Big Five personality traits; 3. the level of outsourcing clinical disorders; 4. different strategies of maladaptive cognitive-emotional coping; 5. the level of moral development.

Diagnostic tools used in the finding experiment: PCL-R, Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised, ABCD-M Personality Inventory Test Big Five, APS-SF Test APS-SF Assay Evaluation Scale of Clinical Disorders in Adolescence – Short Form, CERQ Test Cognitive-Emotional Coping Assessment Questionnaire and Kohlberg's Moral Development Model.

The results of the experimental research of delinquent personality:

Results in the PCL-R test to determine the level of criminal psychopathy. *Operational hypothesis:* we assume that delinquent adolescents present a disharmoniously structured personality more similar to the prototype of criminal psychopathy in relation to non-delinquent adolescents. The PCL-R test indicates the level of similarity with the prototype of the delinquent individual through certain traits that are consistent with the criteria in the DSM IV regarding the antisocial personality disorder. We found from the analysis of the obtained data that all the delinquent subjects present a personality structure in the process of disharmonic structuring, becoming, already, from the age of adolescence, criminal psychopaths, and many of them, about 79.4%, presenting a high level of matching with the prototype of the individual with a deviant, antisocial pattern. The range of variation in delinquents is between 42-72 points, and in non-delinquents it includes values between 25-58. Applying the Pearson Chi-Squared test, statistically significant differences were identified between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents, respectively between the two distributions of the total score levels, obtaining a $\chi^2(4) = 182.04$ and $p < 0.05$, the effect size being very high V (Cramer)=0.900. Following this analysis, we can reject the null hypothesis according to which there are no

significant differences between delinquents and non-delinquents in terms of matching with the prototype of the Criminal Psychopath and we confirm the alternative hypothesis. Indeed, the difference between delinquency and non-delinquency from the point of view of the studied variable exists and is significant. These results show the depth of disharmony in the personality structure of delinquent adolescents and the need for psychological intervention for these young people to rehabilitate themselves. Without a viable formative program and a set of consistent intra-Community social models, these young people relapse, following on the problematic path already formed by the criminal psychopath.

Results of the ABCD-M test for determining big five personality factors. *Operational hypothesis:* between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents there are significant differences in terms of big five personality factors. For the extraversion score variation, an average of the MD scores was observed in the case of the delinquent subjects = 55.04 ± 7.548 corresponding to the average level, but higher than the average obtained by the non-delinquent subjects $MnD = 54.10 \pm 6.372$, representing the entire average level. But the high level of extraversion is better represented as a share of adolescent offenders in a proportion of 60.8%, compared to those non-offenders of 31.5%. The difference in trend between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents is statistically significant. Using the Chi-Squared Pearson test we get $\chi^2(2) = 20,288$ and $p < 0,05$. The size of the observed effect is subtracted according to the value V (Cramer)=0.311. This analysis allows us to demonstrate that extraversion cannot be considered a vulnerability factor in the occurrence of delinquency in adolescents.

For the variation in maturity score, an average trend of the lower T scores $MD=36,68 \pm 5,80$ was observed in the case of the delinquent subjects, which corresponds to the low level, in relation to the average T-score trend of the non-delinquent subjects $MnD=51,06 \pm 7,746$ which indicates the average level of maturity. And as a share the high level of maturity is better represented in non-delinquent adolescents in a proportion of 22,2%. Delinquent adolescents have not reached the high level of maturity, 96.1% are at the low level. The comparative analysis of nonparametric association Chi-Squared Pearson indicates a $\chi^2(2) = 125,710$ and $p < 0,05$. The calculated effect size is very high, according to the value V (Cramer)=0.774. These statistical differences allow us to state that delinquent adolescents are less mature than non-delinquent adolescents. This explains why those with problematic pattern have more pronounced tendencies towards infantilism, often becoming more affectively immature, more self-centered, more reclaiming and more unstable in affective relationships compared to non-delinquent adolescents. They are characterized by more vanity and reactivity, not coping in a balanced way to the dynamics of the existential relationships they are involved in. Such an infantile condition of the self in delinquent adolescents, facing the task of social relations often brings to the surface the low capacity to adaptively and balanced manage the relationship with

the other, as well as the negative emotionality associated with the affective egocentrism specific to these young people with a deviant pattern.

For the change in the agreeability score, an average tendency of the scores was observed in the case of the delinquent subjects, a lower average scoring trend $MD=35,82\pm 8,157$ (low level) than the trend corresponding to the non-delinquent subjects $MnD=50,53\pm 7,845$. And as a share, most delinquent adolescents 88.2% is at low level compared to only 27.8% of non-delinquents. No subject with a delinquent pattern achieves the high level of agreeability. The comparative analysis of nonparametric association Chi-Squared Pearson indicates a $\chi^2(2) = 82,764$ and $p<0,05$. The size of the observed effect is very high, according to the value V (Cramer)=0.628. Thus, we identify, through this statistically significant difference, that delinquent adolescents are different from non-delinquent adolescents in that in certain situations they tend towards a more selfish and antagonistic behavior, characterized by a lower affective capacity of understanding for others.

For the change in the score of Conscientiousness, an average trend of the scores $MD=41,4\pm 5,5,293$ was observed in the case of the delinquent subjects, corresponding to the low level lower than the average trend of the non-delinquent subjects $MnD=51,35 \pm 8,657$, which indicates the average level. And as a share the high level of this factor is reached only by 19.5% of non-delinquent adolescents. Delinquent adolescents did not reach the high level of conscientiousness, 78.4% is at the low level. The comparative analysis of nonparametric association Chi-Squared Pearson indicates a $\chi^2(2) = 79,646$ and $p<0,05$. The size of the observed effect is very high, according to the value V (Cramer)=0.616. By this statistical difference we explain the low capacity of moral sense that delinquent adolescents have in relation to non-delinquents.

For the score variation at Self- actualization, it was found that, in the case of delinquent subjects, an average trend of the scores $MD=36,71\pm 7,020$, corresponding to the low level lower compared to the trend of the average non-delinquent subjects $MnD=49,44\pm 6,323$, which indicates the average level. And as a share the high level of this factor is reached only by 14.8% of non-delinquent adolescents. Delinquent adolescents did not reach the high level of self-actualization, 96.1% is at low level. Comparative analysis of nonparametric Association Chi-Squared Pearson indicates a $\chi^2(2) = 110,174$ and $p<0,05$. The size of the effect is very high, according to the value V (Cramer)=0.724. Through this statistical difference we can explain the behavior of adolescent delinquents that tends to stagnate in relation to that of non-delinquent adolescents. These young people live their lives through the temporary needs that are satisfied, offering an immediate satiety and will return cyclically to the same level of manifestation, more rudimentary and non-cultural; these people often allow themselves to be "carried by the tide" of immediate needs and motivations.

They build in a harder way and are more defensive facing life, becoming dominated, often by egocentric desires and forms of manifestation of these desires that tend towards primitivism, being less humanized.

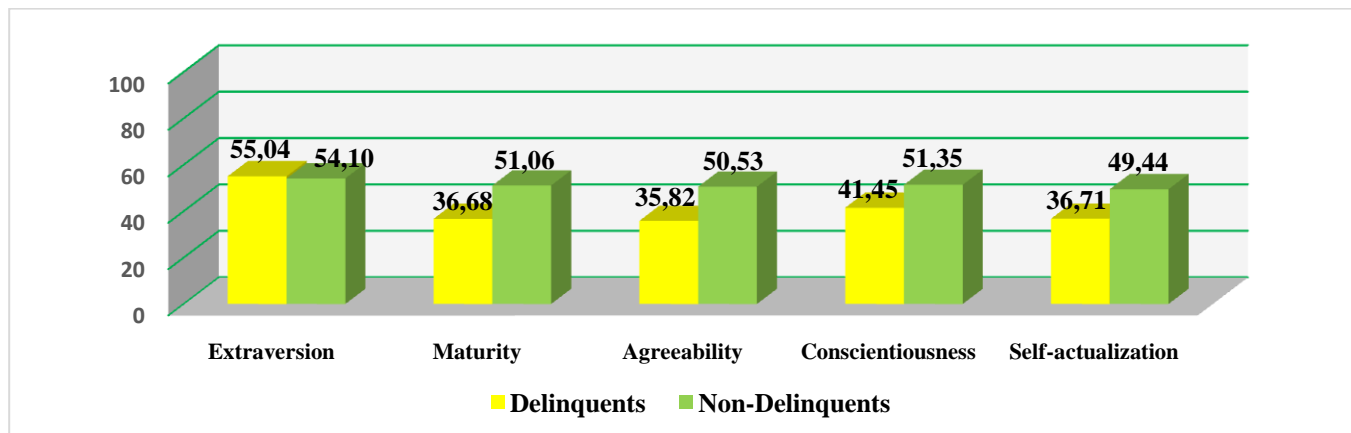


Fig. 1. Average ABCD-M test results

Analyzing the data obtained at the ABCD-M test by applying the Spearman nonparametric correlation test and the prototype of the criminal psychopath in PCL-R we find positive correlations in certain personality subfactors in Extraversion such as: Activism ($r=0,270$, $p<0,001$); Optimism ($r=0,261$, $p<0,001$) and Interpersonal Skills ($r=0,230$, $p<0,001$) and many negative correlations to most personality factors: in Maturity $r=-0,640$, $p<0,001$ (with respect facets $r=-0,419$, $p<0,001$; Adaptation $r=-0,442$, $p<0,001$; Friendship $r=-0,260$, $p<0,001$; The force of Inhibition $r=-0,203$, $p<0,001$ and the Force of the Self $r=-0,488$, $p<0,001$) at Agreeability $r=0,603$, $p<0,001$ (with facets: Altruism $r=-0,262$, $p<0,001$; Romance $r=-0,302$, $p<0,001$; Affective Heat $r=-0,292$, $p<0,001$; Empathy $r=-0,511$, $p<0,001$; Honesty $r=-0,301$, $p<0,001$), at Conscientiousness $r=-0,510$, $p<0,01$ (with facets; Spirit of Perfection $r=-0,350$, $p<0,001$; Rationality $r=-0,350$, $p<0,001$ and Planning $r=-0,321$, $p<0,0001$) and at Self-actualization $r=-0,598$, $p<0,001$ (with facets: Deepen $r=-0,310$, $p<0,001$; Tolerance $r=-0,252$, $p<0,001$; Refining $r=0,477$, $p<0,001$; Independence $r=-0,305$, $p<0,001$ and Creativity $r=-0,312$, $p<0,001$).

The results presented allow us to state, in the context of this work, that a low level of Maturity (with all the components) and Self-actualization (with all its facets), as well as a part of the subfactors of Consciousness and Low-Level Agreeability, become dynamic vulnerability factors, in the presence of which the probability of developing delinquent behavior in adolescents increases. All this statistical analysis allows us to prove that extraversion cannot be considered a vulnerability factor in the occurrence of delinquency in adolescents.

Results of the APS-SF test for the evaluation of the clinical profile. *Operational hypothesis:* between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents there are significant differences in the clinical profile. It is identified by statistical calculations higher averages and statistically significant differences in the results

obtained by the delinquent adolescents at the outsourcing scales of the test compared to the non-delinquent adolescents: in the CND Conduct Disorder, 84,4% of the delinquent subjects obtain a profile with clinical significance, having an average MD=79,77 (CND $\chi^2(2)= 56,584$ and $p<0,05$), in substance dependence (SUB) 47,1% of young people with problematic pattern have clinical profile and MD =72,08 ($\chi^2(2)=21,437$ and $p<0,05$), school problems enroll 65,6% of the subjects of the GD group, with an average MD=67,00, (SUB $\chi^2(2)=25.182$ and $p<0,05$), at Provocative oppositionist (TOP) we have 49,0% with clinical level and an average MD=52,91 (TOP $\chi^2(2) =56,387$ and $p<0,05$), in Predisposition to Violence and Anger (PVF) we identify 83.3% of clinically profiled delinquents and MD=76.77 (PVF $\chi^2(2)=24.808$, $p<0.05$). At the scales that measure internalization disorders: Self-Conception (CS), Generalized Anxiety (AG), Interpersonal Problems (PI), Depressive Disorder (TD), Posttraumatic Stress (SPT), Eating Disorder (TA), Suicide (SUI) no statistically significant differences have been identified: CS $\chi^2(2)= 0.056$ and $p>0.05$, AG $\chi^2(2)= 9,408$ and $p>0,05$ PI $\chi^2(2)= 6,069$ and $p>0,05$, TD $\chi^2(2)= 5,723$ and $p>0,05$, SPT $\chi^2(2)= 3,193$ and $p>0,05$, SUI $\chi^2(2)= 3,182$ and $p>0,05$, demonstrating that these internalization disorders cannot be considered vulnerability factors in the occurrence of delinquency in adolescents.

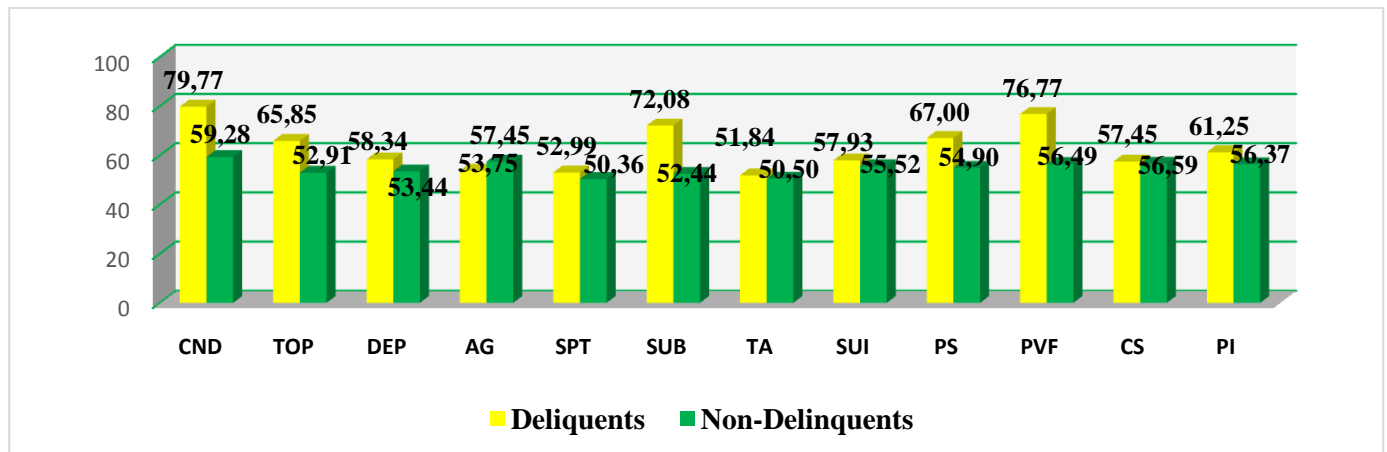


Fig. 2. Average APS-SF test results

Analyzing the correlations between the data obtained at the APS-SF test and the prototype of the criminal psychopath by applying the Spearman nonparametric correlation test, we find significant positive correlations to the outsourcing disorders, the conduct disorder being the syndrome most frequently encountered in the criminal psychopath ($r=0,596$, $p<0,001$), followed by the predisposition to violence ($r=0,490$, $p<0,001$), by the disorder of provocative oppositionist ($r=0,484$, $p<0,001$), school problems ($r=0,379$, $p<0,001$) and substance addiction ($r=0,279$, $p<0,001$) These results allow us to state that externalization disorders such as: conduct disorder, predisposition to violence, disorder of provocative

opponentist, school problems and substance addiction, can be considered dynamic vulnerability factors, in the presence of which the probability of developing delinquent behavior in adolescents increases.

CERQ test results on the evaluation of the cognitive-emotional coping strategies used. *Operational hypothesis:* between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents there are significant differences in the use of cognitive-emotional coping strategies. By statistical calculations higher averages obtained by delinquent adolescents than non-delinquent adolescents are identified in certain maladaptive coping strategies.

Table 1. Average CERQ test results

CERQ Dimensions	Subject type	Medium	Standard deviation
Self-blame	GD	51,37	11,442
	GnD	61,66	11,922
Acceptance	GD	45,46	16,051
	GnD	58,76	16,343
Ruminate	GD	56,21	9,038
	GnD	57,13	12,538
Positive refocusing	GD	39,10	8,032
	GnD	48,07	14,291
Refocus on planning	GD	41,54	10,012
	GnD	51,09	14,770
Positive reassessment	GD	41,37	10,053
	GnD	50,61	15,586
Putting into perspective	GD	39,63	9,186
	GnD	48,12	13,097
Catastrophic	GD	40,85	9,855
	GnD	51,07	15,000
Blaming others	GD	65,63	10,946
	GnD	53,56	16,815

Significant differences were obtained in the following cognitive-emotional coping styles: at Self-blame ($\chi^2(2)=64,140$, $p<0,05$), Rumination ($\chi^2(2)=64,140$, $p<0,05$), Positive refocusing ($\chi^2(2)=59,296$, $p<0,05$), Refocusing on planning ($\chi^2(2)=21,120$, $p<0,05$), Positive reappraisal ($\chi^2(2)=33,765$, $p<0,05$), Putting forward ($\chi^2(2)=25,559$, $p<0,05$), Catastrophic ($\chi^2(2)=45,214$, $p<0,05$), Blaming others ($\chi^2(2)=32,249$, $p<0,05$). Analyzing the correlations between the data obtained in the CERQ test and the prototype of the criminal psychopath, by applying the nonparametric correlation test Spearman, a significant positive correlation is found to the coping of the type "Blaming others" often encountered as a way of thinking in the criminal psychopath ($r=0,300$, $p<0,001$), followed by negative correlations to almost all other coping strategies. Thus, the more the coping style " Blaming others" is used by the delinquent teenager, the more he will approach the prototype of the criminal psychopath, not assuming the responsibility of the deed, blaming the others of his failures, not having the ability to critically appreciate the consequences of the crime. These results allow us to state that the frequent use of " Blaming others" as a coping mechanism, can

be considered a dynamic vulnerability factor and contributes to increasing the likelihood of developing delinquent behavior in adolescents.

The results of the Kohlberg test for identifying the level of moral development. *Operational hypothesis:* between delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents there are significant differences in the level of moral development. The analysis of the data obtained in the test allows us to find that a significant percentage 90.2% of delinquent adolescents have a moral development of pre-conventional level, unlike 38.9% of non-delinquent adolescents who are at the same level of moral development. Comparative analysis of nonparametric association Chi-Squared Pearson indicates a $\chi^2(2) = 60,249$ and $p < 0,05$. The size of the observed effect is high according to the V value (Cramer)=0.536. Through this statistical difference we confirm the low level of moral development that delinquent adolescents have in relation to non-delinquent, thus explaining their egocentric moral judgment, who pursue only their own interests, relying on the consequences of their own behaviors, and the orientation being made only according to reward.

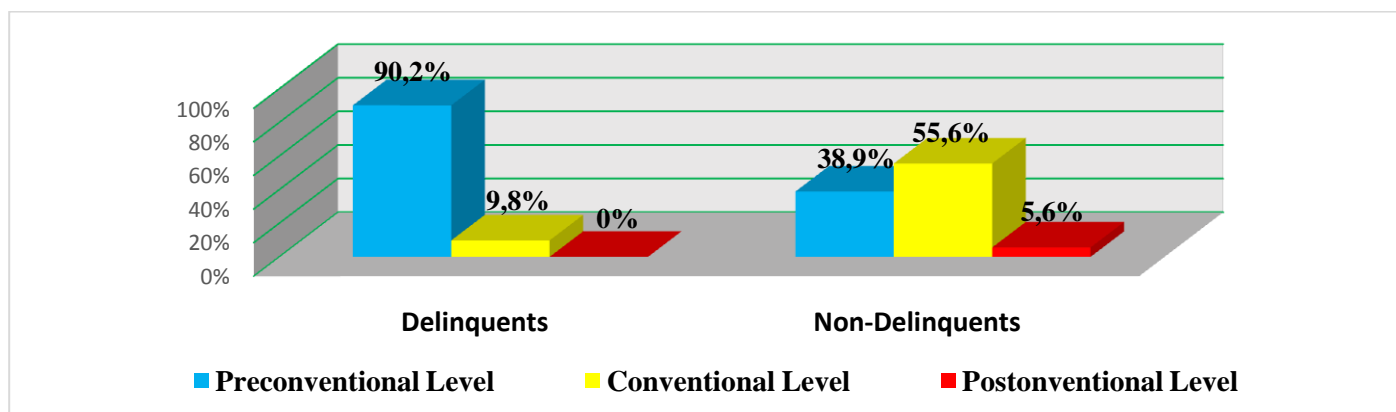


Fig. 3. Distribution of subjects according to the variable - level of moral development

In Chapter III "Elaboration and reevaluation of the dual psychological intervention program in delinquent adolescents" are presented strategies and principles that are the basis for improving the various dynamic vulnerability factors, necessary for the elaboration of the complex dual psychological intervention program. **The purpose of the formative experiment** was to diminish the delinquent potential of adolescents by activating personal resources and developing emotional and behavioral management skills. **The general objectives** considered were: (1). Development and implementation of a dual psychological intervention program for delinquency adolescents. (2). Evaluation of the effects of the dual psychological intervention program administered. (3). Delimitation of general conclusions and elaboration of recommendations for specialists.

The specific objectives of the formative research were taken into account: raising the degree of emotional maturity by increasing the capacity of self-control and the management of anger, of consciousness

by increasing the voluntary control, of the agreeability by decreasing the negative affectivity, of the self-updating by increasing empathy, as well as the decrease of the level of outsourcing disorders specific to the delinquent adolescents, the decrease of the profile of criminal psychopathy, improving maladjustment coping strategies by increasing the level of responsibility by assuming the negative facts and consequences and developing moral judgment.

The independent variable is the dual psychological intervention program in which adolescents participated. We assumed that the psychological intervention program can modify certain factors involved in juvenile delinquency. **Dependent variables** were: (1). the level of criminal psychopathy; (2); Big Five personality traits (maturity, agreeability, conscientiousness, and self-actualization); (3). the level of clinical outsourcing disorders; (4). different cognitive-emotional coping strategies; (5). the level of moral development.

The hypothesis of the formative experiment is the assumption that through specially organized psychological interventions it is possible to diminish the delinquent potential of adolescents.

The formative research was carried out with the participation of 24 delinquent adolescents, of which 16 were of masculine gender and 8 of feminine gender divided into two groups: *the Experimental Group (GE)* consisting of 12 subjects (8 boys and 4 girls) and the Control Group (*GC*) also consisting of 12 subjects, statistically comparable to the first group (age, gender, level of delinquency). The members of the experimental group participated in several types of psychological intervention programs: family, individual and group, for a period of about 10 months, and the teenagers in the control group did not participate in the dual psychological intervention program. The selection criteria for participation in the psychological intervention group were those of belonging to the category of delinquent adolescent, as well as the recidivist or non-recidivist criterion.

Current research by F. Pettermann and U. Petermann [27] indicates that a child's behavioral disorder, implicitly deviance, is conditioned by the environment in which he lives, especially by the family. The dual approach is the method by which on the one hand the delinquent adolescent is approached as an individuality and on the other hand he is approached together with the family as a whole. Using these principles and making a complex analysis of the adolescent's delinquent potential, we get a better image on the problem, facilitating the development of new behaviors and gradually reducing the delinquent potential in the exercises performed with the adolescent and his parents. This method includes sessions with the entire family, individual and group sessions.

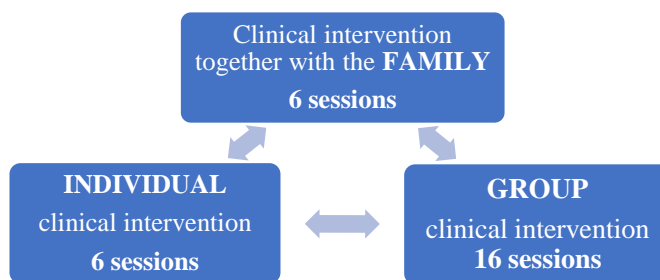


Fig. 4. Abordarea duală a intervenției psihologice la adolescenții delincvenți

Fig. 4. Dual approach to psychological intervention in delinquent adolescent

In order to evaluate the efficiency and usefulness of the dual psychological intervention program in order to diminish the delinquent potential in adolescents, we administered all the tests: PCL-R Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (Revised Psychopathy Scale), ABCD-M Big Five Minulescu Questionnaire, APS-SF Evaluation scale of clinical disorders in adolescents, CERQ The questionnaire for the evaluation of cognitive-emotional coping, Kohlberg model of evaluation of the stages of moral development. To demonstrate the homogeneity of the experimental and control groups formed based on the results of the finding experiment, we administered the U Mann-Whitney test. No statistically significant differences were identified between the two groups. The formative program proves its effectiveness by rallying three statistical comparisons: experimental group in test/retest; experimental group/control group in retest and control group in test/retest.

For the PCL-R test:

The statistical analysis of GE test-retest data obtained by adolescents in the experimental group in the PCL-R test by using the Wilcoxon test, revealed a statistically significant decrease in their similarity with the prototype of the delinquent psychopath. Statistically significant changes are identified at the Affective-Interpersonal F1 Factor (on the items: Superficiality, Grandiose Sense of One's Own Value, Pathological Lie, Manipulation, Lack of Remorse and Guilt, Superficial Affections and Lack of Empathy) obtaining $M1=69,75$; $M2=61.08$; $z=-3,063$; $p<0,05$, but also to factor F2 - Social deviance (by decreasing the value of the results on the items: Inclination to Boredom, Parasitic Lifestyle, Lack of Realistic Long-Term Goals, Impulsivity and Behavioral Control) obtaining $M1 = 57,92$; $M2=51.75$; $z=-3,076$; $p<0,05$. These changes are also distinguished overall by the changes obtained to the Total Factor FT with $M1= 63,25$; $M2=56.33$; $z=-3,552$ and $p<0,05$.

By applying the U Mann-Whitney test we obtained statistically significant differences between the results obtained at the retest stage by the subjects in the control group and the experimental one at all the scales of the PCL-R test: Interpersonal/Affective (M1=69,75; M2=61.08; U=125,000; p<0,05); Social Deviation (M1=57.92; M2= 51,75; U=121,500; p<0,05) and the Total Factor (M1= 54,33; M2=45.67; U=126,000; p<0,05).

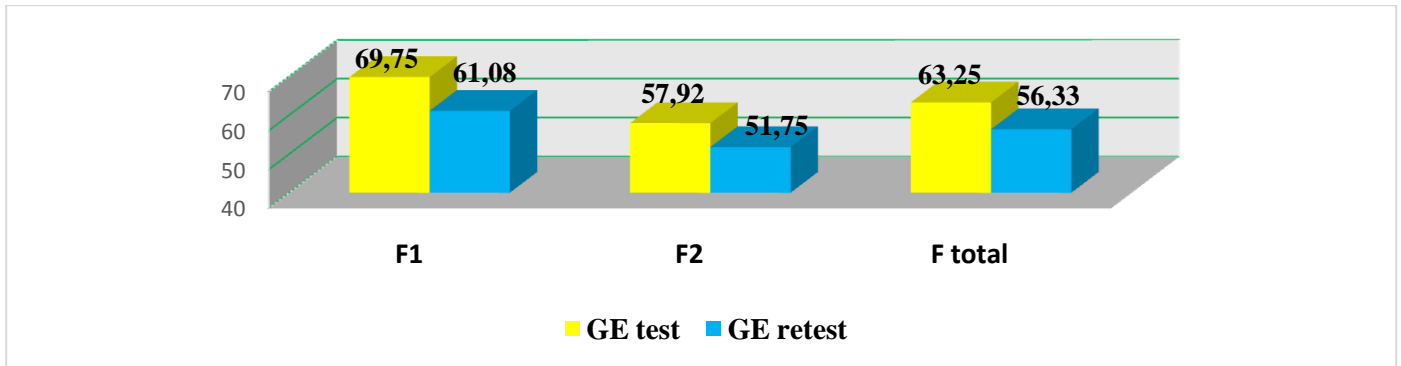


Fig.5. Mean values in PCL-R test, experimental group, test-retest

There are changes regarding the profile of the criminal psychopath, applying the U Mann-Whitney test to the results obtained by the control group and the experimental one at the retest phase on all factors. Statistically significant differences have been identified at the PCL-R scales at: the level of interpersonal/affective factor (M1=69.75; M2=61.08; U=125,000; p<0,05), at the level of the Social Deviation Factor (M1= 57,92; M2=51.75; U=121,500; p<0,05) and at the level of the Total Factor (M1= 54,33; M2=45.67; U=126,000; p<0,05).

At the ABCD-M test: following the implementation of the formative program, in post-intervention, we obtained results that confirm amelioration of the delinquent potential in the subjects of the experimental group at the level of the following factors:

At the level of the Extraversion factor, by using the Wilcoxon test, no statistically significant differences were established in the subjects GE test/retest E ($z=-2,590$; $p>0,05$). On the subfactors, statistically significant differences were found only in E1 Activism ($z=-2,203$; $p<0,05$) and E2 Optimism ($z=-2,652$, $p<0,05$). The formative program did not focus on modifying the extraversion factor and its components, as it did not turn out to be a vulnerability factor in the occurrence of juvenile delinquency, as we showed in the experiment. This lack of statistically significant differences is in line with the objectives proposed in the formative experiment, namely that of improving only the risk and vulnerability factors that contribute to the probability of juvenile delinquency.

At the Maturity factor, statistically significant differences are identified in the results obtained at the test and retest phase in the case of adolescents in GE both on the large factor M ($z=-3,088$; $p<0,05$) as well as

for its subfactors: M1 Respect ($z=-2,937$; $p<0,05$), M2 Adaptation ($z=-2,949$; $p<0,05$), M3 Friendship ($z=-3,074$; $p<0,05$), M4 The Force of Inhibition ($z=-3,086$; $p<0,05$) and M5 The Force of the Self ($z=-3,070$; $p<0,05$). Thus, after participating in the formative program, these young people with a deviant path will report more respect for people and society, learning a better control of reactions, impulses, and negative emotions, being able to cooperate in a more relaxed way, without relating everything to themselves. They are more stable to cope with change, adversity, contradiction in a calmer manner through which friendship and open relationships with others can develop.

At the level of the Agreeability Factor, statistically significant differences were obtained at all levels for the subjects in GE test/retest: at factor A ($z=-3,063$; $p<0,05$), but also at the subfactors: A1 Altruism ($z=-3,068$; $p<0,05$), A2 Romance ($z=-3,070$; $p<0,05$), A3 Affective Warmth ($z=-3,063$; $p<0,05$), A4 Empathy ($z=-3,064$; $p<0,05$) and A5 Honesty ($z=-2,941$; $p<0,05$). Thus, these adolescents report a greater affective availability in the relationship with those around them and a more pro-social behavior, more open to self-giving and help, becoming more loyal in relationships. The ability to accommodate, flexibility and adaptation increases, having as result the ease in assertive negotiation.

At the Conscientiousness Factor there are statistically significant differences both at the factor C ($z=-3,070$; $p<0,05$) and at the level of their subfactors: C1 Willpower and Perseverance ($z=-2,633$; $p<0,05$), C2 Spirit of Perfection ($z=-3,066$; $p<0,05$), C3 Rationality ($z=-3,072$; $p<0,05$), C4 Planning ($z=-2,85$; $p<0,05$) and C5 Self-Discipline ($z=-2,938$; $p<0,05$). The increase in the level of Conscientiousness is reflected in the fact that these young people no longer leave everything "at random", they have a better ability to start a task and carry it out despite boredom or other possible distractions of attention. They adopt a style that will lead them in a certain direction because they begin to deepen things, to go beyond the outer plane becoming more rigorous.

For the adolescents in GE, significant differences were obtained at the test/retest phase at the Self-actualization Factor, which once again demonstrates the effectiveness of the formative program: Ac ($z=-3,065$; $p<0,05$). For the subfactors, the results are as follows: at Ac1 Deepening ($z=-3,072$; $p<0,05$), at Ac2 Tolerance ($z=-3,077$; $p<0,05$), at Ac3 Refining ($z=-2,936$; $p<0,05$), at Ac4 Independence ($z=-2,908$; $p<0,05$) and at Ac5 Creativity ($z=-2,938$; $p<0,05$). Increasing the level of Self-actualization results in a greater concern for personal evolution both in relation to one's own self and to the social environment, being more cautious with what is apparent, stagnant, or superficial.

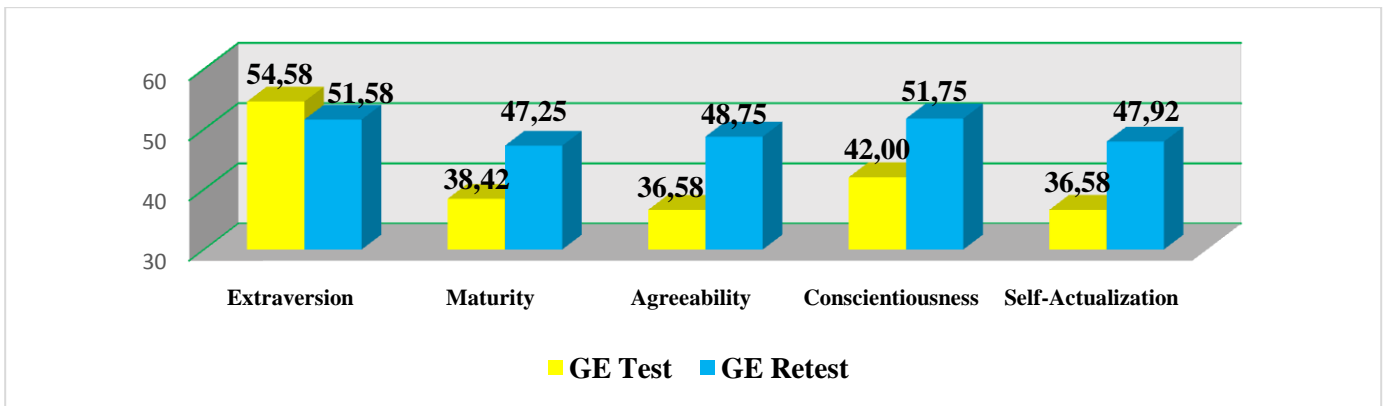


Fig.6. Average values of the ABCD-M test, experimental group, test-retest

It is important to mention that by applying the U Mann-Whitney test, statistically significant differences were obtained in the results obtained at the retest stage by the subjects in the control and experimental group at the scales: *Maturity* ($U=8,500; p< 0,05$) with subfactors: Romance ($U=29.500, z<0.05$), Affective Warmth ($U=27.000, p<0.05$), Honesty ($27.500, p<0.05$), *Agreeability* ($U=9,500; p<0,05$) with subfactors: Romance ($U=29,500; p<0,05$), Affective Warmth ($U=27,000; p<0,05$), Honesty ($=27,500; p<0,05$) *Conscientiousness* ($U=3,550; p<0,05$) with subfactors: Spirit of Perfection ($U=21,500; p<0,05$), Rationality ($U=42,000; p>0,05$), Planning ($U=25,000; p<0,05$), Self-discipline ($U=39,500; p<0,05$) and Self-actualization ($U=18,000; p<0,05$) with subfactors: Deepening ($U=35,500; p<0,05$), Refining ($U= 44,000; p>0,05$), and Creativity ($U=38,500; p<0,05$).

At the level of the GC control group, it was also established by using the Wilcoxon test that the post-intervention did not bring significant differences in the test phase compared to the retest phase. The results obtained by factors are Extraversion ($z=-1.611, p>0.05$), Maturity ($z=-2.947, p>0.05$) Agreeability ($z=-0.268, p>0.05$), Conscientiousness ($z=-2.969, p>0.05$) and Self-actualization ($z=-3.068, p>0.05$).

These results highlight the effectiveness of the formative program built for the objective proposed in this research.

APS-SF test. The statistical analysis of the test-retest data obtained by the adolescents from the experimental group in the APS-SF test, by using the Wilcoxon test, revealed a statistically significant decrease in the outsourcing disturbances. On factors, the following results were recorded: in the conduct disorder CND ($z=-2,679; p<0,05$), to provocative oppositional disorder TOP ($z=-2,437; p<0,05$), to substance dependencies SUB ($z=-2,023; p<0,05$), to school problems PS ($z=-2,807; p<0,05$), to the predisposition to anger and violence PVF ($z=-2,023; p<0,05$).

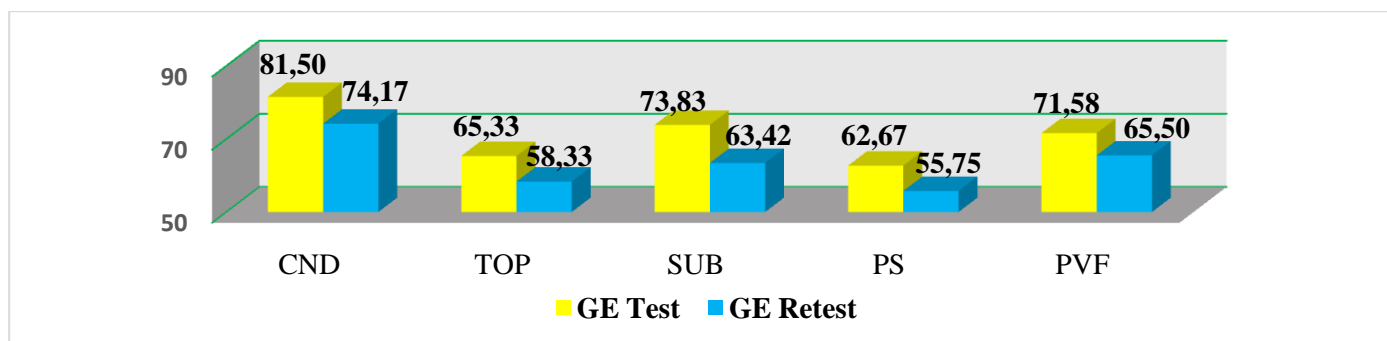


Fig.7. Average values for APS-SF test, experimental group, test-retest

At the level of internalization disorders, no statistically significant differences in the results were obtained for GE test/retest considering the fact that the formative program did not have as a special objective their improvement: self-conception CS ($z=-1,884$; $p>0,05$), interpersonal problems PI ($z=-2,121$; $p>0,05$), depressive disorder DEP ($z=-0,816$; $p>0,05$), generalized anxiety AG ($z=-0,962$; $p>0,05$), posttraumatic stress SPT ($z=-1,807$; $p>0,05$), eating disorder TA ($z=-0,586$; $p>0,05$), suicide SUI ($z=-0,557$; $p>0,05$).

It is important to mention that by applying the U Mann-Whitney test, statistically significant differences were obtained in the results obtained at the retest stage by the subjects in both the control and experimental group at the scales that measure outsourcing disorders such as: in the conduct disorder CND ($U=93,000$; $p<0,05$), in the challenging oppositional disorder TOP ($U=117,500$; $p<0,05$), to substance dependence UNDER ($U=69,500$; $p<0,05$), to school problems PS ($U=120,000$; $p<0,05$), to the predisposition to anger and violence PVF ($U =132,000$; $p<0,05$). No significant differences were obtained at the level of internalization disorders: self-conception CS ($U=69,500$; $p>0,05$), interpersonal problems PI ($U=92,000$; $p>0,05$), depressive disorder DEP ($U=55,000$; $p>0,05$), generalized anxiety AG ($U=74,000$; $p>0,05$), at posttraumatic stress SPT ($U=68,500$; $p>0,05$), eating disorder TA ($U=94,000$; $p>0,05$), suicide SUI ($U=69,000$; $p>0,05$).

The comparison of the results obtained by the delinquent adolescents from the control group of the test phase / retest, by applying the Wilcoxon test, did not reveal statistically significant differences at the level of the outsourcing disorders: at the conduct disorder CND ($z=-0,108$; $p> 0,05$), at the provocative oppositional disorder TOP ($z=-0,508$; $p>0,05$), to dependence on substances SUB ($z=-1,826$; $p>0,05$), to school problems PS ($z=-1,732$; $p<0,05$), to the predisposition to anger and violence PVF ($z=-1,633$; $p>0,05$). This data once again confirms the effectiveness of the formative program.

CERQ test. Statistical analysis of the test-retest data obtained by the adolescents from the experimental group in the CERQ test, by using the Wilcoxon test, highlighted the following results: Self-blaming ($z=-1,983$; $p<0,05$), Acceptance ($z=-1,886$; $p<0,05$), Rumination ($z=-1,232$; $p<0,05$), Positive

Refocusing ($z=-1,633$; $p>0,05$), Refocus on planning ($z=-1,069$; $p>0,05$), Positive Revaluation ($z=-0,798$; $p>0,05$), Putting it into perspective ($z=-1,467$; $p>0,05$), Catastrophic ($z=-0,136$; $p>0,05$), Blaming others ($z=-2,849$; $p<0,05$).

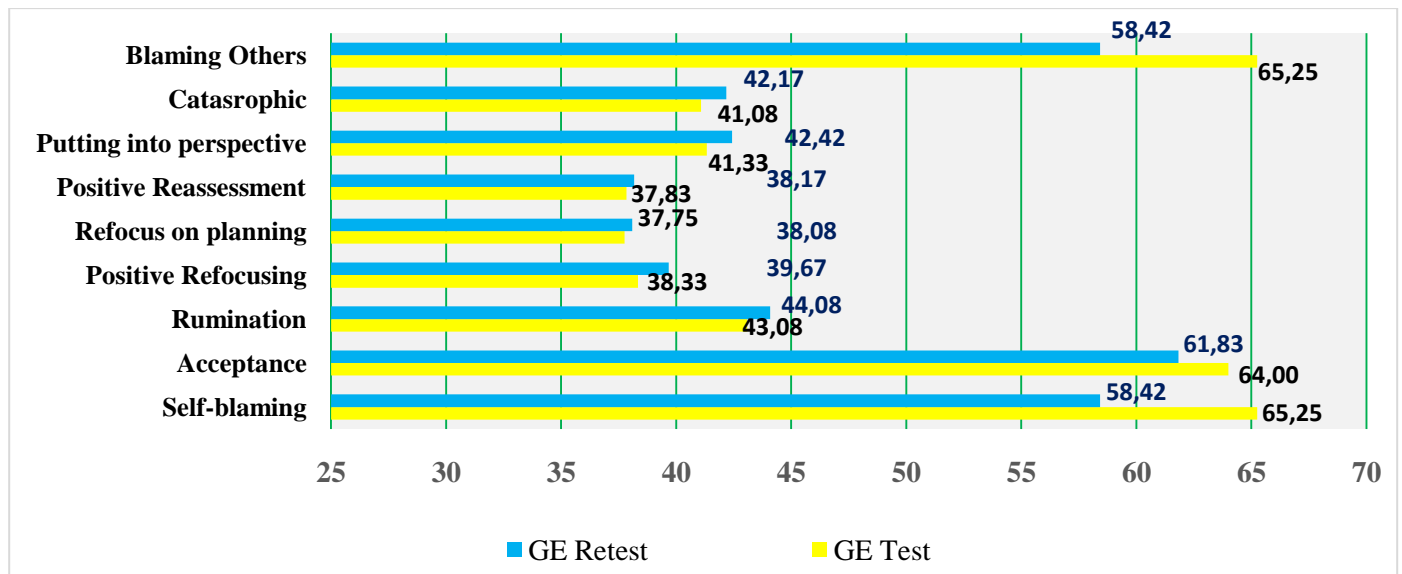


Fig.8. Mean values in CERQ test, experimental group, test-retest

Applying the U Mann-Whitney test, the following results were obtained at the retest stage by the subjects from the control and experimental group: at Self-blaming ($U=100,500$; $p<0,05$), at Acceptance ($U=117,500$; $p<0,05$), in Rumination ($U=82,000$; $p>0,05$), in Positive Refocusing ($U=83,500$; $p>0,05$), in Refocusing on Planning ($U=73,000$; $p>0,05$), at Positive Reassessment ($U=93,000$; $p>0,05$), at Putting into Perspective ($U=46,500$; $p>0,05$), at Catastrophic ($U=63,500$; $p>0,05$), and at Blaming others ($U=109,500$; $p<0,05$).

The comparison of the results obtained by the delinquent adolescents from the GC control group at test/retest phase did not reveal statistically significant differences: Self-blaming ($z=-0,214$; $p>0,05$), Acceptance ($z=-1,732$; $p<0,05$), Rumination ($z=-1,155$; $p>0,05$), Positive Refocusing ($z=-0,966$; $p>0,05$), Refocusing on Planning ($z=-1,604$; $p>0,05$), Positive Refocusing ($z=-1,848$; $p>0,05$), Putting into Perspective ($z=-1,291$; $p>0,05$), Catastrophic ($z=-1,994$; $p>0,05$), Blaming others ($z=-0,586$; $p>0,05$), strengthening the significance of the effectiveness of the formative program.

Among the most important changes occurred after the application of the dual psychological intervention program is the increase in the level of self-blame and the decrease in the level of blaming the others, having the effect of increasing the responsibility for the criminal act and anticipating the consequences in these delinquent adolescents from the experimental group. To the increase in the degree of

responsibility by assuming the feeling of guilt, also contributes to the modification of the coping by rumination.

Kohlberg's test. Before the intervention, 95.8% (23 cases) of the participants in the formative experiment were at the preconventional level of moral development and only 4.2% (1 case) reached the conventional level. Of these at the level of the experimental group there were 11 subjects with preconventional moral development and one with conventional morality, and at the level of the test control group all adolescents had a preconventional level of moral development. The groups had a homogeneous structure, because no statistically significant differences were revealed between the two lots. By applying the Pearson Hi2 test we obtained $\chi^2(1) = 1,043$ and $p > 0,05$.



Fig. 9. Comparative scores of moral developments - Kohlberg, GE test / GC test.

After the application of the formative program, the experimental retest group consists of seven adolescents with preconventional moral development level and five achieve a conventional level of morality, unlike those in the retest control group in which eleven adolescents maintain themselves with preconventional moral development and only one case switches to conventional morality.

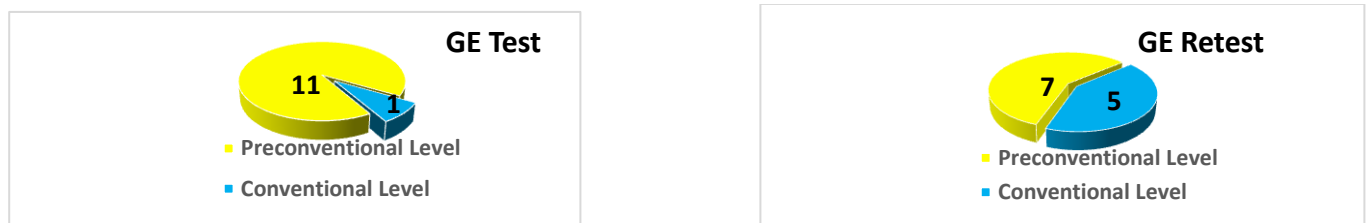


Fig. 10. Kohlberg test values, experimental group, retest-test

Applying the Pearson Hi2 Contingency Test we obtained $\chi^2(1) = 2,274$ and $p < 0,05$ identifying significant differences. These statistically significant differences between the analyzed data demonstrate the effectiveness of the dual psychological intervention program with the objective of improving the state of morality in delinquent adolescents.

The General Conclusions and Recommendations summarize the results of the research and provide recommendations that could help to improve the various dynamic vulnerability factors identified during the research, which increase the likelihood of developing delinquent behavior in adolescents. Through the results

obtained in this research, the current scientific problem of major importance in the field regarding the identification of individual risk and vulnerability factors in the occurrence of juvenile delinquency was solved, as well as the elaboration and implementation of a formative program to improve the delinquent potential in adolescents.

The analysis of theoretical and experimental results allows us to formulate the following conclusions:

1. Juvenile delinquency is an acute problem of the current period, involving an increasing number of adolescents, having multiple and profound consequences on their psychic development, if it is not identified and improved in time.

2. It has been pointed out that the emergence of juvenile delinquency is favored by several family factors: disadvantaged environments, poverty, alcoholism, drug use, intensely conflicted or violent family climate and the presence of the delinquent model in the belonging family and educational factors such as school dropout and low level of education.

3. The delinquency model is found in the parents of the adolescents with problematic pattern from the investigated group, the parents being in many cases absent from the family, because they are arrested at the first deed or recidivists.

4. Following the evaluation, a profile of criminal psychopathy and several outsourcing disorders such as: Conduct Disorder, Provocative Oppositional Disorder, Predisposition to anger and violence, Alcohol and drug addiction and various School problems were identified in delinquent adolescents.

5. The coping strategies frequently used by delinquent adolescents are: Blaming others, Acceptance and Self-blaming. The failure to take responsibility appropriately generates a strong detachment from the negative consequences of criminal acts and a lack of affection towards the victims, with consequences including in relationship with adults or the elderly.

6. Maturity, Agreeability, Conscientiousness, Self-blaming, and Low Morality are the main personality factors that contribute to the appearance of delinquency in adolescents.

7. The results of the formative and control experiment show that psychological intervention to improve the delinquent potential must be of a dual type and includes both adolescents and their parents. For children, this involves several objectives: anger management, psychoeducation, management of emotions, cognitions, behavior, and improving social networking. The objectives of parent counseling are: the development of parental skills, psycho-education, analysis and integration of their own history of delinquency, the system of punishments and rewards in the family, the establishment of clear roles and limits, the improvement of relationship, the balancing of the educational model. The data obtained from the

application of the formative program demonstrate the effectiveness of the dual model in improving the delinquent potential among adolescents.

Recommendations for implementation are: 1). The procedure for evaluating the delinquent potential in adolescents can be implemented within the Psychiatric Forensic Commissions of the Institutes of Forensic Medicine in the assessment of consent to the criminal act, and the dual psychological intervention program can be implemented in the detention centers for minors; 2). The theoretical and practical information included in this research can form the basis of a best practice guide for professionals working in the field of juvenile delinquency; 3). The materials presented in the work can be used in teaching university, masters or specialization courses and continuous professional training for psychologists, psychotherapists, social workers concerned with the field studied.

Suggestions regarding future research: this paper intends to open new horizons in the research in the field of juvenile delinquency, such as:

- (1). investigation of problematic patterns and of psychological intervention manner in the case of preadolescents.
- (2). thorough investigation of delinquent adolescents, their evaluation and psychotherapy.
- (3). research of the long-term consequences of juvenile delinquency.
- (4). identifying possibilities to prevent the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency.

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1. RACU, I., NICOLAESCU, E., P. Eficiența programului de intervenție psihologică duală la adolescenții delincvenți. În *Dezvoltarea personală și integrarea socială a actorilor educaționali*, Chișinău: UPS „Ion Creangă”, 12 noiembrie 2021. Nr. 23 (1). p.370-37. ISBN: 978-9975-46-450-5.
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3. NICOLAESCU, E., P. Reglarea emoțiilor prin cogniții la adolescenții delincvenți În: *volumul de lucrări al conferinței A.P.A.R*, Ed. a 16-a, 2021. p.84-97. ISBN: 978-606-94584-9-5.
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ADNOTARE

Eliza Penelopa Nicolaescu. Dezvoltarea personalității adolescenților delincvenți.

Teză de doctor în Psihologie. Chișinău, 2022

Structura tezei: Teza este constituită din: adnotări în 3 limbi, lista abrevierilor, introducere, trei capitole, concluzii generale și recomandări, bibliografie din 235 titluri, 6 anexe, 138 pagini de text de bază, 51 figuri și 8 tabele. Rezultatele obținute sunt publicate în 13 lucrări științifice.

Cuvinte-cheie: delincvență juvenilă, antisocial, adolescent, personalitate, tulburări specifice adolescenței, recidivă, coping dezadaptativ, psihopatie infrațională, program formativ.

Domeniu de studiu: psihologia adolescenților delincvenți.

Scopul cercetării a constat în determinarea potențialului delincvent la adolescenți și în elaborarea și implementarea unui program de intervenție psihologică de ameliorare a acestor particularități specifice pattern-ului deviant.

Obiectivele cercetării au constat în: 1) analiza, studierea și explicitarea modelelor teoretice privind dezvoltarea personalității delincvente; 2) elaborarea unei metodologii de diagnosticare a specificului delincvent la adolescenți; 3) studierea comparativă a adolescenților delincvenți, respectiv a particularităților lor psihologice în raport cu adolescenții non-delincvenți; 4) estimarea gradului de psihopatie infrațională la adolescenții delincvenți; 5) determinarea particularităților personalității adolescenților delincvenți; 6) evaluarea profilului clinic al tinerilor cu pattern delincvent; 7) determinarea strategiilor de coping dezadaptativ și al nivelului de dezvoltare morală al infractorilor adolescenți; 8) elaborarea și implementarea unui program de intervenție psihologică duală având ca obiectiv ameliorarea potențialului delincvent; 9) formularea recomandărilor psihologice cu caracter practic de diminuare a particularităților specifice pattern-ului deviant la adolescenți.

Rezultatele obținute care contribuie la soluționarea problemei științifice importante constau în: elaborarea unui model de diagnoză privind determinarea particularităților ce domină structura afectivă și de personalitate a adolescenților delincvenți, identificarea factorilor de risc și vulnerabilitate și evaluarea impactului implementării unui program de intervenție psihologică duală de ameliorare a potențialului delincvent la adolescenți.

Noutatea și originalitatea științifică. Pentru prima dată la nivel național a fost realizat un studiu experimental comparativ privind profilul psihopatiei infraționale și al strategiilor de coping dezadaptativ la adolescenții delincvenți în raport cu adolescenți non-delincvenți de aceeași vârstă; s-a stabilit o metodologie de evaluare și diagnoză a particularităților specifice adolescenților delincvenți; a fost elaborat și aplicat un program de intervenție psihologică duală în vederea ameliorării potențialului delincvent la adolescenți.

Semnificația teoretică constă în evidențierea particularităților de dezvoltare apărute la adolescenții delincvenți și determinarea factorilor de risc și vulnerabilitate care contribuie la apariția delincvenței juvenile.

Valoarea aplicativă a lucrării a constat: în elaborarea unui model de psihodiagnoză a delincvenței la adolescenți precum și construirea, implementarea și verificarea eficienței unui program de intervenție psihologică duală având ca obiectiv ameliorarea potențialului delincvent la adolescenți; rezultatele obținute completează informațiile prezente, lucrarea constituind fundamentul unui ghid metodologic de bune practici.

Implementarea rezultatelor științifice. Materialele rezultate sunt utilizate în procesul de formare continuă și complementară a psihologilor în domeniul psihologiei în cadrul Institutului de Psihologie Aplicată în domeniul Sănătății Mintale și sunt recomandate pentru pregătirea studenților și masteranzilor Universității Hyperion București. Programul formativ este aplicat de către psihologi specializați, care își desfășoară activitatea în sistemul penitenciar, în centrele și cabinetele de evaluare și consiliere și psihoterapie pentru prevenirea delincvenței juvenile.

АННОТАЦИЯ

Элиза Пенелопа Николаеску. Развитие личности правонарушителей в юношеском возрасте.

Докторская диссертация по психологии. Кишинев, 2022 г.

Структура диссертации: Диссертация состоит из: аннотаций, списка сокращений, введения, трех глав, выводов и рекомендаций, библиографии из 235 наименований, 6 приложений, 138 страниц основного текста, 51 рисунков и 8 таблиц. Полученные результаты опубликованы в 13 научных работах.

Ключевые слова: делинквентное поведение, юноша, личность, расстройства в юношеском возрасте, рецидивизм, дезадаптивный копинг, психопатия, формирующая программа.

Область исследования: Психология юношей правонарушителей.

Цель исследования: определение особенностей развития личности юношей-правонарушителей, а также разработка и реализация психологической программы по коррекции выявленных расстройств.

Задачи исследования: 1) анализ, изучение и объяснение теоретических моделей развития делинквентной личности; 2) разработка диагностической методологии по изучению специфики делинквентности юношей; 3) сравнительное изучение личностных характеристик юношей и юношей правонарушителей; 4) определение особенностей делинквентного поведения и психопатологии у данной категории юношей; 5) выявление личностных особенностей юношей правонарушителей; 6) изучение клинического профиля у данной категории юношей; 7) выявление дезадаптивных копинг стратегий и уровня морального развития юношей правонарушителей; 8) разработка и внедрение психологической программы, направленной на коррекцию делинквентного поведения; 9) разработка практических психологических рекомендаций, нацеленных на коррекцию специфических особенностей юношей правонарушителей.

Полученные результаты, способствующие решению важной научной проблемы, состоят в разработке модели диагностики доминирующих характеристик в аффективной сфере и личности юношей правонарушителей, выявлении факторов риска, которые послужили основанием для разработки, внедрения и установления эффективности формирующей программы, нацеленной на снижение делинквентного поведения.

Научная новизна и оригинальность. Впервые на национальном уровне было проведено сравнительное экспериментальное исследование профиля криминальности психопатической личности и дезадаптивных копинг стратегий у юношей-правонарушителей в сравнении с нормативным поведением, была предложена диагностическая модель по изучению особенностей юношей правонарушителей, разработана и применена психологическая программа с целью коррекции преступного потенциала юношей правонарушителей.

Теоретическая значимость работы состоит в выявлении особенностей личностного развития юношей-правонарушителей, определение факторов риска детерминирующих возникновение делинквентного поведения.

Практическая значимость работы: была предложена программа психологической диагностики делинквентности у юношей-правонарушителей; разработана, апробирована и проверена эффективность формирующей психологической программы, нацеленной на снижение делинквентного поведения юношей; полученные результаты дополняют существующие знания, а проведенное исследование является фундаментом для разработки практического руководства в работе с данной категорией юношей.

Внедрение научных результатов. Полученные результаты используются в процессе непрерывного и дополнительного образования психологов в области клинической психологии, консультирования и психотерапии в Институте прикладной психологии в области психического здоровья и применяются в процессе обучения студентов и магистров Университета Hurelion в Бухаресте. Формирующая психотерапевтическая программа используется психологами, работающими в пенитенциарной системе, в кабинетах и центрах консультирования и диагностики, нацеленных и профилактику юношеской преступности.

ANNOTATION

Eliza Penelopa Nicolaescu. Developing the personality of delinquent teenagers. PhD thesis in Psychology. Chisinau, 2022

Thesis structure: The thesis consists of annotations, list of abbreviations, introduction, three chapters, general conclusions and recommendations, bibliography of 256 titles, 6 annexes, 138 pages of basic text, 51 figures and 8 tables. The obtained results are published in 13 scientific publications.

Keywords: juvenile delinquency, antisocial, adolescent, personality, adolescence-specific disorders, recidivism, maladaptive coping, criminal psychopathy, training program.

Field of study: psychology of delinquent adolescents.

The aim of the research was to determine the potential delinquency in adolescents and to develop and implement a psychological intervention program to improve these specific features of the deviant pattern.

The objectives of the research were: 1) analysis, study and explanation of theoretical models for the development of delinquent personality; 2) elaboration of a methodology for diagnosing the specific delinquency in adolescents; 3) comparative study of delinquent adolescents, respectively of their psychological particularities against to non-delinquent adolescents; 4) estimating the degree of criminal psychopathy in delinquent adolescents; 5) determining the personality peculiarities of delinquent adolescents; 6) evaluation of the clinical profile of young people with delinquent pattern; 7) determining maladaptive coping strategies and the level of moral development of adolescent delinquents; 8) elaboration and implementation of a dual psychological intervention program aiming at improving the delinquent potential; 9) make psychological recommendations of a practical nature to reduce the specific particularities of the deviant pattern in adolescents.

The results obtained that contribute to solving the important scientific problem consist of: developing a diagnostic model to determine the particularities that dominate the emotional and personality structure of delinquent adolescents, identifying risk and vulnerability factors and assessing the impact of implementing a dual psychological intervention program to improve the delinquency potential in adolescents.

Scientific novelty and originality. For the first time at national level, a comparative experimental study was conducted on the profile of criminal psychopathy and maladaptive coping strategies in delinquent adolescents compared to non-delinquent adolescents of the same age; a methodology for assessing and diagnosing the specific particularities of delinquent adolescents was established; a dual psychological intervention program was developed and implemented to improve the delinquency potential in adolescents.

The theoretical significance consists in highlighting the particularities of development that appeared in delinquent adolescents and determining the risk and vulnerability factors that contribute to the emergence of juvenile delinquency.

The applicative value of the paper consisted: in developing a model of psychodiagnosis of delinquency in adolescents as well as the setup, implementation, and verification of the effectiveness of a dual psychological intervention program aimed at improving the delinquency potential in adolescents; the obtained results complete the current information available, the paper being the foundation of a methodological guide of good practices.

Implementation of scientific results. The resulting materials are used in the process of continuous and complementary training of psychologists in the field of psychology within the Institute of Applied Psychology in the field of Mental Health and are recommended for the training of students and masters of Hyperion University Bucharest. The training program is applied by specialized psychologists, who work in the penitentiary system, in the centers and offices for evaluation and counseling or psychotherapy for the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

NICOLAESCU ELIZA PENELOPA

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT OF DELINQUENT ADOLESCENTS

Summary of the THESIS of Doctor of Psychology

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