

Resocialization and Rehabilitation of Convicted Persons in the Republic of Kosovo

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Abstract

This research paper explores the critical issue of resocialization and rehabilitation of convicted individuals within the criminal justice system of the Republic of Kosovo. Crime is a phenomenon that threatens society according to external and internal negative factors. It affected the functioning of security, the social environment, and the economy in modern society for years. State institutions and civil and academic society must be engaged to have activities adequate for the resocialization, and re-education of persons convicted of criminal offenses. At the same time, preventive measures should be taken to avoid criminal behavior for which behavior then only unconditional measures should be taken, which is Prison. The paper proposes evidence-based recommendations for policymakers, correctional institutions, and community stakeholders. These recommendations aim to enhance existing strategies and foster a more inclusive and effective resocialization process for convicted persons in Kosovo.

Keywords: Correctional service, Crime, Prevention, Rehabilitation, Resocialization.

Introduction

The conditions of imprisonment and the regime of treatment in prison are aimed at the treatment and resocialization of prisoners in the future, especially those at a young age and perpetrators of criminal offenses due to carelessness, under the influence (Husak, 2009). The objectives of the treatment regime include the main tasks of correctional institutions and the needs of prisoners during the treatment regime. Correctional institutions make every effort to ensure that the treatment of prisoners aims for their rehabilitation. Similarly, it aims to guarantee that living conditions are under human dignity and acceptable standards in the community (Barash, 2016). The process further aims to minimize the harmful effects of imprisonment and the differences between life in prison and life in freedom, which tend to reduce the dignity or personal responsibility of prisoners. Likewise, it also preserves and strengthens those ties with relatives and the

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external community. This process also provides prisoners with the opportunity to develop skills and attitudes that will improve their prospects for successful integration after release.

The correctional institutions in Kosovo ensure that the prisoners are accommodated considering their safety and control, offering them the opportunity for repentance and rehabilitation for the acts they have committed as criminal acts. For each sentenced prisoner, immediately after admission, his personality is studied. An individual treatment program is prepared in a suitable institution. Prisoners are given the opportunity, within the regime, to participate in institutional activities that help them develop a sense of responsibility and foster interest in their treatment (Halili et al, 2017). The correctional institution develops methods to encourage cooperation and participation of prisoners in their regime. The preparation of prisoners for release begins immediately after their admission to the correctional institution. The treatment program also includes the possibility of allowing inmates to use benefits outside the correctional leave of the institution, as well as leave for medical, educational, professional, family, and other social reasons for inmates (Riza, 2016).

Correctional institutions provide various facilities to prisoners. They are given the right to free food and clothing, submissions, unlimited correspondence, legal aid according to their requirements, free health care, visits, custody of their personal property in prison, vocational training, education, information, cultural, recreational, and sports, religious rights, appeals, and prayers, leave for exceptional cases, transfers according to requests in correctional institutions, as well as a significant number of benefits such as; Rest at home-outside the correctional institution, etc.

The current paper is to analyze how successful the processes of resocialization of convicted persons have been. It is necessary to see how the process is going and what has been achieved. and challenges so far. The problem is that we are dealing with convicted persons who have committed criminal offenses and now must return to a normal social life. The main point is the analysis of how ready and prepared the workers and the families of prisoners who are taken. Identification of the problem in terms of resocialization, analysis, and the reason for the research are discussed in this paper. The problem of having access to the measure of resocialization of convicted persons can be approached in several ways. One way is to look at the personality of the convicted person and consider it in life matters, and on the other hand to look at the convicted person in which way introduction into social life among society, how to re-adapt the resocialized person in society.

Research Method

A multimethod technique is used in this paper including clinical method, Analysis and Interview Method, Comparison, Statistics, Study of individual cases, and studies of self-accusation and victimization. All these methods are used to achieve the research objectives and to be able to offer adequate recommendations to institutions that deal with the re-socialization and re-education of convicted persons. Target groups include 25 respondents from the category of prisoners, 12 respondents from professionals - doctors and workers of correctional institutions, and 25 respondents from the relatives of prisoners. The questions will serve as a basis for avoiding and overcoming those barriers that are identified in the sense that **a)** Convicted persons have appropriate treatment,. **(b)** Or convicted persons do not receive proper treatment. **c)** What are the adequate institutions for resocialization and re-education of convicted persons?

The Importance of the Education of Prisoners as a Phase of Rehabilitation

Education is an activity of the treatment regime of prisoners sentenced to correctional institutions. Convicted prisoners have the right to primary and secondary education by the general provisions of education in the Republic of Kosovo. In correctional institutions, a comprehensive education program is organized to provide opportunities for all prisoners to meet at least some of their individual needs and aspirations to improve their prospects for successful social reintegration (R. Halili, 2018)

The correctional institution pays special attention to the education of young prisoners, those of foreign origin or with special cultural or ethnic needs. Special courses are organized by the correctional institution for illiterate persons. Depending on the regime of treatment of prisoners of different categories, as far as possible, the education of prisoners should also be developed in educational institutions outside the correctional institution (M. Ademi, V. Vula, 2020)

In each correctional institution, there is a library for use by all categories of prisoners, equipped with a variety of books and as much as possible organized according to community library services in the Republic of Kosovo, (Marković, T).

A. The importance of Physical education, Cultural and Sports Activities

The correctional institution in Treatment Regimes takes care of the importance of the organization of physical education activities for the physical and mental health of prisoners. The correctional institution, within the objectives of the treatment regime for prisoners of different categories, organizes appropriate cultural, recreational, and sports activities aimed at the all-round development of

the prisoners' personalities, (Maslesa, R). The correctional institution provides premises, installations, and equipment for this purpose. According to the doctor's instructions, special arrangements were made for the implementation of curative therapy for those prisoners who need it. The active participation of convicted prisoners in the organization of cultural, recreational, and sports activities is encouraged without disrupting order and security (Ademi, 2019)

B. Visits, Rest, preparation before release, and communication as a factor of rehabilitation with the prisoner

The prison management and the prison director determine the schedule of visits for his/her prison. Visiting hours are usually limited only by prison routines, staffing resources, space availability, and/or emergencies. As far as possible, all visits are open and conducted in an open and relaxing environment. A closed visit between the prisoner and the visitor is authorized by the Director of the Prison. Visits cannot last less than 30 minutes only if there are special circumstances. Convicted person: can be visited once a month by the defense lawyer. The director of the prison must allow additional visits for urgent tasks and certain deadlines according to the Code (NO. 08/L-132, Kosovo, article 32).

Leave outside prison may be granted in the form of day leave or overnight stays for a maximum of fourteen (14) days per year for senior citizens. a. Seven (7) days per year may be granted as a privilege; b. Seven (7) days per year may be granted in exceptional circumstances. Minors are allowed 30 (thirty) days off per year, which can be taken outside the premises of the Educational-Correctional Institution, Code (No. 08/L-132, Kosovo, Article 52). A prisoner may be granted compassionate leave in case of serious illness, imminent danger of death, or the death of a family member such as a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent or grandchild. Consensus vacation should not be more than seven (7) days per year, Code, (No. 08/L-132, Kosovo, Article 4).

C. The unit for the assessment and rehabilitation of prisoners in Kosovo

The rehabilitation unit in the Republic of Kosovo has achieved several distinguished successes through projects with international factors through several pilot projects in the field of resocialization of convicted persons, especially those with young flesh from 18 to 35 years old.

This unit has so far succeeded in rehabilitating at least 381 prisoners as case studies and using modern methods so that they are ready to return to society. Of the cases in question, out of 381 convicts, 163 are cases where they presented themselves voluntarily to be kept in prison, that is, without police intervention, 207 cases were arrested by the police, 11 cases from detention passed as convicts,

and in total. 310 punishments are planned. From this unit of NJVKB, based on rehabilitation assessment data, there were 35 sentenced from 0-6 months, sentenced from 6 to 1 year, a total of 148 prisoners, from 1 to 3 years of imprisonment 178 cases and over 3 years convicted in 20 cases.

Analysis of Empirical Data for the Rehabilitation of Convicted Persons by Family Members and Institutions

The problem is that we are dealing with convicted persons who have committed criminal offenses and now must return to a normal life in a normal social life. The main point is the analysis of how ready and prepared families and workers are who deal with educational issues with convicted persons and their treatment during and after serving the sentence. Identification of the problem in terms of resocialization, analysis, and reason for research in this matter, (ISRD and SVV, Faculty of Law AAB).

For this purpose, all appropriate re-educational, educational, moral, and financial resources will be made available, which will be implemented by the needs of the individual treatment of prisoners through regimes that include:

- Moral support, guidance and opportunities for relevant work, guidance for vocational qualification, education, physical education, development of social skills, as well as joint recreational activities.
- Measures to ensure that these activities are organized as much as possible, to increase contacts with the external community and opportunities within it, to expand the prospects for social reintegration after release.
- Fulfillment of these objectives requires the individualization of treatment, the distribution and placement of prisoners in correctional institutions in separate units, where each of them can receive appropriate treatment.
- The type, size, organization, and availability of these institutions are determined primarily by the nature of the treatment to be provided.

Questions related to the socio-economic aspect as an external factor in criminology, are there family members who can help prisoners as their family members, the answer is:

Respondents as participants of our socio-economic research regarding whether they are employed answered Yes, about 60% of them do not have economic problems and over 80% are educated that criminal responsibility is fulfilled in their action or inaction.

Of the respondents have someone in prison, 63% of them, we have reached the sample that we offer responsibility for the hypothesis presented above and the people serving the sentence are different, from 1 year in prison to 9 years.

and more imprisonment. According to the data, convicts dominate those with 1 year with 53%, 3 to 5 years with 25%.

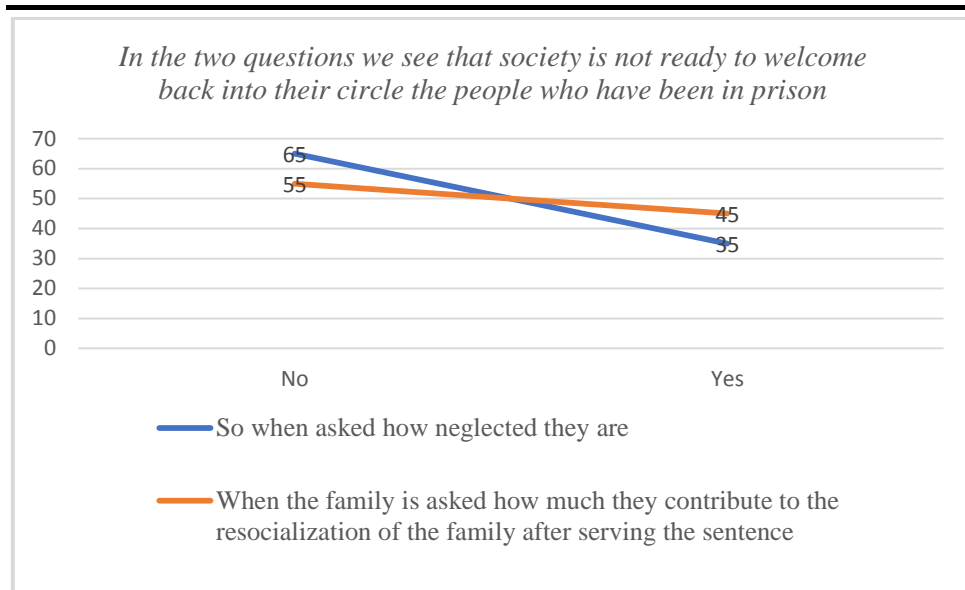
In these data, we see that the surveyed family members as much as they can help the prisoners in their rehabilitation and resocialization while serving their sentence, their opinion is that they help to raise their personality around 65% and when asked how much they help in designing any activity on our own, then here the percentage is 25% and the reasoning is that the rules and laws do not allow us where according to the legislation and regulations rehabilitation is possible.

To the question of how good and satisfactory are the relations between the families of prisoners and educational institutions, about 45% answer that they are very satisfactory and if we compare with the above-mentioned data, it is an indication that the rehabilitation and resocialization of convicted persons if the family, the condemned institution cooperates.

From the answers we see that the real help for the resocialization of the prisoner comes from the family and the educators in the correctional institutions, so in the question of who offers you help to help the relative in prison, 45% of the family and 25% of the educators and in the second question the importance of the family 65% very important!

In the two questions, are you satisfied with the way you spend your free time in prison with 75% were not satisfied and we see the same answer again, the functioning of work with convicts 65% needs to be improved.

In the two questions we see that society is not ready to welcome back into their circle the people who have been in prison, so when asked how much they are neglected, 65% answer a lot and when the family is asked how much they contribute to the resocialization of their family after serving their sentence, 55% are willing to help.



The respondents as the main case study have and are serving the punishment for joking criminal offenses that directly endanger individuals and families, so we see that 34% damage to movable property and 20% Theft, 15% Contraband.

The people who have committed criminal offenses from the study show that the middle ages are 18-21 years old are 35%, 21-40 years old are 25% and over 40 years old are 30%, we see that the perpetrators of high-level criminal offenses were mainly committed in cities with 65% and the male gender dominates with 95%.

In presenting the data, we see that the living conditions of people who have committed a criminal offense and have served the sentence are difficult and 65% of them have no real life.

Proposals and recommendations

The handling and presentation of this research has good theoretical and practical bases, but we must also have some preliminary questions:

1. In the framework of the treatments, the meaning of the notion of resocialization, the means and methods by which it is achieved should be briefly analyzed each time; the meaning and notion of rehabilitation and the difference between it and the meaning of resocialization in prisons and to specific persons
2. The meaning of assistance and post-criminal integration of convicted persons after leaving the correctional institution, especially from the socio-economic institutions, must also be considered.

Conclusion

The meaning and importance of treatment is not to treat prisoners in a non-human way, but with resocialization, preservation of health, preservation of physical and mental abilities, education, schooling, as well as post-conviction care. Treatment means the regulation of the legal infrastructure within the state for a good treatment because by treatment we mean the improvement, re-education and re-socialization of prisoners and considering that the purpose of punishment is not to return evil for evil. The treatment itself informs that the behavior and conditions offered by the prison as an institution directly affect the prisoners. The main purpose of punishment is an impact on the resocialization and re-education of the prisoners. Prisoners while serving their sentence also have some rights and obligations, as rights they have all those guaranteed by the law and international conventions as fundamental rights, the rights to life, education, food, clothing and some other standards. which can be defined as their rights such as: living and sleeping space, the right to food with calories and food that suits their organism. Obligations are those provided by the prison regulations, like any order that is provided by the prison managers, and within the framework of these obligations and their compliance, certain privileges are achieved, where these also affect the systematization in the cells if the crime has been committed. not too high, they have not caused him to be placed in a room with another prisoner who differs from his sentence or his sentence is too high, because this directly affects not resocialization and reeducation, but on the contrary, he is professionalized in other more serious crimes and here prison management should be careful. The principles of treatment of prisoners in Kosovo prisons, criminal sanctions are applied in a way that guarantees humane treatment and respect for the dignity of each individual. The convicted person is not subjected to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Criminal sanctions are executed in a completely impartial manner. There should be no discrimination on any basis, whether of national or social origin, race, color, gender, language, economic and social status, political belief or other opinion and religious belief, belonging to an ethnic-religious or linguistic community in the Republic. of Kosovo. During the execution of the criminal sanction, the rights of the convicted person are always respected. These rights may be restricted only to the extent necessary for the execution of the criminal sanction in accordance with applicable law and international human rights standards.

The application of the criminal sanction should encourage as much as possible the participation of the convicted person in his social reintegration.

In the prisons of Kosovo, in addition to the standards for admission and advancement, after the selection of the cadres, it has also been invested in their

education and preparation through various trainings organized by the management of the prisons. Both for the training of prisoners for the law and for the elimination of negative phenomena, as well as for the training of repentance, for the law as well as their preparation for society, so that when they are released are prepared to integrate into society and the country where they live.

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