

Review of the book *Juvenile Delinquency* by Žana Vrućinić

UDK 343.915:343.91-053.6(048.83)

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The textbook *Juvenile Delinquency* by Dr. Zana Vrućinić was published in December 2021 by the Faculty of Security Studies the University of Banja Luka. It is 448 pages long and contains fifteen chapters, that is, seven chapters containing a list of references and an index of the most important terms placed at the end of the book. According to the author, the primary purpose of this college textbook is to serve as the basic material for the subject Juvenile delinquency for students of security and criminal science. The choice of topics is subordinated to that purpose. In doing so, special attention was paid to the gradual adoption of concepts and the construction of knowledge, so that readers without prior knowledge of the topics covered can follow the content of the textbook without any difficulty.

The structure of the textbook *Juvenile delinquency* follows a very concise way of the presentation, but at a highly scientific-professional level, of the most important issues within this scientific field. The parts of the textbook are logically connected as a whole; they are written in a uniform style and are methodologically harmonized. This textbook, which is written consulting relevant and contemporary domestic and international scholarly literature, abounds in numerous footnotes and quotations, which shows the author's knowledge of the relevant literature on juvenile delinquency.

Considering the issue of juvenile delinquency from an interdisciplinary perspective, through fifteen parts summarized in seven chapters, the material is presented in a convincing and comprehensive way, which will enable students to understand the complexity of juvenile delinquency. This structure of the book includes the potential development of child's problematic behavior during childhood and early adolescence caused by possible risk factors that act in the constellation, refracting through the prism of the young person's personality. In this regard, the material presented can be considered in several basic units.

It can be seen in the preface that the textbook was written with the intention of providing students with integrated knowledge related to the issue of juvenile delinquency. The first chapter consists of the section entitled Elementary concepts of childhood and adolescence psychology, which describes the specifics and challenges of certain life stages from the prenatal period to late adolescence. The second chapter addresses the subject, aim and method

of juvenile delinquency, including its criminological aspect. In this part, based on the synthesis of different research results, significant predictors and indicators of pre-delinquent behavior are singled out. The third chapter covers the etiology of juvenile delinquency through theoretical foundations, exogenous and endogenous factors, as well as various sociopathological phenomena. The fourth chapter discusses the phenomenology of juvenile delinquency in the world, where the author gives an overview of trends in juvenile delinquency from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, including the early 2000s. Current types and forms of juvenile delinquency (various types of cybercrime) are not left out in this chapter. Then, the author gives a detailed overview of the phenomenology of juvenile delinquency in Republika Srpska. At the end of this chapter, the concept and basic features of recidivism of juvenile delinquents are described.

The fifth chapter deals with a social response to juvenile delinquency. It consists of three parts. The criminal law aspect is dealt with in the section the proceedings against juveniles in conflict with the law, while, from the psychological aspect, the author viewed this segment through the examination/communication of juveniles suspected of committing a crime by a police officer. The third part of this chapter deals with international instruments in dealing with juveniles in conflict with the law, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Beijing Rules, the JDL Rules or (the Havana Rules) and the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the Tokyo Rules and the Vienna Guidelines. Given that children can be victims of various forms of abuse, rather than just the perpetrators of criminal offenses, the author, in the sixth chapter, presents the victimological aspect and approach to vulnerable children and juveniles.

The seventh chapter is divided into three parts and deals with the prevention of juvenile delinquency. The first part provides an overview of different approaches to the prevention of juvenile delinquency in the world (the United States, England and Wales, Russia, Finland and Italy) in relation to different ages, from early childhood to employment training. The second part presents the preventive role of various factors (family, school, police, media), while the third part of the seventh chapter presents the preventive role of centers for social work and other social welfare institutions, NGOs). The author ended the book with the discussion of the resocialization of young criminals.

The book is based on the analysis of theoretical works, research and practice in this context, both in our region and in the world. It covers the basic, most important issues related to juvenile delinquency, which is a special scientific discipline. Originality is reflected in the style of the author presenting the material, a large number of research results, and systematicity. With the publication, the manuscript became available primarily to students as a textbook, including scholars, professional experts, and a wider readership.

Given the importance of the presented theoretical knowledge in the field of juvenile delinquency and the results of various studies that can be used to diagnose, monitor and forecast, control and prevent various behavioral disor-

ders in children and youth, the book *Juvenile delinquency* is comprehensive and represents a text intended for students of security and criminal science at the University of Banja Luka, but also for other readers whose profession is directly or indirectly related to this issue.