

## Typology of extremists. Prediction and prevention of criminal behavior

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**Abstract.** The article studies the typology of extremists within psychological and sociological aspects. The prediction and prevention of criminal extremist behavior is urgent in modern circumstances of increasing of extremist and terrorist crimes. The author defines three types of extremists, describes their psychological grounds for their activity, orientations, values, goals. The article presents models of extremist's personality, psychological types of leaders and persons of extremist behavior, depending on the reasons that prompted them to start their extremist activities. The author finds out causes that motivate different types of extremists to start the illegal activities.

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### Introduction

The criminal personality is understood as “a set of social and socially important, spiritual, moral and volitional, mental and physical, intellectual properties, qualities of man who committed the crime because of the interaction of his views, orientations with criminogenic environmental factors, including specific criminal situation.”[1]

The identity of the criminal is regarded as a complex entity, the content of which is a collection of moral and psychological defects, deformed justice, negative vital aims, emotional and mental properties and features, warped system of values and orientation, which give rise to anti-social orientation of the individual.[2] Marked factors usually have acquired (social) origin.

The typology represents one of the methods of the scientific cognition, which is based on the dismemberment of objects' systems and their grouping by a generalized, idealized model or type. The typology captures the most important thing, which makes a person be criminal, reveals persistent internal connection between social characteristics and thus helps to identify patterns inherent in the criminal type. [3]

Some scientists single out three models of extremist's personality:

1. A personality guided by specific antisocial beliefs (religious, ideological or others) and sincerely convinced of the necessity of their actions for society.

2. An aggressive person. A frustration caused by the inability to meet some vital goals, produces a tendency to commit aggressive acts (Dollar – Miller theory).

3. A personality with psycho- or sociopathic development (often connected with abnormally formed relations in a particular social group).

R.M. Uzdenov suggests the following conditional typology of extremists' personality, depending on the reasons that prompted them to start their extremist activities:

- “the first type is an ideological-independent one. It is a personality, which consciously and purposefully entered the path of extremism, independently comprehending and analyzing the status quo and willing to change it for the sake of ideas, “higher purpose”,

- the second type is a depending on something/somebody, i.e. “extremist for the company”. It is a personality, whose social position is formed mainly by active external influence of leisure microenvironment, media and other similar stimulating substances.” [4]

The author believes that the element that unites representatives of both of these types is the extremist goal in the system of views of the concerned individual. However, he notes that extremist representatives of any type who are combined by the purpose may have different motivations that prompted them to start the illegal activities. In this regard, the structure of both types distinguishes the following types:

1. extremist-rowdy, who has aims of extremist nature with rowdy motives or has aims of rowdy nature with extremist motives;

2. selfish extremist, who has aims of extremist nature with selfish motives or has aims of selfish nature with extremist motivations;

3. simple extremist, a person whose purposes and motives have extremist nature[5].

Sociologists point out that the representatives of the two diametrically opposed groups of society are carriers of ideas of intolerance, political extremism and terrorism.

On one hand, these are lower classes, usually coming from the decaying agrarian society or from the new citizens, not adopted to the new life conditions ("raw material", "cannon fodder" of extremist and terrorist groups), on the other hand, these are representatives of the educated and wealthy classes, but also characterized by a certain social, cultural or purely psychological marginality. They are ideologists and organizers of extremist and terrorist groups and movements.

The extremist ideologues proclaim themselves as leaders protecting some higher ideals or interests and obliging to bring them to life. For the formulation and application of these ideals in society every extremist group has "intellectual theorists", i.e. the primary ideological center, the fighting formations are organized around.

V.A. Tishkov emphasizes the elitist ideology of violence: "Those who produce subjective requirements to violence or those, who create moral doctrinal arguments, usually don't fight by themselves. The violence performers' recruitment comes from another medium. This medium is likely to be rural young men or urban outcasts..... These recruited groups act as assemblers of elite incitements to violence".[6]

Summarizing the existing typologies of extremists, we can distinguish two most common psychological types:

*The first psychological type* is a "teacher", a leader. Power, a sense of priority over other people, faith, self-serving orientation play a leading role in values of the "teacher". As a rule, "teachers" possess leadership qualities, self-confidence, self-esteem, desire for self-assertion, bigotry, arrogance. They are restrained in emotions, assertive and active. They are self-motivated, prone to experimentation, the creation of complex life situations.

They care of only the general, fundamental idea. They are not interested in certain people, things, details. They are able to think big, have the ability to think abstractly, that excessively increases their danger to the society. They are characterized by tension, anxiety, irritability. Possession of a high energy efforts means that the person does not tolerate a guidance of others, leadership of others. One can mark egocentrism, need of admiration, reverence.

*The second psychological type* is a "soldier", who carries out orders of "teachers", leaders. They are characterized by a tendency to feel sense of guilty, which means, first of all, anxiety, depression, concern, a tendency to apprehension and reflection,

self-doubt, low self-esteem, which manifests itself in a passive role in conflicts, where they look for support and assistance, the need for recognition, constant need of attention to themselves. The weakest link is response to the attitude of others towards this person. Leading motive is the desire to follow the traditions of the group, to establish himself in the estimation of the group and its leaders, get their approval, to show the determination, which is manifested in the demonstrative behavior, mobility, propensity to fancy, mendacity and dissimulation, adventurism, artistry aimed at embellishment of his person.

The distinguished types of persons, who committed crimes of an extremist nature occur not in pure form but also in a certain combination, because individual socio-psychological characteristics of criminals cannot be limited by one of these types.

Thus, completing the description of a general characterization of the identity of extremist's personality, we can come to the following conclusion: the extremist's identity occupies a leading position in the genesis of extremism. Complex combination of ideological and rhetorical structures and individual psycho-physiological qualities, which constitutes the motivational sphere of extremist's personality, distinguishes him from other categories of criminals in many socio-demographic, criminal-legal and penal characteristics of criminology. [7-11]

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