The Influencing Factors of Psychological Causes of Violent Crime

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Abstract. Violent crimes not only can cause significant economic losses, but also affect people's mental health. This passage discusses the various psychology factors that form violent crimes in combination with literature. The group of violent criminals usually has cognitive defects, which are manifested in poor judgment, serious distortion of values and morals, and are easily influenced by wrong ideas. In addition, this type of criminals are also generally emotionally unstable, vulnerable to emotional frustration, and often dominated by strong negative emotions such as anger and resentment. Thirdly, in terms of personal quality, the violent criminal group also has defects, that is, the criminals have poor self-regulation and control ability, and are prone to lose control or over-suppress emotions. Finally, from the analysis of personality and personality psychological factors, it is pointed out that violent criminals usually have obvious negative personality traits, such as impulsiveness, lack of responsibility and sympathy, and excessive expansion of self-awareness. These personality defects may be the root cause of their violent means. In general, these different psychological factors interact with each other and jointly influence and form the psychological mechanism of violent crime. This article can provide some support for understanding the causes and prevention of violent crimes.

Keywords: Violent crime; psychological causes; cognitive disorder; personality.

1. Introduction

Violent crime refers to the direct attack on others by criminals in order to achieve emotional or personal illegal interests. Violent crime is a major problem society is facing today [1]. Different regions and different times of the world experiences violent crime problems. For example, Latin America has had a serious violent crime problem in recent decades: in 1993, 465,000 people died from violence in Latin America and the Caribbean alone. The problem of violence is particularly serious among young people, with the 10-19 age group accounting for 20.3% of the total population in the region, and the 15-24 age group accounting for 31.6%. The problem of juvenile gang crime is also increasing, causing serious harm to society. Premature deaths caused by violent behavior have caused huge economic and social losses, about $10 billion per year [2]. This type of crime is caused by the perpetrator using physical means to cause casualties and property damage to others. This destroys the order and sense of security of society. Data from Latin America show that juvenile violent crime has become an urgent and important task. Understanding the complex background factors that lead to violent crime is meaningful for preventing and controlling such criminal behavior [6]. This article will summarize and summarize relevant research from four aspects: cognition, emotional will quality, and personal psychology, and sort out the factors of violent crime.

Ronald C. Kramer pointed out: At present, relevant research on the topic of violent crime is not sufficient, and only a few papers involve violent crime and its victims [3].

2. Psychological Factors of Violent Crime

2.1. Cognitive defective factor

Cognitive defects are one of the factors that causes criminals to develop violent criminal psychology. Criminals have low abilities in analysis, judgement and self-control. In normal work and life, when two individuals are in interpersonal conflict, most people will find appropriate ways to

solve problems through reasonable, legal, legitimate and rational means, rather than through simple violence. Most criminals are usually violent and more likely to engage in unnecessary behavior than normal people. Another problem that criminals reveal when they have low cognition is that their moral and value concepts are distorted, which is no different from that of normal people. In violent crimes, the perpertrators often have "Primitive homomorphic revenge", desperate style "heroism" and "Feudal gang Ideology", and other twisted, low level, and wrong values deep in their hearts [4]. The way of understanding is extreme, often one-sided thinking, narrow, understanding the problem like to drill "horn", cannot guest View of the analysis of the problem, often to generalize. In this way, it is easy to exaggerate the dark side of the society and intensify the interpersonal conflicts, Behavior is easy to go to extremes, producing the psychology of revenge crime, causing revenge type of violent crimes.Because criminals have low cognitive levels exposed and are influenced by wrong ideas, forming wrong moral value concepts.

2.2. Negative influence of emotional factor

Criminals will explode, expand, and release negative emotions, and keep themselves in an intense and excited state for a long time. Their aggressive behavior will be transferred to the people and things around them. In general, criminals are usually more susceptible to emotional frustration than normal people, their hearts are more "delicate", and they are more likely to breed negative emotions such as anger and are prone to emotional loss. They are mainly affected by complex negative emotions such as anger, resentment, jealousy, and fear. As far as anger is concerned, there are many levels of distinction, which can be divided into different emotional states such as slight dissatisfaction, anger, irritation, rage, rage, and rage. Criminals are usually dominated by this strong emotion and vent their anger on the person who caused the frustration or a third party, resulting in direct aggressive behavior [5].

Resentment is similar to anger, and most of them are accumulated emotions due to being in the same psychological state for a long time. Resentment is mostly caused by introverts. This group of people are more likely to be introverted and not good at expressing themselves. They will engage in aggressive behavior after being stimulated to a certain extent by a certain event. Unlike anger, some criminals in resentment may even show the pleasure and satisfaction of revenge after committing a crime [6].

The emotional state of jealousy will turn into anger to a certain extent. The emotion of jealousy is often a negative emotion caused by the criminals who feel that others are happy and have a good life, which hurts their self-esteem. People who have this negative emotion are mostly cold, selfish, self-centered, vain, and think about themselves all their lives. They are not humble. While prying into the lives of others, they hide their lack of self-confidence and strong inferiority in their hearts.

The last common emotional state is fear, which, as the name suggests, is the emotion caused by the criminals who try to escape from a certain scene or their current state but find themselves powerless. When the criminals in a certain situation, in order to get out of the current situation, they will use violence against those who hinder them from escaping from their life predicament without thinking.

2.3. Defects in the quality of the will

Violent criminals generally have weak willpower and poor self-regulation and control abilities. Research by psychologists and psychiatrists has found that one of the main causes of violent crime is the lack of self-control over internal impulses [7]. When these people are frustrated or attacked, they often cannot effectively control their negative emotions and have two extreme reactions: one is that they lose control of their emotions and allow their anger to develop and commit violent acts; the other is that they over-suppress their emotions [6]. However, when they encounter new stimuli, these long-suppressed emotions will suddenly erupt, leading to more serious aggressive behavior. It can be seen that both insufficient and excessive inhibition are the main manifestations of this self-control disorder. In addition, violent criminals also show the characteristics of being susceptible to suggestion,

obedience, and blind imitation. People living in a bad environment are prone to unconsciously accepting violent suggestions or participating in aggressive behavior in order to obey others. Sometimes they simply imitate the violent behavior of people around them. All of these reflect their lack of autonomy and the ability to think independently. For the special group of college students, due to limited social experience, lack of sense of responsibility, and insufficient will training, their self-control ability is generally poor.

2.4. Personality psychological factors

Violent criminals typically have obvious negative personality traits. According to research, young violent criminals have poor self-control, including impulsiveness, irritability, a bad temper, and poor emotional management. Another survey also found that violent criminals are significantly different from non-violent criminals in terms of sociability, sophistication, and suspicion. They often commit crimes in the form of gangs and are relatively sophisticated and cunning [8].

Violent criminals are relatively unstable in character and emotions. They lack a sense of responsibility, obligation, and sympathy for society, the collective, the family, and others. They have a weak sense of the rule of law, are easily impulsive, have large emotional fluctuations, poor self-control, and ignore the consequences. At the same time, they have an inflated sense of self-awareness and a strong sense of face. If reality cannot satisfy their desires, they will use violence to maintain their vanity and deformed self-esteem [9].

In addition, some violent criminals with sadistic tendencies take pleasure in bringing pain and misfortune to others. Even if the victim begs, they remain indifferent and feel a distorted pleasure. Personality disorders are closely related to criminal behavior. Criminals with personality disorders often have unstable personalities, cold emotions, lack of purpose and planning in their behavior, are highly self-centered, and are prone to extremes. These personality defects can easily lead them to resort to violence when they encounter setbacks. For example, in the case of a student who murdered the vice president of Jiangsu University of Science and Technology, 19-year-old Lü Cunxiao, frustrated by his failure in the postgraduate entrance examination, developed a revenge mentality against others and eventually committed this brutal murder. The appraisal results showed that Lü Cunxiao suffered from paranoid personality disorder. Although he had full criminal responsibility, his personality defects still led to the occurrence of this crime [10].

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, violent crime is a social problem that seriously endangers social order and public safety.The root that causes violent crime mainly stems from the criminals' own problems in cognition, emotion, will quality and personality traits, which lead to their lack of correct values and behavioral self-control ability. Specifically, criminals may have cognitive impairment, emotional impulse, insufficient willpower and congenital personality disorder in psychological factors.

To fundamentally curb the occurrence of violent crimes, it is necessary to adopt a multi-pronged prevention and correction strategy. On one hand, we should help people with criminal tendencies to establish correct legal awareness and values, cultivate self-control ability, and avoid impulsive crimes through ways such as psychological counseling or behavioral training. One the other hand, we should strengthen the education and supervision of such people and guide them to develop good self-restraint habits. At the same time, we should improve relevant laws and regulations, strengthen law enforcement, and create a safer and more orderly social environment for the public. It is very important to study the psychological factors of violent crime, which can help us gain a deeper understanding of the motivations and thinking processes that lead to these behaviors, identify key risk factors and early warnings.

These studies can also provide a basis for prevention and intervention measures. At the same time, this can also advance our overall understanding of human behavior, decision-making, and social environmental factors.

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