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The research is devoted to the problem of alcohol abuse as a reason for juvenile delinquency, its reasons, consequences and prevention measures. It shows the connection between alcohol and juvenile delinquency and proposes the qualification of addicted to alcohol.

For the last 20 years, the level of juvenile delinquency has dramatically increased and the trend is continually growing. For instance, in 2012 Russian teenagers committed 4% of all female and 5% of all male crimes. The main tendency here is a “rejuvenation” of criminality, which means that 14-15-year old children are getting more and more criminalized. The earlier a person chooses a criminal path, the harder it gets to change it.

The problem of juvenile alcoholism is really actual nowadays as there is a constant trend to the increasing role of crimes, committed by teenagers under the influence of alcohol. The objective of the article is to reveal the connection between alcohol and juvenile delinquency and define possible prevention methods.

Juvenile delinquency can be caused by different reasons, but one of the most frequent is alcohol abuse. Statistical data proves this statement.

During the year 2013 almost every fourth crime in Russia was committed by drunk people, every twentieth- by teenagers or with their complicity.

Among all crimes, committed by children under the influence of alcohol, 60% are thefts, 20%-murders, physical trespass and about 20%- illegal drug trafficking.

What reasons typically cause alcohol abuse?

- Self-affirmation in teen company;
- Pressure from peers (including violence);
- Family predisposition to alcoholism. Boys, born in alcoholic dependent families, become alcoholics 4 times oftener, than those from temperate families.
- Parents' familiarizing children to alcohol in 60% of cases, usually at the age under 10. The ways they do it are:
 - Some parents try to cure children with a little dose of alcohol or give it for appetite.
 - Family parties, birthdays, holidays, where parents give a child a glass of wine “just to taste”.

- Making a child calm or sleep using alcohol in problem families. In this way, children face alcohol even from babyhood.

- Availability of alcohol (including beer and alcohol cocktails) is also included in the list of reasons though it is prohibited by law.
- Media factor. Having analyzed 601 films, Professor of pediatrics James Sargent comes to the conclusion that 92% of them contain «alcohol scenes». Children who prefer more “alcoholized” films turned out to start drinking alcohol earlier and more often.

One can hardly doubt that there is a vivid connection between alcohol and juvenile delinquency.

- 25-35% of the crimes are committed by teenagers in the condition of alcoholic intoxication.
- More than 35% of all juvenile crimes are committed by sober minors but with the aim to get money for alcohol.
- Systematic tries of alcohol use popular among teenagers cause extremely fast development of alcoholism and deep degradation of an individual. Degraded people find people with similar interests and form asocial gangs having a constant need to show their power over the others.

Addicted to alcohol can be divided into the following groups:

- Juveniles who started drinking because of curiosity;
- Juveniles who take alcohol for self-affirmation;
- Flaunting minors;
- Juveniles who take alcohol for fun/bliss.

The development of alcoholism starts from inoffensive satisfaction of curiosity. Some teenagers stop drinking after that and do not feel interest to alcohol again. But for the other part of minors, drinking assumes a special personal character and becomes a means of self-affirmation.

For juveniles who find bliss in alcohol it becomes an essential attribute of spare time and it can end up with alcohol disease.

The most criminally-dangerous group is flaunting minors. The essence of their motivation is "to overdrink the others". It contributes to the development of physical and psychological alcohol dependence. These minors are ready to commit any offence to get money for alcohol.

As it has already been said, the criminality is constantly rejuvenating. A good example of this is a case which took place in 2006 when a 16-year old teenager from Altai Republic, being under the influence of alcoholic intoxication, killed the main editor of the magazine "Right for a choice" Alexander Petrov his wife and two children. This dreadful murder was committed just to get his family's car.

Another example is when a Russian teenager, again under the influence of alcohol, committed an armed robbery in the shop where all he could take was only 2500 rubles.

One more case desirable to be emphasized took place in the Chelyabinsk territory. The gang of 11-13 year old children used to come to lonely elderly people and ask for a glass of water. Then they stole money from cupboards (even the last 200 roubles) and disappeared. They used to spend money for alcohol and cigarettes.

An important point is that those children knew they would stay unpunished. So there is a law disagreement here. Children are adult enough to commit a crime but not adult enough to take responsibility for it. A lot of experts say that the age of criminal responsibility should be lowered.

The author of the present research fully shares this point and believes that it can and must be regarded as one of the critical prevention measures to decrease the number of crimes committed by the under aged.

A well-organized, competent and clever anti-alcohol policy can undoubtedly reduce the amount of juvenile crimes. The government of the Russian Federation is trying to make attempts in this direction. In 2013 some amendments were adopted to the Federal Law "On advertisement". According to them, all alcohol content in the Internet, newspapers, television and advertisement is prohibited.

Despite these measures, the problem of juvenile alcoholism is still actual. So the prevention policy should be complex and involve all social groups and institutes.

- Alcohol should not be available for children and teenagers. Legislative branch should fix it in law and executive branch must control it.

- States should found available for everyone authoritative organizations, able to consolidate children and cultivate true values. An example of such an organization can be the Pioneer organization in the former USSR. Its destruction was a gross error of the state power.

-We are absolutely sure that parents should control their children. But what is even more important, they should control their own behavior, show by personal example that soberness but not alcoholism is a norm of life.

-The level of families and social well-being should be raised. It includes new workplaces, social programs, economic development.

- Media should form a negative, not an indifferent or attractive reaction to alcohol, should show the tragic consequences of alcohol addiction.

All things considered, the problem of juvenile alcoholism is still global for most countries. Its solution is important not only for order. It plays a key role for our state, our children's future, and our genofond.

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