

THE SOCIOLOGIC APPROACH OF FEMININE CRIMINALITY

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Abstract:

The present study is part of a much more cognitive approach, which tries to study resocialization and the social reinsertion of women who are under freedom privation penalty. The present material contains a short historical evolution of the sociologic theories of crime, then plunging towards feminist theories, in order to approach the gender problematic concerning the delinquent woman.. The first objective is to demonstrate the necessity of a wider approach in analyzing the genesis of the crime, through the re-evaluation and reconsidering the factors with a crime risk and placing them in an equal position in the social environment. Another objective of this study is to emphasize the importance of the gender role concerning the expectations of the society from the feminine population's side. The present study is focused on the contribution of placing the research of feminine crime research on a basis characterized by unprecedented generality, under total influencing conditions, with orientation towards gender problematic.

Keywords: *Crime sociological dimension, Crime risk factors, Social control, Feminist theories, Gender problematic*

Introduction:

The domain the present study refers to gets the social dimension of the crime phenomena, materialized in the evolutionary conceptions which outlined the specific paradigm.

The feminine crime, a quite complex crime segment, needs a separate theory mentioned in this study, by passing from the evolutionary analysis of the theoretical and crime approaches to the feminist theories.

By fitting the feminine crime segment into specific theoretical formulas, we can understand the unique importance for the study of the feminine crime genesis.

The delinquent woman commits one and the same crime in a two way direction: one time by breaking the penal norms, as any delinquent and second time, by transgressing the gender normative, penal deviance being accompanied by the gender deviance; the delinquent woman acts generally against the normative and desirable values of the society, and particularly, against feminism.

Thus, the conflict, determined by biological, cultural, economical, social factors, etc. and together with these ones, they will be studied through the light of gender dimension, because in spite of the fact we militate for chance equality, the two sexes remain tributary to their biological nature.

A futuristic approach in the study of crime genesis is focused on giving up the method of concentric circle and distributing the attention towards each social segment where there are crimes either in dormant or active and their research under all aspects.

The already existent contributions in the specialty works lead to the necessity of a unified conflict approach of crime.

Such a theorization already exists and it is concentrated on reconsideration and including the biological factors in the conception resulted from the integration of representative theories.

The present material wants to be of contribution to a foundation of a theoretical-paradigmatic base, which allows for complete analysis ways of feminine crime genesis.

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In the future, the study of feminine crime genesis will be focused on analyzing gender problems, without neglecting the social structure role of races, collective consciousnesses or of cultural values.

Consequently an exhaustive approach of the discussed phenomenon will be possible only on the base of re-evaluation of all categories of determinant factors, of their social-historical evolution and reporting them to an evolution ecological paradigm, out of which specific research methods can be configured.

Content:

1. The vision of the collective conscience

Starting from Durkheim's work, the consensual approach appeals to a certain "universality" as regards both the behavioural deviation and social control and a vision of the collective conscience regarding the criminal act.

This type of approach is characterized by a static character of the society, where universally valid laws aim at avoiding conflicts through reconcilable methods, the final purpose being to obtain social order through consensus and reduced sacrifices.

The method of the concentric circle

Burgess and Park underlined the study of the social disorganization in point of ecology, elaborating and making use, on this occasion, of the theory-method of the concentric circle at the level of Chicago city.

Thus were analyzed the characteristics of geographical areas in point of cause of balance and lack of balance between biotic and social.

The two researchers say that the environment is the result of balance between a certain geographical area and the economical possibilities of its inhabitants. They explain the transgression of the law as a result of the characteristics of the transition area, inhabited by unskilled workers, who are poor, so the cause of the transgression of the law can be found in poverty.

Clifford Shaw and Henry McKay took over from Burgess and Park the theory of the concentric circle, studying the proportion between the rate of juvenile transgression of the law and the different habitats in Chicago.

The results of the survey showed that the rate of delinquency persisted in time, no matter the race and the ethnic group, which have changed in the meantime, only the economical position and the cultural values of the delinquent groups remaining constant.

At the same time, the methods and techniques to commit offences were transmitted throughout the time, so delinquency is a social, studied behaviour, transmitted by previous groups to subsequent groups, characterized by the same economical and cultural status, aspect that received the name of cultural transmission.

Shaw and Mc Kay proved the economical and social causality of delinquency, this being considered a normal state, under certain social and economical circumstances, in an area such as that described before, that is habitat no. 2 (the two researchers took over the model of forerunners Park and Burgess, about natural urban habitats – habitat 2 being the key one, the transition area) in the concentric circle applied as a method of research of juvenile delinquency in particular.

1.2. The proportion between culture and criminality

This vision is centered upon the study of the proportion between culture and criminality. One starts from the idea that certain individuals internalize the norms and values that are not desired by the society and are opposed to those dominant, subsequently they become negatively socialized, circumstances under which delinquency appears.

The theory of differential associations was formulated by Edwin Sutherland. In 1939, in his work „Principles of Criminology” was introduced the concept of “differential associations” because, on the one hand, the word “differential” is used in Romanian in the fields of mathematics and technique, and on the other hand, one aimed to render as truthfully as possible Sutherland's

conception. He sets as the basis of his theory the principle of learning, which he takes over from Tarde's theory of imitation. He reconsiders the whole life experience of the individual in order to explain historically and genetically the criminal behaviour, forwarding a series of hypothesis in this respect. The key principle of differential associations reduces itself to a non-delinquent person becoming delinquent, having as cause an abundance of judgments favorable to the transgression of laws to the prejudice of judgments unfavorable to their transgression.

Underlying the ambivalent character of groups existing in society, Sutherland stresses the idea according to which criminality would be a resultant of the differential organization of social groups.

Together with D. Cressey, were laid the foundations of principles that represent the essence of the theory of differential associations:

- the criminal behavior is learnt;
- the criminal behavior is learnt in interaction with other persons, through the process of communication;
- the most important aspect of learning the criminal behavior appears in close, intimate, personal groups;
- learning the criminal behavior includes both the techniques to commit crimes and the specific directions of reasons, impulses, rationalizations and attitudes associated with the criminal behavior;
- the above mentioned directions are learnt by the medium of positive or negative norms;
- a person becomes delinquent because of the excessive contact with situations favorable to the transgression of norms, to the prejudice of those unfavorable to this aspect;
- the differential associations can vary as frequency, duration, priority and intensity;
- learning the pattern of the criminal behavior resembles to learning the pattern of the non criminal behavior;
- both the criminal and the non criminal behaviors represent an expression of the same general needs and values.³

Sutherland's theory mainly characterizes by:

- the content of what is studied includes specific techniques to commit crime and in general, appreciations favorable to the transgression of law; these are cognitive elements, rather ideas than behaviors;
- the process through which learning takes place implies associations with other persons within intimate personal groups.

On the occasion of the elaboration of this theory, Sutherland offers a more adequate explanation of the causes of relativity.

Thorsten Sellin takes over the basic idea of Sutherland's theory, concerning the learning of attitudes or criminal norms and formulates the theory of cultural conflicts, centred on the cause of these attitudes or norms. He says that the transgression of the law must be analyzed as a conflict between the norms of different cultures.

Sellin made a distinction between primary conflicts, expression of discordance between the norms of two distinct, different cultures, and secondary conflicts, which appear between the groups of the same society, or when one culture divides into a variety of cultures, each promoting its own norms and values.

In the work „The Culture of the Gang” (op. cit., New York, 1955), Albert K. Cohen takes over Sutherland's conceptions and the central idea in Merton's researches, that is stress is a product of social structure, that produces behavioral deviation, in order to explain birth, location and features of the delinquent subculture.

³ Banciu D., Rădulescu S.M., Teodorescu V. – Present tendencies of crime criminality in Romania, Lumina Lex Publishing House, Bucharest, 2002, page 158.

A. K. Cohen alleges that delinquent subcultures are born at the outskirts of the great American cities and have the origin in differences between classes, religion, education level, as well as parents' aspirations.

Concerning the characteristics of subculture, Cohen considers it as being non utilitarian (delinquents do not steal out of necessity, or desire, they just steal), malicious (a so-called pleasure for the ailment of other individuals causes to delinquents the expression of the delinquent behavior, as well as an extravagant desire to defy rules, a form of negative non-conformity), negativistic (the norms of the delinquent subculture are generally opposed to a certain types of crimes, have a varied activity), short term hedonism (for delinquents the moment is important, the own future too little), group autonomy (the gang or the pack leads after its own rules or norms, without cooperating with social institutions, to which they oppose and whose influence they resist to, persisting into the atmosphere of the group – it is a form of introversion).

Cohen issued the theory of delinquent subcultures, and later, together with Short, have extended the central idea of this theory, including in their research, besides the low class delinquent behavior also variants of the delinquent subculture of the middle class society and not lastly, the feminine delinquency. All these were considered to be the foundation of some new and future theories.

1.3. Crime at the border between targets and means

Theories that are in the perimeter of this current, make use of the concepts like: social system, statuses and roles assumed to these ones, social structure, functions and dysfunctions of the society, being focused on an analysis of the social-economical organizational action of the socializing and integrating possibilities of individuals to norms.

Robert K. Merton reconsidered the concept of normlessness from the point of view of the social deviation, developing the theory of normlessness. In the work "Current tendencies of crime and criminality in Romania", 2002, the authors Dan Banciu, S. Radulescu and V. Teodorescu expound Merton's conception, in which "normlessness appears as a result of the tension between the goals that cultural models of the society propose and the lawful means allowed by the system of social organization" (page 66 in the quoted work).

So this discordance appears as a result between the highest goals that society proposes (see the American society, where success and glory are "necessary" goals, their lack determining the depreciation of the individual) and the real possibilities, differing from one individual to another, to attain one's purposes. Through the analysis of this discordance, Merton creates a paradigm, that treats the ways of the individuals' adjusting to the environment, managing to highlight five of them as being representative: conformism (those who accept both goals and possibilities to reach them that society offers, no matter the result); innovation (individuals who accept the high goals proposed by the society, but reject the lawful means to attain them, because they are not sufficient to finalize the action engaged in view of reaching the proposed goal); ritualism (this conduct is adopted by those limiting to lawful living possibilities they dispose of, being willing to give up higher goals – these are the ordinary people, who do not want to overstep their own condition); avoidance (they generally are normless individuals, who give up goals and better possibilities and take refuge in subsidiary groups, adopting their subculture); rebellion (rebels are those who reject both goals and means replacing them with others and fighting for them).

Merton underlines the fact that the environment where the individual lives is decisive both as regards social aspect (social relationships) and the cultural one (the whole system of norms and values that humanize the human species in time and space). The conclusion is that those belonging to disadvantaged classes do not have access to high statuses and try to reach the desired social positions by adopting an antisocial behavior.

This theory has the credit of highlighting the discrepancy between goals and means, as well as the types of adopted behavior from means to attaining the goals, but it also has limits, since it

characterizes in general the tendencies of the American individual, so the habitat of application is defined.

Combining the basic idea in the theory of normlessness – Merton – with the basic theory in the theory of learning – Sutherland – , Cloward and Ohlin elaborate the theory of the differential opportunity, at the basis of which we find a study concerning the means, opportunities, illegal possibilities accessible to those resorting to a delinquent behavior in order to attain their goals. We find the culture that characterizes such a behavior to authors Cloward and Ohlin as a *delinquent subculture*, characterized by a certain compliance with norms and negative values which suppose quick wits and a degree of diplomacy; *subculture of conflict*, expressed between individuals that failed both in conventional and delinquent society, based upon violence as a form of general behavior; *subculture of refuge* belongs to those who cannot respect either norms or negative values or violence, but resignation, ecstasy given by hallucinogenic; the impossibility to have access to lawful and unlawful means at the same time pushes them towards refuge.

1.4. *The action of positive and negative social control in the study of the delinquent behavior*

The American sociologist Walter C. Reckless tried an explanation both regarding the normal, positive behavior and the deviating one.

Consequently, trusting the social control, he elaborates the “*theory of abstinence*”, which intends to be a combination between the *inner control system*, beneficiary of a strong self-control, self-restraint, trust, optimism etc. and the *external control system*, made up from the means that the close background disposes of in order to keep a tight rein on him, to prevent him from choosing illicit, illegal means to attain goals and to offer him socially desirable alternatives. This theory tries to clarify how negative and positive tensions act on the individual, how they work together with the socializing ways he went through, but does not succeed in offering an explanation about the difference of labeling in the case of the same offences.

Elaborating the theory of social connections, in the centre of which there is the more or less intense relationship between the individual and the society (especially family, friends, environment), Travis Hirschi promotes *attachment* (the obligation that a person feels towards those he appreciates, to behave conventionally), *commitment* (the individual’s investment in conventional values, compared to the possibility to invest in unconventional values, alternative that usually leads to delinquency), *involvement* (consequence of commitment, it leads to the exclusion of certain opportunities), *belief* (the strong internalization of norms and desirable moral values leads to the diminution of chances to choose a delinquent behavior). By this theory, Hirschi aimed to explain the advantage following from the choice of a conventional behavior to the prejudice of an unconventional one, stressing the causes of compliance to norms and desirable rules, all in the light of social relations.

2. **The conflict, determining factor of social deviation**

2.1. *The proportion between primary and secondary deviation*

The interaction tendency starts from the idea according to which society is made up from groups that differ both as regulations, values and definition of compliance and deviation, as specifies the Romanian sociologist S. Rădulescu, in “Deviation, criminality and social pathology”.(quoted work, 1999)

Lemert and Tannenbaum laid the foundations of a theory called “the labeling theory”, according to which deviation is considered an attribution to behaviors different from the conventional ones, a social reaction.

According to Frank Tannebaum, this social reaction leads to the “dramatizing of evil”, application of punishments with loss of liberty and association with much more dangerous and more skilled criminals, which consolidates the future delinquent career.

Edwin Lemert realised a parallel analysis between the social reaction and its effect as compared to the deviated behavior (*secondary deviation*) and the expression of the behavior as such, the fact in itself (*primary deviation*). He seeks to explain the process through which, as a response of

the others towards his behavior, the individual makes the passage to his new role (the one of a delinquent), that was assigned to him.

According to the theory of labeling, the choice of the delinquent career has as causes both the social reaction, concretized in sanctioning, stigmatization, isolation and social segregation and the internalization of labeling by the individual, all these leading finally to the acceptance and practice of a delinquent behavior tending towards professionalization.

It is absolutely necessary that, whenever we talk about the theory of labeling, we should mention what are the *fundamental thesis*⁴ of H.Becker, J.Kitsuse and K. Erikson, which study the consequences of the theories promoted by Tannenbaum and Lemert:

a) Definitions classifying the conducts in deviating or acceptable (normal) behaviors are subjective and relative;

b) Social negative reactions towards acts of transgression of norms are not automatically released – the social reaction cannot be anticipated, it has a problematic character;

c) The key process that must be followed in the investigation of deviation is the labeling of the behavior as being deviating and of individuals as being deviating by the public (into this category also falls the respective individual, as a person who observes and appraises his own behavior);

d) Labelling an individual as being deviating, from the perspective of the undesirable, social and moral character of his conducts or acts, has multiple negative consequences for the consolidation and worsening of his deviating character.

Once the label was put is difficult to be removed.

The application of the label of deviating to a person who transgresses the rules is not an accidental process, but is strongly influenced by a series of circumstances, such as the public accusation of the deviating person;

The application of the label of deviating has strongly consequences concerning the self perception of the individual and his definition as being an authentic deviated.

Besides its merits, this theory has, as any other one, its limits, like for example ignoring the causes of crime actions and the generalizing the idea according to which the labeling determines invariably the amplifying of crime actions.

2.2. Radical conceptions

In 1973 “The New Crime Science”, with Ian Taylor, Paul Walton and Jock Young as authors; the is focused on Marxist principles, considering the economic factors as primary in producing the conflicts, under the conditions in which the law is applied in a differentiated way according to social class.

The authors have emphasized that the new crime science approach needs the analysis of remote and immediate causes of the crime action, the crime action itself as well as the close and the remote origins of social reactions, its effect upon perpetuating crime and the nature of deviancy. This work had a much lower effect than the expected one.

Richard Quiney has tried to promote a social theory, based on Marxist concepts. He supports the concept of a complete equality in front of law, for this being necessary the replacement of the capitalist society with the socialist one, which is intended to be the only and the necessary condition in order for the individuals to share equally the material benefits, everything leading towards a new human nature. (see the concepts of Nicolae Ceaușescu, who taking over the Marxist-Leninist ideas, promoted the creation the new mankind, physically and psychically perfect, equal with others, an individual without problems, happy and totally integrated in the society which he wanted to be a communist one).

In the work „Critique of Legal Order: Crime Control in a Capital Society” (quoted work., Little Brown Boston, 1974) Quiney develops „The Theory of Social Realities” through which he

⁴ Rădulescu S. M., *Deviance, criminality and social pathology*, Lumina Lex Publishing House, Bucharest, 1999, p. 133.

intends the creation and the sustaining of a socialist society. His theory provoked strong critics, being considered a mystic one, who in stead of looking for explanations and answers, starts with conclusions which he deduced from his own faith in the communist society, as being the ideal one.

3. Futuristic sociologic vision in crime science

3.1. *Differentiated approach of biological, psychological and social factors*

The evolutionary theories start from the idea according to which different biological, psychological and social factors have different effects upon individuals, according to present particularities of these ones in various stages of life cycle.

The relation between age and crime was analyzed in a divergent way, through a *longitudinal research* (this brings into discussion the “career criminal”, that is the individual who commits crimes on a long period of time; it is also focused on the behavior of a group of individuals in a certain period of time, which determines the establishing the influence of the previous behavior upon the present and the future one, as well as the possibility of applying different models for behavior explaining in certain stages of life cycles), as well as through a research called *„transversal section”* (the attention is focused on different individuals with crime tendencies, that are compared in same time).

3.2. *The unified conflict approach of crime*

According to these tendencies, the integration of some theories is being monitored, knowing the fact that theories treat different aspects of a common phenomenon, with the target of explaining completely the antisocial behavior.

Thus, the unified confliction theory of crime has, for the beginning, the general social structural characteristics, continues with the processes through which individuals from similar social structural locations get the skills of similar behavior models, so that in the end to finalize through the approach of the report between these behavior models and adoption processes and the application of penal laws.

John Braithwaite has inspired from the theory of labeling, from the theory of learning, control, of differentiated associations and of subculture, issuing the theory of reintegration by blaming, a new concept, according to which the blaming is reduced to *stigmatization* (when because of blaming, the individual is complying to the imposed model and takes refuge in marginal subcultures) and *reintegration* (those who apply blaming do not exclude the blamed one from their group, but on the contrary, they support reintegration, determining the awareness of the committed crime).

Braithwaite demonstrates in his theory that reintegration leads to the decrease of crime, while stigmatization has a contrary effect.

Brian Vila issues an evolutive ecological paradigm, a source for all the theories which might explain the crime phenomenon under all its aspects, both at a micro and a macro level, taking into consideration an essential conditions: reconsidering and including the biological factors in all theories.

In Vila’s conception, the theories, which have been initiated until present time, would be only partial, because each in its turn approach the fractioned crime phenomenon, in the way that an application of these theories cannot be found, either from historical developing of causality, or from the research reduction not only to a micro level, or in the case of more general approaches at a macro level, or only the environment factors are taken into considerance; the idea is that the explanation of the complexity of human behavior has failed under all its aspects and this is exactly what Vila proposes: a paradigm characterized by an unprecedented generality, focused on a total and unlimited influencing in a double way (micro-macro), but also focused on change and its problematic.

Feminist theories concerning the criminal behaviour

The feminist theories, regardless that it express positive or negative aspects about life, activity and attitude of woman, are theories of the considered gender.

The gender problematic, besides the socializing and identifying with gender role, an aspect concerning the respective crime type. Differentiating the crime behaviour under biological aspect led to the necessity of elaborating a feminist theory accordingly.

Until present time, such a theory tends to be built based on the analysis of causes and effects of inequality of chances between sexes.

A general theory is not by far clearly defined. More than that, it has to express among others a synthesis of all the existant feminist theories, these being based on the causes of chance inequality.

In 2001, Danner sustained the idea according to which the feminist theory was focused on the understanding, describing and explaining the human experience and social life as well, monitoring the social changes capable to anihilate gender discrimination. For this reason, he considered that personal life and social life are genetically determined.

Feminist theories criticize the social order as well as masculine traditional theories. As any attempts of theoretical classification, this one has, besides the merits mentioned above some certain limits like for example lack of total objectivity, exaggeration in analyzing techniques as well as exclusivist orientation upon the feminine segment.

An essential aspect is represented by the fact that the feminist theories concerning the crime behaviour which is "inspired" from crime theories.

Feminist crime science is based on the model of feminist movements from the 60s and the 70s, triggered by the need of protection and promoting women's rights.

In the attempt of explaining and analysing the feminine crime behaviour, the researches resorted to the ethiology of crime. This process has evolved in such a way it got to the reporting of each sex towards collectivity.

Studying crime and delinquency within feminist theories, Daly (1998) approaches the problem from four different perspectives e:

- *the relation between genesis and crime*
- the social determinism of organized crime, of crime gender differencies (*crime genesis*)
- the determinant role of ethiological factors specific to domestic violence, as well as the characteristics of a crime gender-gap (*track genesis*)
- the role of genesis in selecting the undesirable behaviour (*life genesis*)

In constructing the feminist theories in crime science, a major role was held by the issued explanations about the crime bahaviour of women. These causes were approached from biological or psychological experience until the 70s, when the first explicative theories about crimes committed by women, theories focused on a sociologic causality. They emphasize the freedom aand emancipation.

The freedom theories appeared as an effect of movement for women's rights. They have emphasized the opportunities appeared in the public sphere for women who overpassed the private sphere of home and family. These opportunities assume clearly the movement of the masculine gender towards the feminine behaviour, so a masculinizing of this one. The consequence was, of course, the increase of crime rate among women, because they took over from men, in the same time with the desirable model and the undesirable social one. An important role was held here by the lack of concordance between the stereotype of gender as the ideal feminine role and the real role which women have socialized with outside the private space. More than that, this role has reached in certain situations an extended level even in the private spehere, being one of the factors who led to the increased number of men as victims of domestic violence.

The evolution of feminist theories

The liberal feminism

The liberal traditional thinking was the fundament on which the first feminist current, focused on ideas as:

- freedom and equality of chances for both sexes
- equal rights for women in all domains of activities
- the exclusion of women discrimination at the working place

- juridical equality both in what concerns the evaluation of the feminine crime actions, as well as in what concerns the sanctions and the penitentiary treatment.

Besides the irrefutable merits, the liberal feminism had its own limits. From these ones, the equality in rights and in chances have led to equality of sexes under the physical resistance for labour or penitentiary treatment, an issue desired by the first feminist current, but not in totality.

The marxist and socialist feminism

Centred on the idea of the working class fight in the capitalist society, the marxist traditionalism contributed substantially on the analysis of the social classes. As a result, the marxist feminism has fundamented the theory on the economical causality of social inequality.

The essence of the marxist theory has influenced the crime science but the marxist feminism had a minor role comparing to the liberal one, upon the crime research.

The socialist feminism brings into the first row the importance of family, as a nucleus of human society. It had an essential contribution in a precise establishing of the status and the domestic role of woman.

Both types of feminism, the marxist and the socialist one emphasize strong aspects of social inequality, inequalities supported by the economic or juridical power: the economical nature of sexual abuse, judiciary system as a serving instrument for superior classes, used in order to oppress woman, etc.

Radical feminism

The theory of radical feminism has as its fundament the concept of masculine violence and gravitates around analyses, discovery and fighting the domestic violence. This theory approaches the physical power in the private domestic space, describing the inequality between the masculine and the feminine physical force. The problems encountered by women represented the problematic of radical feminist theory: sexual abuse on women, their sexual harassment, pornography. Emphasizing these problems and promoting the idea woman protection in the private family space by initiating and developing some legislative measures, as well as by building some living habitats and social shelters for the abused women, have represented strength elements of the radical feminism theory.

But from the radical feminism perspective, the permanent woman placement as victims, lack of solutions and of prevention methods against the *oppressive patriarchal system*, as well as in limiting the area of domestic violence, have represented its limits.

Modern feminism

Modern feminism criticizes the feminist theories of the first two currents of feminism and tries the development of new theories concerning the genesis of the crimes committed by women.

The previous theories were focused in explaining the concepts of "woman" and "women committed crimes", but crime science needs to study the life of a woman under biological, psychological, economical, juridical and social factors. For this, Cain concluded that there is no method in crime science capable of a cognitive procedure so complex and complete in the same time.

Post-modernist feminism

The post-modernist feminist theory has a totally new shape, almost not all approached until this moment. The principal problem of this theory consists in the importance of language in information transmission.

Chesney-Lind and Faith appreciated that the post-modernist feminist theories have a strong impact upon teenagers through mass-media. Thus, in the U.S.A an experiment took place, which concentrated on the report between „the crime wave from the mass-media” created especially through communication techniques without having a correspondent in reality and the rate of crime at a national level. While in the mass-media informations were abundant of topics connected with violence, crimes, in reality, at a national level, the crime level has decreased.

The merit of these theories consist in trying to deconstruct the information from media.

Multi-cultural and multi-racial feminism

The multi-racial feminist theories approach woman both under cultural, behavioural aspect but also under social structure.

Accordingly, the multicultural feminist crime specialist Beth Ritchie tries to create the prototype of afro-american delinquent, a reason for which he studies the interaction between the human race, genesis, social class, domestic violence. The risk factors are represented by: qualities of individuals who belong to the same inferior classes; the subsistence methods offered by society to those of periferic areas; cultural and behaviour model of other women of colour, sexual identity; religion; other discriminatory factors.

Multi-racial feminist theories are concentrated on demonstrating the racial discrimination. The fight against crime aims only at poor social classes.

A special emphasis on the individual characteristics may lead to the highlighting the inequalities and different problems which put marks on the life of a person.

Masculinity and genesis

Among the crime theorist of the masculine theory, Messerschmidt is detached by directing the attention on the genesis of social actions of men, with the purpose of understanding the crimes committed by these ones.

The elements which lead to the delineation of masculinity are: the working place, the social structure, the sexual structure.

Referring to the feminist theories, Messerschmidt finds that the main power upon women is reflected in masculinity.

From the need to express masculinity, men resort to different form of violence, most of them being crimes. These are committed at any age, both in public space (working place, street) and also private (family).

Post-modernist feminist crime scientists have focused on masculinity, but they have the merit of bringing new approaches on delinquency in the first line.

The future of feminist theories on crime will center on the study of genesis of gender crimes, analyzing men's and boy's life as well as of women's and girl's under biological aspect, of social structure, of races, under psychological, cultural aspect, focusing on life environment on all plans.

Another futuristic orientation in the crime feminist theory is represented by the displacement of attention from the periphery of society towards each social segment where crimes appear and, of course, studying these ones from a total perspective. This will lead, in time, to the elimination of race, class, ethnicity discrimination of the committed crimes both in women and men.

Continuing the research of the feminist theories will mark progresses in crime theory and, not lastly, in science.

Conclusions:

The main approached directions in the above article refer to the approach of feminine crime under the sociological paradigm. The emphasis placed on the influence of actors with crime risk, directs the research in the area of gender research.

The amplitude of the presented phenomenon and the weak concern until present time to establish the place and the role of the feminine crime within social delinquency, suggests the initiation of empirical research projects, based on theoretical ideas presented by this study.

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