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PAEDOPHILIA: PREVALENCE, SITUATION, AND PERSPECTIVES OF TREATMENT

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Abstract: Paedophilia is a specific disorder in a spectre of sexual affinities in humans, which is in the nomenclature of the World Health Organization in the group of sexual preference disorders or paraphilia. Due to mobility, inventiveness, and invisibility, there is no relevant statistical data about this deviation's volume and extensiveness. This paper aims to determine the prevalence of paedophiles in the general population based on an anonymous survey, the number of processed perpetrators of sexual offenses toward children, and the number of unique visitors of the Internet "decoy". The research data were gathered through an anonymous survey (the survey was created for this research purposes, and it was an indirect, written survey) that enveloped a total of 658 individuals (60.49% males and 39.51% females) through the creation of a virtual Internet profile (1095 visitors, 89.86% males and 10.14% females), as well as through the statistical data of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia (MUP RS) and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia (Directorate for Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions) over the last six years. The prevalence of paedophilia in the general population is 2.13%, and the majority is between 30 and 50 years of age. There are no relevant data on the treatment of paedophiles in penitentiary conditions. The number of submitted criminal charges for crimes with sexual violence elements toward children is much larger than the number of verdicts for the said acts. The number of crimes of sexual offenses against children in the analysed period was 1,288. Paedophilia is a complex disorder that poses a threat to public health. It is under-researched, and it calls for a multidisciplinary approach in research with the goal of preventing these forms of behaviour and the protection of children from sexual abuse.

Keywords: paedophilia, prevalence, Internet paedophilia, treatment, child pornography.

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INTRODUCTION

In everyday communication terms, “paedophile/paedophilia” is used in a wide variety of meanings, always in the negative sense, as the public is disturbed by sexual crimes that victimize children. With such imprecise qualifications, sexual offenders who can but also might not be paedophiles and persons with this specific sexual disorder who might never show their affinity is made equal. Paedophilia is a topic of interest in numerous sciences, with psychology, psychiatry, and criminology (Moen, 2015) more than others and demands a multidisciplinary approach in diagnostics, treatment, and prevention.

Numerous studies treated the topic of paedophilia and child sexual abuse. The majority of these studies were pointed to research of already convicted paedophiles and offenders, with minimal attention to general prevention and protection of children from sexual assaults. Recently, more attention is given to these questions in our literature as well. One of the researches that include the question of possible prevalence and vulnerability of children on the Internet done in Serbia has shown that children on the Internet are exposed to sexual assaults of various kinds in the majority of cases. The most frequent predators are younger than 18 (minors) and older than 40 (Ivanović, Lajić, & Joka, 2016). The more recent researches of the convicted paedophiles show that they are generally male, of an average age of 36.6, mostly with completed middle school education (71%), and one in six convicts has a college degree. A nearly identical number of convicts were unemployed and employed (42% each), and 71% of the convicts were divorced or single (Baić, Ivanović, & Oljača, 2019). When

analysing the results of the studies done abroad, we can conclude that paedophiles are a particularly heterogeneous population (with different socio-demographic attributes) with the joint attribute of abusing the children to fulfil their sexual needs (Seto & Eke, 2005; Hall & Hall, 2007; Henshaw, Ogloff & Clough, 2017).

Under the international statistical classification of disorders and similar health problems (Chapter V – Mental and behavioural disorders - F00-F99; Personality and behaviour disorders of adults - F60-F69), paedophilia (F65.4) is defined as “sexual affinity towards children, (boys and/or girls, mostly in prepubescent or in early pubescent age” (ICD-10-WHO Version for; 2016). According to the Manual for diagnostics and statistics of mental disorders, fifth edition (DSM-5), to diagnose a paedophile disorder, the following criteria must be met:

- Repetitive, intensive sexual fantasies, impulses or behaviour that includes sexual activity with a prepubescent child (13 or younger) during at least six months.
- These sexual impulses act or caused trouble or deterioration in social, professional or other important aspects of functioning.
- A person is at least 16 years old and is at least five years older than a child from the first category. Still, that does not include an individual in late adolescence involved in regular sexual relations with 12 or 13 years of age.

According to an established psychiatric standing, paedophilia is defined as a disorder of sexual preference, where a person finds prepubescent children as sexually attractive, whether in fantasy or real sexual activity with them. Diagnosis and



treatment of paedophilia are most efficient when a person voluntarily reports to an expert. In other cases, denying the problem is present, which leads to further complications in clinical features (Seto, 2004), and increased difficulty in realization of treatment.

Classification of paedophilia varies and depends on criteria used as a base for classification. In the experience of classification of behaviour and establishing of certain profiles of paedophiles, we can find two basic types (Maletzky, 1993):

1) Situational/accidental paedophile. These are persons whose sexual affinities are not limited only to minors, and they have no particular affinity regarding the age of the victim. They often can establish relatively normal relationships with their partners, and minors become their spontaneous victims, and they use their vulnerability and exposure to commit molestation.

2) A preferential paedophile who shows affinity exclusively towards children.

According to another classification, dependable on the developmental stage of children that attracts them, there is a clear classification to those attracted to children entering puberty, and they are called "hebephiles" and to those attracted by children in puberty, and they are called "ephebophiles". One of the most important classifications divides paedophiles to those who did not commit sexual offense toward children, those who committed a sexual offense and were issued punitive measures, and finally, those who after punitive measures and time in the penitentiary, committed the offense again, or recidivists.

Paedophilia is not always an isolated phenomenon; male paedophiles often have a significant history of psychiatric disorders, which, in extreme cases,

can shadow detection of aetiology. It is still very difficult to prove whether it is a secondary occurrence related to the consequences of this affinity, or is it true comorbidity (Tenbergen et al. 2015). As stated, from a clinical perspective, there are paedophile males who limit their expressed urge for sexual contact with children exclusively to the imagination, but there is also another group of males who tend to commit crime due to their inability to abstain or lack of self-control.

Causes of paedophilia can be biological, psychological, and social. The difference between the identified causes shows that paedophilia can have multiple causes.

Psychiatric comorbid disorders that are most frequent with paedophilic patients include mood disorder (60-80%), anxiety disorder (50-60%), addiction disorder (50-60%), personality disorder (70-80%), but also other sexual affinity disorders (50-70%) (Raymond at al., 1999; Fagan at al., 2002). According to the data from research whose subjects were twins aged 21-43, a certain percentage of sexual affinity toward children is hereditary (Alanko et al., 2013). Still, despite such results, the thinking that paedophilia is mainly caused by social factors is predominant. One of the targets of analysis has shown that a large number of the registered paedophiles were sexually molested as children in contrast to non-sexual child molesters (Jespersen et al., 2009). Still, not every victim of sexual violence in childhood became a violator themselves and expressed sexual affinity to children. Easy access to the Internet and social media, child pornography, and Internet content with sexual connotations are some of the social factors that significantly contribute to paedophilia and sexual offenses whose victims are children. Relationship



between parents and children is one of the predictors of paedophilia and sexual molestation of children. The most frequent reasons are poor relationships between parents and children (Finkelhor et al., 2014), inadequate parenting skills, absence of parents and conflicts between parents and children.

Experiences in the treatment of paedophilia show that a multidisciplinary approach to treatment, which includes a combination of medical and psychological methods, shows the most promise. Such an approach is already in use in the majority of countries to decrease and prevent repeated offense among the convicted paedophiles. Nonetheless, the treatment of paedophiles (identified and unidentified) is not only less researched, but less common and less accepted as well (Olshan, 2014) and represents a true challenge for every society.

Research in this area is also complicated by the causes of the disorder itself, as despite the evidence that roots of paedophilia can be found in families, it is still unclear whether it is genetic or due to the model of learned behaviour. Because the majority of sexual assaults occur in the “dark field” (there are approximately five unreported cases of sexual violence against children to one reported) (Hall & Hall, 2007), it is difficult to statistically determine the real magnitude of this disorder, mostly due to general accessibility of virtual networks. Paedophiles once had a “narrowed” manoeuvre area for their activities. They would go to playgrounds, schoolyards and had established methods of work, such as observation, following, asking questions, giving small gifts such as chocolate bars, chewing gums, etc. Such an approach carried the danger of exposure to specific risks (Bjelajac, 2017). When we talk

about paedophilia, we often see terms of child pornography which is often related to paedophilia. According to certain researches, risk factors for child pornography can be emotional and intimate deficiency (i.e. depression, loneliness, and anxiety), as well as antisocial cognizance (Middleton et al., 2006). Pornography is the usage of photographic and video content with the goal of sexual arousal. Child pornography became a global problem due to its spread along with the development of the Internet (Beech et al., 2008). On the other hand, certain individual characteristics such as psychopathology most often contribute to the connection between child pornography and deviant sexual behaviour (Williams et al., 2009). Numerous controversies and different stances can be seen in the results of a study on the usage of pornography among paedophiles, which show that a clear causality between exposure to pornography and sexual crimes is not proven (Howitt, 1995).

Researching paedophilia as a sexual offense is limited and mostly related only to the convicted persons who already expressed such kind of behaviour. Therefore, it is very difficult to predict sexual offenses and generalize data from previous researches to potential and unidentified paedophiles. Two most often-mentioned predictors of paedophilic disorder are sexual deviancy and asocial personal orientation. The sexual offense is identified as a potential mechanism of reaction to stress and poor self-control, the two factors that significantly contribute to cognitive disorders that are often comorbid with paedophilia as well (Hanson & Morton-Bourgon, 2005). Since it has multiple causes, it calls for a multidisciplinary approach. The goal of this paper is to determine the prevalence of paedophiles in the general pop-



ulation by using an anonymous survey, the number of processed perpetrators of criminal offenses against children, and the number of visitors of the Internet “decoy” that was set up for the purposes of this research.

METHODS

The research data were gathered from March 2019 to mid-October 2019. The data were gathered from several sources: survey questionnaire, virtual Internet profile, statistical data from the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia (MUP RS), and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia (Directorate for Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions) for the last six years. Also, data gathering methods were based both on a qualitative and quantitative approach.

The Internet profile “maloletna13bg” (trans. “underagegirl13bg”) was designed to inform the visitor that the person in question is an underage girl aged 13, from Belgrade, and the profile was created at the Internet chatroom #Krstarica (it is a server that enables textual communication by IRC (Internet Relay Chatting) protocol). Krstarica’s forum is the best-known forum in the country and the region, it can be accessed from anywhere in the world, with 1.8 million monthly visitors and 35 million exchanged messages. The person behind the decoy waited for potential paedophiles to establish communication, and every contact was established by visitors and not initiated by the decoy. The profile was visited by 1,095 Internet users for seven days, in intervals between 9-12h and 22-01h. The questionnaire created for this research was anonymous

with closed answers, with general information asked from subjects (gender, age, education) and concrete question about sexual affinity toward children formulated according to the definition of paedophilia with the offered dichotomous answer (“Did you have repeating, intensive sexual fantasies, impulses or behaviours that include sexual activity with a child aged 13 or younger in the last six months”). The sample consisted of the visitors of two fairs in Belgrade and Novi Sad from March 2019 to May 2019, and a total of 658 subjects were surveyed. The statistical data from the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice are shown for the period 2013-2019. The presented data from the Ministry of Interior are stated by the number of submitted criminal charges for crimes treated as sexual offenses whose victims were minors and children younger than 14. The data relate to the crimes from Art. 180, 182 (where victims are persons up to 17 years of age), 185, 185A and 185B of the Criminal Law of the Republic of Serbia, according to the location of a crime, gender, age of both perpetrators and victims. The data from the Ministry of Justice and its Directorate for Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions contain the number of sentenced paedophiles, age, and treatment measures. Methods of descriptive and analytical statistics were used for the data analysis.



RESULTS

The results of the survey show that out of the total number of subjects, 60.49% were males, while 39.51% were females. Out of the total number of subjects, 2.13% showed an attitude that can be classified as a paedophiliac disorder. Out of the number of subjects who expressed

sexual affinity or fantasies toward children younger than 14, 64.29% were subjects who completed middle school, 71.43% were single and not in marital or other forms of union, and the majority of them are between 30-50 years of age (71.42%).

Table 1. *Frequency of subjects identified as potential paedophiles in the survey, by gender, age, and marital status*

	Males	Females	Total
Yes	729	10	739 (67.48%)
No	255	101	356 (32.52%)
Total	984	111	1095 (100%)

The data we gathered using the virtual profile “maloletna13bg” as a decoy (1095 visitors) points that the majority were males (89.86%) and that out of that number 74.08% tried to establish contact with the girl from the profile while directly or indirectly alluding to sex.

Some visitors were so direct that they have been sending explicit photographs to the girl without any cause given to them by her. The number of profile visitors increased in the evenings and during weekends.

Table 2. *Virtual profile at “Krstarica” Internet forum*

	Males	Females	Total
Yes	729	10	739 (67.48%)
No	255	101	356 (32.52%)
Total	984	111	1095 (100%)

According to the data from the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, over the last six years (2013-October 2019), the number of crimes of sexual offenses toward children was 1,288. Out of that number, 23.21% were criminal charges against perpetrators of crime of sexual intercourse with a child, Art. 180 of the Criminal Law of Republic of Serbia or against 307 perpetrators in total (Table 4). On average, 40

children become victims of sexual intercourse annually, and 82% are girls. More than 50% of criminal charges were for the crimes of prohibited sexual acts with children and minors under 17 as victims, and that number for the analysed period was 113 children. In this category, the majority of perpetrators are between 31 and 50 years of age.



Table 3. Number of crimes committed by the articles of the CC (with minors as victims)

Art.	180 CC	182 CC	185 CC	185A CC	185B CC
2013	44	87	20	7	1
2014	49	95	27	1	1
2015	38	86	57	4	3
2016	40	122	57	3	5
2017	39	88	46	6	4
2018	53	101	42	2	7
2019	36	67	42	6	2
Total	299	646	291	29	23

Table 4. Age structure of perpetrators of crime of sexual intercourse with a child

	Under 13	14-15	16-17	18-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	Over 60	Total
2013		4	9	9	15	1	4	4	5	51
2014		3	8	7	14	9		2	5	48
2015		2	6	9	9	5	3	2	1	37
2016		6	9	6	9	3	4	4	4	45
2017	2	5	6	7	8	5	3	1	2	39
2018	1	6	1	17	11	8	1	2	5	52
2019		6	5	3	7	10	2	2		35
Total	3	32	44	58	73	41	17	17	22	307

* Statistical data from the Ministry of the Interior of Serbia for the period 2013-2019

In this research, we tried to determine the number of paedophiles in the general population using three methods. The following table shows a reported incidence of a processed number of paedophiles and potential paedophiles.

Table 5. Incidence of paedophilia in Serbia according to research using survey, Internet decoy and number of criminal charges

	Decoy	Survey	Ministry of Interior of the RS
Total	1095	658	6982604
Potential	739	14	147
Incidence	0,67	0,021	2,105E-05

In research via survey, 14 paedophiles were detected, while via Internet decoy at Krstarica forum 739 potential paedophiles were detected. The percentage of 2.1% is much higher than the expected value, as the incidence is 0.000021.



DISCUSSION

The basic deficiency of paedophilia research is that their subjects were the paedophiles who already committed an offense and were sanctioned in some way and are in penal treatment. According to the results of foreign researches, half of all the victims of sexual abuse of children are between 12 and 17 years of age, and therefore their attackers do not fulfil the requirements of the strict definition of paedophilia (Harvard Mental Health Letter, 2010). It is very difficult to find the data that would point to the presence of this disorder in the general population and helped in the prevention of paedophilia and protect the children. This research had a goal of a pioneer endeavour in researching the prevalence of paedophiles in the general population. Such studies are rarely done even abroad. With many deficiencies and limitations, we managed to deduce a certain prevalence of paedophiles in the general population (2.13%) in Serbia, which is a similar result to those shown by international studies. Despite numerous limitations, the results of the research we undertook can point us to the removal of visible flaws in the system of protection of children from sexual abuse and paedophile treatment.

Our research and interest in this taboo topic brought us to several important facts that characterize our social and formal system, but the public opinion as well. The results we got, unfortunately, point to a lack of control and weak links of our system, and we believe the global community as well. They suggest the exposure and vulnerability of children, particularly on the Internet and social media, which make paedophilia significantly easier and stronger. According to the gathered data, the period when children are most vulnerable on the Inter-

net is in mornings and in late evenings, when children are not under parental control. Children often receive chat or friend requests, and after only several exchanged messages, they receive sexual offers. The visitors of the Internet decoy profile during the research period asked the girl to send photographs of her naked body (photographs of genitals, breasts or other explicit photographs). We could find similar cases before, and the consequences of such exchanges can be blackmail of the girl or her family, and several such cases were reported by the media (Blic, 2016, September 6th).

In previously completed researches, we found that out of 617 persons, 449 (72%) tried to establish a sexually oriented communication and offered or asked for explicit photographs (Ivanović, Lajić, & Joka, 2016), which is similar to the percentage we arrived to in our research (74.08). Often paedophile or predator himself sends explicit photographs to a potential victim, such as photographs of his genitals, video recordings of masturbation, etc. Despite occasional pop-up messages that inform users that they can report cases of sexual harassment to the provider of service, there is only a small possibility that a child is protected. There is no limiting option aside from leaving the chat room. With determining true identity, following of IP address of these persons' computers, it is possible to act pre-emptively and to prevent sexual offenses toward children, but also to offer help to persons with this disorder. One of the flaws of such research is that we cannot know who is behind the profile on the other side. In many developed countries, special models and programs of helping paedophiles to abstain from contact with children are used. Some countries that offer programs of preventive treatment often



have different treatment modalities. Some countries established programs of therapy led by professionals, while other countries only have anonymous support programs on the Internet. The basic problem of implementation of such programs on a global level is the anticoincidence of laws and regulations on an international level. Countries that managed to organize and realize a string of programs for paedophilia prevention are Germany, Canada, and the USA. The success of certain programs helped to spread them to other countries (the UK, Netherlands, etc.). The majority of programs are dedicated to helping individuals with sexual affinities toward children to report to counselling services to get the necessary help. Other programs are dedicated to the post-penal period after the sentence is served, to prevent recidivism.

When we discuss the treatment of paedophiles, it is limited only to the cases of expressed paedophile behaviour, the offenders, and its goal is to prevent recidivism. There are numerous variations in the application of treatment measures depending on the country. One of the methods that are used is castration. In some countries, castration is chemical (hormonal therapy) while in others the castration is performed physically (surgically). In the United States of America, both chemical and surgical castration is permitted only in certain states, and these states are significantly different in financial obligations, castration method, and whether castration is discrete, mandatory or voluntary (Scott & Holmberg, 2003). In our legislative such form of sanction is not stipulated, but we think it should be considered, particularly chemical castration. The results of researches that evaluate the success of chemical castration as a rehabilitation form in Europe (particularly in Denmark, Germany, Norway, Sweden,

and Switzerland) showed a decrease in recidivism from 65% to 15% (Wong, 2001). The research of paedophilia prevalence in the general population, although with flaws, brought us to the result of 2.13%, which is below the prevalence percentage from the studies in other countries, where the prevalence is between 3-5% (Seto, 2009). Similarities with other researches of this topic can be found in the age of potential paedophiles which is within the range of 30-50 years of age. A similar result can be found in the research that enveloped the convicted paedophiles, and the result is around 50% (Baić, Ivanović, & Oljača, 2019). In this category of subjects, the majority is with completed high school, and the majority of them are not married or in an emotional relationship. The data relates to the number of criminal charges for sexual offenses whose victims were minors (14-18 years) or children (under 14). The gathered data can be used to focus attention on risk groups of potential paedophiles. By sublimation of research on the Internet and these data, the risk group is additionally reduced, and it gives the possibility of planning of prevention programs. Strengthening support to potential paedophiles and allowing them to voluntarily apply for counselling programs would be of great importance for paedophilia prevention. With a lack of evidence to show otherwise, clinical staff should inform patients that there is no evidence that paraphilia, including paedophilia, cannot be changed. This therapeutic perspective is based on proofs and increases the responsibility that persons with paedophilic disorder take for their actions and increases their motivation and optimism for a healthy change of sexual affinities and activities (Federoff, 2018).

Due to legal constrictions, social factors, stigmatization, rejection, and shame, it is



challenging to organize preventative programs. There are no such programs in our expert and professional practice, which is most often due to the lack of data about the prevalence in the general population. Additionally, even in penitentiary institutions where convicted sex offenders are kept, there is no clear record of medical and pedagogical measures in the process of treatment and re-socialization of paedophiles. Enactment of the Act on Special Measures for the Prevention of Sex Crimes against Minors, so-called "Marija's Law", poses a significant step forward in the fight against paedophilia in the formal and legal sense. By this Act, special measures against perpetrators of sexual crimes over children as well as child pornography are stipulated. The Act stipulates mandatory registration of paedophiles as well as special measures taken against the convicted offenders. Nonetheless, according to the information received from the Ministry of Justice and the Directorate for Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions, a precise record on treatment measures, gender, age, and the number of recidivists is not kept. Lack of this information and its unavailability makes the realization of proper and useful researches much more difficult. According to the same data, there are 298

individuals in the Register of persons convicted of sex crimes against minors. Discord between the number of pressed criminal charges and the number of convicted individuals is obvious, as these crimes are very specific, and the guilt is hard to prove. International law practice has a similar problem, where also many cases become dismissed without making a conviction (Larcombe, 2012).

Considering that paedophilia is classified as a psychiatric disorder, it naturally requires psychiatric medical treatment. In international practice, an approach to treatment that combines psychotherapy treatment and cognitive-behavioural treatment is dominant. Nonetheless, by combining different methods of treatment, pharmacological drugs are introduced. Results of researches on the influence of pharmacological drugs on the behaviour of paedophiles are mostly based on self-reporting on the decrease of intensity of deviant sexual fantasies or masturbation frequency (Briken & Kafka, 2007). In our institutions of enforcement of criminal sanctions, there is no data on medical measures and treatment performed, or they are not available to scientists and experts, which limits the research possibilities of this phenomenon.

CONCLUSION

Considering the nature and type of the problem of research of paedophilia and paedophilic disorder, there are obvious limits for such researches. They are related to unsolved (potential) problems, solved (current) problems, problems of anomalies, inner conceptual problems, outer conceptual problems, particularly including the attributes of mobility, inventiveness, and invisibility of this phe-

nomenon, voids in the scientific system of studying the phenomenon as well as lack of consensus about true causes of paedophilia, leading risks and possible successes in different approaches to preventive treatment.

The majority of researches are aimed at already convicted sexual offenders and paedophiles. It is very difficult to gath-



er the data related to the general population since there are not many people who would voluntarily give information on his/her sexual affinities toward children. As it is a paraphilia, paedophilia has to be considered as a threat to the public health. Every effort shall be put in better understanding of the basis of paedophilic attraction and identifying and establishing preventive methods of treatment on an international level. Until a legal modification is made and harmonized on a global level, which would help the realization and implementation of successful preventive programs, every country, including ours, shall undertake activities to reduce negative consequences for the victim and the potential perpetrators. In that sense, preventive measures on many levels shall be organized. General prevention measures should include education of parents on child protection on the Internet and control of content children can access on the Internet. Schools should also get involved within their capabilities in the education of children about the potential harmfulness of the Internet and security culture through educational workshops and prevention programs. Special attention should be paid to paedophilia victims through counselling and a multidisciplinary approach to reduce consequences of the trauma on further mental and physical development of a child. One of the basic preventive measures should be the implementation of programs of prevention of paedophilia which gave positive results, and the creation of new programs whose purpose would be to inspire an individual to accept his sexual affinity and to voluntarily undertake activities that would help him/her to abstain from sexual contact with children and child pornography. The founding of a centre for paedophilia prevention is certainly one

of the steps that would help in reducing the number of sexual offenses by paedophiles. After numerous debates and different opinions, the penal policy against perpetrators of crimes against children was made more stringent in the Criminal Law. One of the prevention measures could be public availability of the Register of paedophiles. If the Register were made public, it would have general preventative influence, although with some flaws. The creation of decoy profiles is one of the measures whose efficacy in detection and identification of persons with affinity to paedophilia and child pornography was confirmed in our research, so the police activities should be directed to that. The involvement of the NGO sector and its potential in organizing of preventative programs are of particular importance, especially if we consider their international character and cooperation.

Naturally, in all of this, the role of media in forming of collective consciousness and public opinion should not be forgotten, and in that sense, positive potential in the promotion of preventative measures and programs should be put to good use. One of the recommendations to the lawmakers and expert public is regulation of keeping a clear and precise record of convicted paedophiles. This would include treatment measures in penitentiary conditions, evaluation of post-penal behaviour, and separation of paedophiles in special prison units where adequate medical and rehabilitation and correction treatment can be applied, with the goal of successful re-socialization and reducing of recidivism. The beginning of the debate on the introduction of chemical castration in our legislation is very significant considering the results of similar experiences in other countries that helped manifold decrease in recidivism.



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