

Features of forensic psychology analysis of psychological abuse

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The article discusses issues related to psychological violence and identifying the features of conducting forensic psychological examinations in order to establish the fact of psychological violence. Particular attention is paid to the interpretation of the concepts: psychological violence, psychological impact, psychological pressure, emotional violence, verbal aggression, coercion. The article highlights and describes the characteristic features of forensic psychological examination of psychological abuse victims.

This article purpose is to identify the key features of the forensic psychology examination of psychological abuse victims. The main research content allows us to list the characteristic features of forensic psychology analysis in the following way.

In most cases, the issues related to the forensic psychology analysis of violent actions refer to sexual or physical violence or are aimed at explaining the actions of various forms of violence on the human psyche. These circumstances lead to the fact that human psyche begins to play secondary role while performing forensic research. It is for this reason that forensic psychology analysis of psychological abuse in general and its types in particular is referred to as non-traditional types of examination.

Various types of violent actions in different ways affect the human psyche and the secondary nature of the examination does not always

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reveal the essence and results of psychological abuse that unjustifiably narrows the real scope of manifestations of violence in society.

The authors defend the opinion that at this stage it is more correct to conduct a psychological examination aimed specifically at psychological violence and not at the secondary effect of violence on the psyche. In this regard, the article proposes necessary definitions that can be used in the conduct of forensic psychological and forensic linguistic expert research.

Considering importance of conducting examinations to establish existence or lack of the psychological violence fact, it is planned to continue research to develop criteria for assessing results of forensic psychology analysis of psychological abuse.

Keywords: *psychological abuse, sexual violence, economic violence, physical violence, insult, psychological impact, psychological interaction, psychological effects, non-traditional species of forensic science, emotional harm, profanity.*

Formulation of Research Problem

At the current stage of society development, in the context of crisis phenomena in economy, politics, culture against the background of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, establishment of “colored” zones of restrictions, lockdowns and even curfews, the problem of psychological abuse and forensic psychology analysis of this phenomenon is as never relevant.

Forensic psychology analysis (hereinafter referred to as FPA) is a specific procedure consisting in research by a specialist on expert materials provided on the instructions of an investigator or a court. The FPA purpose is to assist the court and preliminary investigation authorities in a deeper understanding of the psychological content of specific issues included in the proof subject in criminal cases, civil disputes and cases of administrative offenses, as well as in research on the psychological content of

a number of legal concepts contained in law.

Analysis of Essential Researches and Publications

It should be noted that many professionals, research centers, institutions in the Republic of Armenia deal with the problem of violence, as this phenomenon has a huge negative impact on the formation, development, adaptation and ultimately on building a healthy society. In recent years, more and more attention has been paid to domestic violence and violence against women and children. Therefore in 2013 the *Types of services provided in the Republic of Armenia to women victims of domestic violence* research was published. The purpose of publishing this research was to map territorial location of services provided in the Republic of Armenia¹.

Mention should also be made of guidelines published with assistance

1 Виды услуг предоставляемые в Республике Армения женщинам ставшими жертвами домашнего насилия: справочное издание. Ереван, 2013. 37 с.

of the European Union within the framework of the *Reducing Violence against Children in Armenia* program aimed at professional work with children who have been subjected to cruel treatment. In this publication, it was emphasized that violence can hinder the physical and psychological development of a child, prevent the establishment and maintenance of adequate interpersonal relationships, contribute to the delay in development of cognitive and mental abilities and formation of behavioral disorders, etc. ²

Forensic Psychologists of the Department of Psychological Expertise of the National Bureau of Expertise SNCO of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia also carried out work aimed at clarifying and highlighting this issue published a number of scientific articles. Practice of forensic psychiatric examinations in the Republic of Armenia monitors an increase in the number of cases of forensic psychiatric examinations of victims of violence appointed by law enforcement agencies. Reasons for this increase in the indicator include such factors as the more frequent commission of similar crimes. Positive dynamics of the growth of filing and consideration in the courts of cases of similar content, most likely can be due to the fact that people have become more aware of this issue, since numerous printed materials

are published based on the results of psychological research regarding involved crimes.

Ukrainian researchers O. Mikheeva and L. Mikheeva pay attention to the problems of psychological violence in their research papers. In the *Issue of Forensic Psychological Examination of Victims of Domestic Violence in Modern Scientific Psychological Discourse* article scientists study the issue of forensic psychology analysis of victims of domestic violence. It is noted that domestic violence is becoming one of the most pressing social problems of modern Ukrainian family. It is emphasized that the analysis of current forensic expert practice testifies to the lack of corresponding methods for conducting psychological examination in criminal cases, developed and approved by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, under Art. 126-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. The need to optimize methodological support of forensic activities in relation to victims of domestic violence is highlighted. It is noted that problem under consideration is at the initial stage of theoretical study and practical implementation in current forensic science activities ³.

Whole section in the conference proceedings: *Topical issues of forensic examination and forensic science* (Kharkiv, April 18–19, 2019) is devoted to issues of psychological examination, namely: research papers of T. Egorova and V. Egorov, T. Savkina and T. Kharina ⁴. A. Zhmakova

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- 2 Саакян А., Курдова А., Сафарян А., Сваджян А., Манукян А. Профессиональная работа с детьми, подвергшимися насилию: руководство по переподготовке специалистов. Ереван, 2013. 80 с.
 - 3 Міхеєва О. І., Міхеєва М. Л. Проблема судової психологічної експертизи потерпілих від домашнього насильства у сучасному науковому психологічному дискурсі. *Теорія та практика судової експертизи і криміналістики*. 2019. Вип. 19. С. 456–463. DOI: 10.32353/knife.1.2019.036 (date accessed: 06.09.2021).
 - 4 Егорова Т. М., Егоров В. В. Дискусійні питання щодо об'єкта та предмета судової психологічної експертизи. *Актуальні питання судової експертизи і криміналістики* : мат-ли міжнар. наук.-практ. конф (Харків, 18–19.04.2019). Харків, 2019. С. 428–430 ; Савкіна Т. В., Харіна Т. Г. Обставини, що підлягають встановленню з метою призначення судово-психологічної експертизи емоційних станів. *Ibid*. С. 437–439.

(Republic of Belarus) researched the problems of psychological influence on personality⁵. Also noteworthy are articles by authors such as: S. F. I. Rizvi, N. Najam, F. B. Annor, L. K. Gilbert, E. P. Davila, G. M. Massetti, H. Kress, D. Onotu, O. Ogbanufe, N. Tracy, B. Donohue, T. Maier-Paarlberg, A. M. Parsons, R. E. Heyman, D. M. Mitnick, A. M. S. Slep, M. A. Rodríguez, D. Benton, V. A. Kelly and others⁶. Bearing in mind the above, we note that in the field of forensic psychology, the signs of psychological abuse remain a less studied subspecies of forensic science. Very often psychological abuse is presented as a result of physical and sexual violence and in most cases is not considered as a direct object of research while appointing forensic examinations of occurred violence.

Article Purpose

This *Article Purpose* is to determine key positions of forensic science activity in the issue context of forensic psychology

analysis of victims of psychological violence.

Main Content Presentation

Professional readings distinguish between traditional and relatively new (non-traditional) FPA species. Forensic psychological examination of victims on violence facts is one of the main FPA types. This type usually refers to sexual abuse or use of physical force. It should be noted that recently the problem of psychological violence has become more widespread within the framework of investigated crimes. In litigation, establishing existence or lack of the fact of psychological violence or psychological impact in general is a rather difficult task and at the moment this type of forensic examination is considered methodologically incomplete. It should be noted that this is precisely why forensic examination of the impact of psychological violence, in the opinion of many forensic psychologists, refers to non-traditional types of examination.

5 Жмакова А. С. О необходимости определения понятия психологического воздействия в Республике Беларусь. *Ibid.* С. 433—434.

6 Rizvi S. F. I., Najam N. Parental Psychological Abuse toward children and Mental Health Problems in adolescence. *Pakistan Journal of Medical Scitycts*. 2014. Mar-Apr; 30 (2): 256—260. URL: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3998989> (date accessed: 06.09.2021) ; Annor F. B., Gilbert L. K., Davila E. P., Massetti G. M., Kress H., Onotu D., Ogbanufe O. Emotional violence in childhood and health conditions, risk-taking behaviors, and violence perpetration among young adults in Nigeria. *Child Abuse & Neglect*. 2020. Aug; 106: 104510. DOI: 10.1016/j.chiabu.2020.104510 (date accessed: 06.09.2021) ; Tracy N. Emotional-Psychological Abuse Articles. *HealthyPlace*. 2012. July 24. URL: <https://www.healthyplace.com/abuse/emotional-psychological-abuse/emotional-psychological-abuse-articles> (date accessed: 06.09.2021) ; Donohue B., ... , Maier-Paarlberg T. Domestic Violence / Encyclopedia of Stress ; Editor-in-Chiff G. Fink. Academic Press ; 2nd Edition, 2007. 8676 p. URL: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/psychology/psychological-abuse> (date accessed: 06.09.2021) ; Parsons A. M., Heyman R. E., Mitnick D. M., Slep A. M. S. Intimate partner violence and child maltreatment: Definitions, prevalence, research, and theory through a cross-cultural lens / Cross-Cultural Family Research and Practice ; In W. K. Halford & F. van de Vijver (Eds.). *Ibid*, 2020. Pp. 249—285. DOI: 10.1016/B978-0-12-815493-9.00008-9 (date accessed: 06.09.2021) ; Rodríguez M. A., Benton D. Elder Abuse / Encyclopedia of Applied Psychology ; Editor-in-Chiff C. D. Spielberger. *Ibid*, 2004. Pp. 693—701. DOI: 10.1016/B0-12-657410-3/00828-X (date accessed: 06.09.2021) ; Kelly V. A. Psychological Abuse of Women: A Review of the Literature. *Sage Journals*. 2004. Oct. 1. DOI: 10.1177/1066480704267234 (date accessed: 06.09.2021).

One of the most important issues for conducting effective forensic examination is a clear definition of the problem. Therefore, we consider it necessary to clarify the concepts of *violence*, *psychological consequences of violence* and *psychological abuse*, as this will allow to form complete idea about this forensic psychological species of examination.

Violence is usually interpreted as the use of physical force, coercion, illegal, unjust action, arbitrariness, oppression, tyranny⁷. As follows there are physical, social and psychological manifestations of violence in this lexical commentary. In professionals readings, violence is defined as a physical, psychological, social impact on a person (child) from another person (child or adult), family, group or state forcing him to interrupt significant activities and perform other contradicting activities, or threaten his physical or psychological health and integrity⁸.

At all times, psychologists have tried to describe various types of violence. Currently, in accordance with the accepted classification, the following main species of violence should be distinguished:

- physical violence;
- financial exploitation;
- sexual violence;
- psychological abuse.

One of the most widespread types of violence is physical, according to T. I. Shulga, it is expressed in beatings, pinching, slaps, etc. The beatings can be applied both by hand and using objects. This type of violence is easiest to identify,

as after it the victim can develop bruises on the face, lips, torso, burns, fractures or sprains, cuts, and areas without hair on the head. Sometimes there are cases when after physical violence there are no *traces*, there are traces that pass quickly and some blows without leaving bruises can lead to injury to internal organs⁹.

Economic violence or financial exploitation is control over the use of money and other material resources, which is characterized by denial of access to livelihood, strict financial control, restriction, obstruction and criticism of his purchases and transactions, unexpected financial problems or loss of money, withholding income, using banking cards when an elderly person cannot walk, economic dependence on their abuser.

Sexual violence is often described as a violent act when a person is forced, threatened or tricked, against his will, into some form of sexual relationship. Sexual violence is any behavior of a sexual nature through which another person is controlled, manipulated or humiliated. Sexual violence in couples may be more common than is commonly thought, because patriarchal culture implies compulsory submission to the sexual partner desires¹⁰.

A more complete description of sexual violence is given by T. I. Shulga: compulsion to dress in very open clothes in which a person feels uncomfortable, unwanted touching of certain parts of the body, unwanted kisses, verbal abuse, sexual intercourse, sexual acts in the presence of a child¹¹.

7 Толковый словарь армянского языка. URL: <https://bararanonline.com> (date accessed: 06.09.2021).

8 Платонова Я. М., Руднева М. В., Тарасенко Я. М., Киселева М. В., Кучукова Я. Ю., Гарскова Г. Г., Тулупьева Т. В. *Насилие в семье: особенности психологической реабилитации* : учеб. пособ. ; под ред. Н. М. Платоновой и Ю. П. Платонова. Санкт-Петербург, 2004. 154 с.

9 Шульга Т. И. *Работа с неблагополучной семьей* : учеб. пособ. Москва, 2005. 254 с.

10 Ibid.

11 Ibid.

According to Clause 3 of Article 3 of the Republic of Armenia Law: *On Preventing Domestic Violence, Protecting Victims of Domestic Violence and Restoring Family Solidarity*, psychological violence is a deliberate infliction of severe mental suffering, including a real threat of physical, sexual or economic violence, deliberate and regular performance of such actions, which cause well-founded fears of a threat to his personal safety or family members, regular humiliation of dignity, extreme social isolation, coercion of a person to abortion¹². Psychological abuse, according to colleagues from MTÜ Ida-Virumaa Naiste Tugikeskus-Varjupaik IVNTV (Eastern Virumaa Women's Shelter-Support Center), is verbal or non-verbal violence aimed at humiliating and subordinating another person to their control.

Emotional abuse is the constant and conscious infliction of emotional pain on another and rejection of their feelings. This is not necessarily a direct resentment or shouting at the person. It can be expressed in subtle and skillful manipulation and humiliation.

Psychological abuse can be expressed in the following behavior: ignoring, silence, threats, harassment, systematic control, observation, quarrels, intimidation, abuse, humiliation, criticism, accusations, manipulations, persuasion of bad qualities (constant repetition of "You are "), jealousy, social isolation, use of children as a means of violence, organization of property dependence, limitation of ability to move, etc.

In addition to above main species, they also highlight neglect, verbal abuse, cultural violence, emotional abuse that are quite common in the context of psychological abuse.

There are now a huge number of conventions that focus on combating violence against women and children and gender inequality. In one of the mentioned conventions:

- *violence against women* is understood as a violation of human rights, that is a form of discrimination against women and means all acts of gender-based violence that lead or can lead to physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering against women, including threats of acts such as coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether in public or private life;
- *domestic violence* means all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur in the family or in the home, or between former or current spouses or partners, regardless of whether the perpetrator lives or not, in the same place as the victim¹³.

As a rule, it is difficult to imagine a situation when aggressor uses only one species of violence; victims often suffer from the simultaneous manifestation of its various species. Being closely related, each violence has a certain impact on the mental state of a person and life in general.

The consequences of each type of violence can also be very different. Thus, while sexual violence, the following can appear:

12 О предотвращении семейного насилия, защите лиц, подвергшихся семейному насилию, и восстановлении согласия в семье : Закон Республики Армения от 30.12.2017 г. № ЗР-320 (принят Национальным Собранием РА 13.12.2017 г.).

13 Конвенция Совета Европы о предотвращении и борьбе с насилием в отношении женщин и домашним насилием от 11.05.2011 г. № 210. URL: <https://rm.coe.int/16806b0687> (date accessed: 06.09.2021).

- physical consequences (most often in the genital area): psychosomatic pain;
- social consequences: fear of human groups; sexualized behavior: confusion of intimacy with sexuality, promiscuity emanating from this (with each / everyone immediately try to sleep) or severe complex; a state of uncertainty about one's own sexual orientation; sexually aggressive behavior;
- mental consequences: return to infant behavior (urinary incontinence, thumb sucking ...); sleep disorder (fear when falling asleep, dreaming nightmares); fear when touched; dependence of the most different severity¹⁴.

Children who are abused or witness domestic violence can behave in the following ways:

- refuse to go to school because they fear that someone might find out about the family violence situation;
- care about others more than for themselves; can be overly aggressive or vice versa, too passive;
- to any remarks addressed to them, they react with insults, mocking phrases, try to attack;
- behave in such a way as to draw attention to themselves;
- deliberately hurt other children or animals;
- drink, drug up or take intoxicating substances;
- talk about suicide;
- have unusual sexual knowledge;

- behave like little adults – flawlessly;
- are active in social activities in order to be at home less;
- have problems with appetite¹⁵.

According to the World Health Organization, consequences of child abuse include lifelong physical and mental health problems, and its social and professional consequences could ultimately slow down the country's economic and social development. Abuse consequences can also include committing violence or becoming a victim of violence.

Even this incomplete list of consequences of violence indicates that violence is not limited to the pain or feelings experienced at the moment. Its consequences can accompany a person throughout his life.

The listed definitions and approaches are largely focused on physical manifestations of both aggression and violence and their consequences. This unnecessarily narrows the real scope of manifestations of aggression and violence in society. It is enough to point out essential social nature of interaction and psyche of people, the consequence of which is a person's perception of even purely property losses and physical injuries, primarily through the psychological "prism" of relationships with other people and through relationships with oneself.

In a number of cases, this is directly or indirectly recognized, in particular, in the practice of lawsuits for compensation for moral damage, in relation to sexual violence and sexual exploitation. In all likelihood, the recognition of psychological aggression and psychological violence appears especially clearly in the system of restrictions and

14 Определение понятия и элементы сексуального насилия / Отпор сексуальному насилію. URL: https://sexueller-gewalt-begegnen.de/fileadmin/fachbeirat/downloads/13137_Missbrauch-Broschu_re_Inhalt_RU2013_web.pdf (date accessed: 06.09.2021).

15 О предотвращении семейного насилия, защите лиц, подвергшихся семейному насилию, и восстановлении согласия в семье

punishments spreading in the West regarding the so-called “sexual harassment” (usually translated as “sexual harassment”), qualification of which is predominantly social and psychological nature¹⁶.

It is obvious that psychological violence against the victim can manifest itself in almost any type of crime against the person. As M. V. Kroz, N. A. Ratinova, O. R. Onishenko note, such an impact may have a background nature and its results will be of little or no importance for qualifying a crime, studying the way it is committed and assessing occurred consequences¹⁷.

However, in other corpus delicti, it is psychological violence against the victim and its consequences that is the main result of the criminal’s unlawful actions leading to his goal. If specialists have sufficiently studied physical, sexual violence and the consequences of violence, have clear definitions and even legislatively enshrined, then concept of psychological violence is vaguer.

However, it should be noted that in the legal sciences, psychological impact, that has signs of destructiveness, affecting the victim in commission of a wide range of crimes, is called the *mental violence*.

With this in mind, it becomes necessary to clarify the concept of psychological violence and limits of its perception. Thus, psychological abuse is most often characterized as a form of influence on the psyche of a partner with the help of threats, intimidation, insults, criticism, condemnation, etc. That is, a constant verbal negative impact on another person.

However, similar definitions are limited and represent only part of psychological abuse.

I. N. Alekseev proposes to formulate the concept of mental abuse: “strictly in a narrow sense, since with a broad interpretation it is actually equated to coercion” considering mental violence, in any case, wider than a threat, because in case of no harm to the psyche, the threat from the category of *violence* goes into the category of *restriction of freedom of expression*. The author refers to mental violence as an extreme degree of mental coercion, and systematic humiliation of dignity, accompanied by insults, and hypnosis in the case of direct harm to the psyche (otherwise hypnosis is proposed to be considered as a restriction of freedom of expression), and if mental violence is understood as any purposeful destructive effect on the psyche, then blackmail and the threat of destruction or damage to property are naturally included in it (for example, the objective side of the crime under Art. 133 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation). Thus, the author understands mental violence as a type (method) of mental coercion, which consists in committing a socially dangerous and illegal act in the form of a direct mental destructive impact on the victim. At the same time, since coercion is also realized in the form of a protective function of the state and law, which does not entail deliberate purposeful harm, it can be used both in a positive (legislatively enshrined coercive measures) and in a negative sense, in contrast to *violence* that carries extremely negative nature¹⁸.

16 Волков Е. Н. Критерии, признаки, определения и классификации вредящего психологического воздействия: психологическое травмирование, психологическая агрессия и психологическое насилие. *Журнал практического психолога*. 2002. № 6. С. 183–199.

17 Кроз М. В., Ратинова Н. А., Онищенко О. Р. Криминальное психологическое воздействие. Москва, 2008. С. 8, 61.

18 Алексеев И. Н. Понуждение, принуждение и насилие в уголовном праве. *Уголовный процесс*. 2006. № 1. С. 3–13.

An attempt to construct terminology of psychological violence was undertaken by A. B. Orlov in relation to child-parent relations. Its definition is as follows: “psychological (behavioral, intellectual, emotional and other) violence is deliberate manipulation of an adult child as an object, ignoring his subjective characteristics (freedom, dignity, rights, etc.), or destroying the relationship of attachment between adults and a child, or, on the contrary, fixing these relations and leading to various deformations and disorders of mental (behavioral, intellectual, emotional, volitional, communicative, personal) development”¹⁹.

According to A. B. Orlov, the spectrum of psychological violence includes:

- psychological influences (threats, humiliation, insults, excessive demands, excessive criticism, lies, isolation, prohibitions on behavior and experience, negative assessment, frustration of the basic needs and needs of the child, etc.);
- psychological effects (loss of confidence in oneself and the world, diffuse self-identity, field-dependent cognitive style, external locus of control, concern, anxiety, sleep and appetite disorders, depression, aggressiveness, compliance, complaisance, poor academic performance, communicative incompetence, low self-esteem, tendency to be alone, suicidal tendencies, delays in physical and mental development, etc.);
- psychological interactions (dominance, efficiency,

unpredictability, inconsistency, inadequacy, rejection by parents and subordination, insensitivity, rigidity, irresponsibility, insecurity, helplessness, self-deprecation on the part of children²⁰).

According to E. N. Volkov, psychological abuse is a social and psychological influence that deliberately forces another person or a group of people to actions or behavior that were not part of their intentions; violating psychological boundaries of a person or a social group, carried out without informed consent and without ensuring the social and psychological safety of an individual or a group of people, as well as all their legal rights; leading to social, psychological, physical or material harm (damage)²¹.

Generalization of the above different formulations of the concept of *psychological violence* allows us to identify a number of its common features:

- psychological abuse manifests itself in external environment;
- it is expressed in concrete, conscious acts of human behavior;
- expressed in certain forms (as a rule, it has an informational impact on the victim);
- can have a direct (directed at the victim) and mediated (against his relatives, property, facing the future, etc.) nature;
- has a specific addressee;
- pursues certain goals (causing physical, material harm or moral damage, restriction of free will);
- acts as a means of crime committing;
- causes certain consequences.

19 Орлов А. Б. Психологическое насилие в семье — определение, аспекты, основные направления оказания психологической помощи. *Психолог в детском саду*. 2000. № 2—3. С. 183—184.

20 Ibid.

21 Волков Е. Н. *Op. cit.*

Considering these signs, a quite successful, in our opinion, definition of psychological violence was proposed by L. V. Serdyuk back in the early 80s of the last century. "Mental violence is a deliberate and socially dangerous influence on the human psyche, which is carried out against her will by informational and non-informational means and that can suppress freedom of expression or cause mental trauma"²².

It should be mentioned that despite the fact that concept characteristics of *Psychological abuse* in both professional and public fields are quite different (mental abuse, psychological impact, psychological pressure, emotional violence, verbal aggression, coercion, etc.), all of them taken together are united by one common concept of *psychological abuse*. We consider it important to emphasize that, in contrast to the concepts of *psychological impact*, *aggression* and *coercion* being multifaceted phenomena, can be positive in nature (education, training, legislative measures of coercion) and have negative consequences (crimes, suicide), the concept of *psychological abuse* is extremely negative.

The task of the psychologist, within the framework of the forensic psychological examination of the victim on the fact of sexual violence is to obtain answers to the following questions:

Could the victim understand the nature and significance of the actions taken against him in the current situation under investigation considering his individual psychological characteristics, level of intellectual and personal development and his state of mind?

Could he have resisted the victim in the current situation under investigation considering his individual psychological characteristics, state of mind?

Can individual psychological characteristics of the victim significantly affect the victim behavior in current situation under investigation?

As noted earlier, the species of forensic examination is considered one of the main ones; it is widely used in both civil and criminal cases.

Given the importance of conducting an examination to establish existence or lack of psychological violence fact, it should be noted that in some cases it is more expedient to conduct a multidisciplinary forensic linguistic and psychological examination and in cases where there is suspicion of mental health: forensic psychological and psychiatric one.

This species of forensic examination can provide invaluable assistance in establishing socially dangerous emotional consequences of psychological violence. We believe that such expert conclusion will be the objective and most convincing evidence of causing socially dangerous consequences²³. This species of forensic examination is assigned to determine what negative influence lexical means have on a person as a bearer of social values. If we take insult as a type of psychological violence, the most significant sign reflecting insult (its measure) is social assessment. As G. V. Kusov notes, forensic linguistic examination of an insult, built on scientific foundations, can significantly reduce judicial errors²⁴. Within the framework of this research, the task of

22 Сердюк Л. В. Психическое насилие как предмет уголовно-правовой оценки следователем : учеб. пособ. Волгоград, 1981. 62 с. ; Ключенко Л. Н. Психическое насилие: вопросы уголовно-правовой регламентации и квалификации : дис. ... канд. юрид. наук. Москва, 2019. С. 29.

23 Сидорова И. В. Оскорбление как разновидность психического насилия. *Психопедагогика в правоохранительных органах*. 2017. № 1 (68). С. 28—32.

24 Кусов Г. В. Судебная лингвистическая экспертиза «оскорбления»: развитие современной

linguists is to get an answer to the question: «Whether information is defaming the honor and dignity of a person, or damaging his reputation, offensive for the victim?» Competence of psychologists should include establishment of influence characteristics of expressed information on a specific person and the diagnosis of psychological state of the victim at the moment and after the perception of this information by him. At the stage of preparation for an examination of this type, it is necessary to pay special attention to collecting facts from the life of the subject that are necessary to identify his psychological characteristics. Such data of the subject as: conditions of development and upbringing, character, interests, typical forms of psychological reaction, as well as the relationship between the victim's parents, the condition of life and the presence of brothers and sisters are of particular importance.

Based on the analysis of research results of the issues of general composition of insult as a type of mental violence, as well as generalizing the accumulated practical experience, we fully support the conclusions of I. V. Sidorova, who formulated the following conclusions:

Social conditionality of the administrative and legal prohibition of insult follows from the fact that this offense is one of the varieties of socially dangerous mental violence having all signs of the latter (unlawful intentional encroachment on a person's mental safety, causing mental harm).

Insult as a type of mental violence is intentional negative expressed in obscene vocabulary or other indecent form; evaluation of another person, causing him emotional harm in the form of humiliation of dignity.

Objective side basis of the insult is an action in the form of humiliation of a person's dignity (his negative assessment), performed in one of three possible forms: physical impact on the victim, word, gesture.

Insult as material composition of the offense should be recognized as completed from the moment of the onset of socially dangerous consequences: emotional harm in the form of humiliation of the victim's dignity. From a psychological point of view, the harm caused by an insult is suffered by the victim in the form of experiencing a negative emotional state, namely: an offense.

Emotional harm is patchy. Representing as a whole a kind of mental harm, causing damage to mental health, it has properties inherent in psychological state of the individual, closely intersects in the process of insult with moral harm.

Profanity as a means of humiliation of human dignity should be recognized as a sufficient basis for the conclusion about an indecent form of insult ²⁵.

Conclusions

Expressing a generalized description of the forensic psychology analysis of psychological abuse, the main attention should be paid first of all to the fact that in the process of conducting forensic psychological and forensic linguistic analysis it is necessary to determine whether information defaming the honor and dignity of a person, undermining his reputation is offensive for the victim, as well as to establish influence peculiarities of expressed information on a specific person, diagnose the psychological state of the victim at the moment and after he perceives this information.

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25 Сидорова И. В. *Op. cit.*

In the future, bearing in mind that this issue continues to remain debatable, it is planned to continue the study while which the issues of subjective perception of psychological violence victims will be analyzed and studied in more detail, influence specifics of negative information expressed on mental health of a particular person and the assessment of psychological trauma in cases of compensation for moral harm and protection of honor, dignity and business reputation of citizens.

Особливості судово-психологічної експертизи психологічного насильства **Рубен Агузумцян, Гаяне Шахвердян**

Розглянуто питання, що стосуються психологічного насильства та виявлення особливостей проведення судово-психологічних експертиз для встановлення факту психологічного насильства. Особливу увагу приділено інтерпретації понять: «психологічне насильство», «психологічний вплив», «психологічний тиск», «емоційне насильство», «словесна агресія», «примус». Виокремлено й описано характерні особливості проведення судово-психологічної експертизи жертв психологічного насильства.

Мета — визначити ключові особливості судово-психологічної експертизи потерпілих від психологічного насильства.

Основний зміст дослідження дає змогу класифікувати характерні особливості судово-психологічної експертизи в наведений далі спосіб.

Здебільшого питання, пов'язані із судово-психологічною експертизою насильницьких дій, належать до сексуального чи фізичного насильства або спрямовані на пояснення дій різних форм насильства на психіку людини. Зазначені обставини призводять до того, що людська психіка під час проведення судово-експертних досліджень починає відігравати вторинну роль. Саме через ці причини судово-психо-

логічну експертизу психологічного насильства загалом та її види зокрема вважають нетрадиційними видами експертизи.

Різні види насильницьких дій по-різному впливають на психіку людини, і вторинність у процесі експертизи не завжди дає змогу виявити сутність та результати психологічного насильства, що не виправдано звужує реальну сферу проявів насильства у соціумі.

Автори обстоюють думку, що на цьому етапі більш коректним є проведення психологічної експертизи, спрямованої саме на психологічне насильство, а не на вторинність впливу насильства на психіку. У зв'язку із цим запропоновано необхідні визначення, які можна застосувати під час проведення судово-психологічних і судово-лінгвістичних експертних досліджень.

Зважаючи на важливість проведення експертиз зі встановлення наявності чи відсутності факту психологічного насильства, планується продовжити дослідження щодо розроблення критеріїв оцінювання результатів психологічної експертизи психологічного насильства.

Ключові слова: психологічне насильство; сексуальне насильство; економічне насильство; фізичне насильство; образа; психологічний вплив; психологічна взаємодія; психологічні ефекти; нетрадиційні види експертиз; емоційна шкода; обценна лексика.

Особенности судебно-психологической экспертизы психологического насилия

Рубен Агузумцян, Гаяне Шахвердян

Статья посвящена изучению психологического насилия и выявлению особенностей судебно-психологической экспертизы, направленной на установление факта психологического насилия. В работе представлены классификация и характеристики различных видов насилия, а также примеры проявления последствий различ-

ных видов насилия. Проведено сравнение таких понятий, как «психологическое насилие», «психологическое воздействие», «психологическое давление», «эмоциональное насилие», «словесная агрессия», «принуждение». Особое внимание уделено преступлениям, где именно психологическое насилие над жертвой и его последствия являются основным итогом противоправных действий преступника. В настоящем исследовании предпринята попытка описать характерные особенности судебно-психологической экспертизы жертв психологического насилия.

Цель статьи — определить ключевые особенности судебно-психологической экспертизы потерпевших от психологического насилия.

Ключевые слова: психологическое насилие; сексуальное насилие; экономическое насилие; физическое насилие; оскорбление; психологическое воздействие; психологическое взаимодействие; психологические эффекты; нетрадиционные виды экспертизы; эмоциональный вред; обценная лексика.

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Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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