ADDICTIVE BEHAVIOR OF MINORS IN FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC PRACTICE

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Along with the changes taking place across the country including economic, social, political and spiritual life of society, the character and degree of deviant behavior inevitably changes and new patterns of deviant behavior of minors appear. Undoubtedly, pathomorphosis has affected manifestations of chemical addictions in adolescents.

The study of the combined effects of specific family, intra- or interpersonal, cohort, environmental, constitutional and genetic factors contributing to the formation of addictive behavior, the features of its manifestation, as well as the impact of behavioral disorders due to the use of surfactants on the formation of aggressive criminal behavior, is still one of the most clinically and socially significant areas of focus. Studies conducted over the past several decades show that the early appearance of addictive behavior rarely appears in an isolated form; most often addiction is combined with mental development disorders and mental pathology.

The use of volatile solvents is a form of addictive behavior, specific for children and adolescents. The urgency of its study is determined by a number of circumstances including early age of onset of use, widespread prevalence in the adolescent population, association with deviant forms of behavior, and severe medical and social consequences of abuse. Among the reasons for the formation of dependence on alcohol, as well as other forms of deviant behavior, pre-comorbid features play a large role. Alcohol addiction often occurs in juveniles with features of mental immaturity, against the background of disharmonious infantilism, in teenagers who have no expressed intellectual interests, and against the background of a pronounced residual organic pathology.
Alcohol dependence in minors is formed several times faster than in adults, which is explained by immaturity of the body and its nervous system, rapid growth during puberty, increased suggestibility in relation to aggressive advertising of alcoholic products. The regular use of alcoholic beverages increases the dynamics of mental disorders. The use of synthetic drugs can quickly lead to addiction and the development of irreversible destructive processes in the central nervous system. Negative outcomes from synthetic drug use can range from cognitive disorders to severe organic disorders of the personality, which further creates diagnostic difficulties.

An episode of clinical psychosis can arise from a myriad of factors, and is commonly associated with depersonalization-derealization syndrome, paranoid symptoms with ideas of persecution, anxiety that may lead to agitation, and visual and auditory hallucinations, which are often accompanied by excessive excitation and aggressive behavior. A number of authors noted that people suffering from drug addiction often commit unlawful acts related to narcotic substances (storage, distribution), the theft of personal property, and a low proportion of especially serious offenses such as murder or serious bodily harm. However, with the advent of synthetic drugs, the types of illegal actions committed have changed significantly. Illegal acts committed by adolescents in a state of intoxication with synthetic drugs are distinguished by aggressiveness, and are directed mainly against the person.

To understand the illegal behavior of minors with addictive behaviors, a systematic approach is needed taking into account the current psychopathological syndrome, personal characteristics, the type of drug used and the situation immediately preceding the commission of unlawful actions.

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CLINICAL AND FORENSIC ASPECTS OF ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR OF ADOLESCENTS

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Introduction: Every year, tens of thousands of children and teenagers in Russia commit wrongful acts falling within the scope of criminal proceedings, thus acquiring the status of the accused. Among teenage offenses, more than half (52%) committed aggressive or violent misdemeanors. Moreover, among the features of juvenile delinquency, it is necessary to note the nature of continued illegal acts. Among the major trends as observed are growth of social deviations, criminal activity of girls, and high juvenile recidivism. Among the main social characteristics of juvenile offenders: 1) more than 70% of them were brought up in dysfunctional families; 2) 65% of parents of teens abusing alcohol; 3) almost half (48%) were brought up in single-parent families; 4) 48% - were subjected to brute force; and 5) 38% of them previously committed crimes. Also, there is a steady increase in the number of minors addicted to psychoactive substances, while one in five teenage convicts committed the crime in a state of intoxication (narcotic or alcoholic).

Results: According to our Centre (The Serbsky National Medical Research Centre of Psychiatry and Addiction) in 2017, among nosological forms of mental and behavioral disorders in adolescents with unlawful conduct, it has traditionally been a significant prevalence of organic mental disorders (57%), emerging personality disorders (9.8%), and schizophrenia spectrum disorders (17.6%). Addiction of different psychoactive substances was set at 8% of cases. As part of comorbid disease, "Addiction of different psychoactive substances" was established in 6% cases, and "Harmful substance use" in 2%. It should be noted that as a comorbid disease, harmful use and even the addiction of several psychoactive substance are observed much more frequently, but these disorders are not submitted by the expert commission in a separate "second" diagnosis and treated in the structure of the underlying disease, as an additional stronger exogenous hazard for leading to mental disorder. Only 11.8% of juveniles were identified as not suffering from any mental disorder in last year. The structure of expert solutions for juveniles according to our Center for 2017 is as follows: 1) 41.4% of minors have been recognized as "unable to realize the actual character and social danger of his actions and control them" ("irresponsible"); 2) 17.4% of minors are categorized as "is not fully able to understand the actual nature and social danger of his actions and control his actions"; 3) 41.2% of minors are identified as ("diminished responsibility"), are fully able to realize ... and control his actions ("responsibility").

Conclusion: The nature of mental disorders plays an important role in behavioral abnormalities in minors. The presence of mental disorders in adolescents increases the impact of negative environmental effects and contributes to common illegal behavior. The investigation of criminally relevant mental disorders in juvenile offending behavior continues to be a very important issue.