

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS IN THE DIFFERENT SPEECH MATERIALS OF MINORS, VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

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Background: In Russia's legal procedures of the late 20th - early 21st centuries, cases of sexual crimes, victims of which are minors, are increasingly becoming a common occurrence. Accusations of this kind are seldom based on direct evidence of witnesses, more often than not, they are based on evidence of the victims themselves or/and their relatives. These accusations, as a rule, are verbal and serve as the only proof of the charge. This factor has led to the development of a trend in psychological and linguistic expert science that studies, analyzes and interprets the verbal and non-verbal behavior of underage victims. One of the main problems is the elaboration and verification of the methodology of the study, the aim of which is analysis of various verbal material: the communicative and speech ability of the victims, their verbal and non-verbal behavior in a concrete communicative situation, or a recorded text of any kind.

The aim of study: Elaboration of principles and sequence of complex psychological and linguistic analysis of verbal evidence of underage victims.

Subjects and methods: This study is a summary of the practical participation of specialists in 15 cases of sexual crimes against minors (cl. 131, 132, 135 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation) in five regions of Russia (Sverdlovsk and Chelyabinsk regions, Perm region, Yamal National Autonomous Region and Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Region). The victims were 11 girls and 4 boys, from 5 to 17.5 years of age. The following methods were used to analyze the verbal evidence of the minors: observation, semi-structured interview, discourse analysis of speech, analysis of logical, semantic, emotional and evaluative structure of the text, component analysis of the lexical meaning of the word and the semantic structure of the verbal utterance.

Results: In the process of making their conclusions, specialists or experts discovered that legal and investigating organs and lawyers were offered both direct and indirect verbal materials for analysis, each of which has its own specifics. The direct (primary) materials include printed, hand-written, video and audio sources which contain, with varied degrees of completeness, the text to be analyzed or parts of it (utterance, word) - all of which is the product of a certain author. The indirect (secondary) materials include evidence of witnesses, interrogation material of the suspects (the accused) and the victims, protocols of court proceedings that inform about the arguable points in the text (utterance, word), and where and how it was all written.

Study of these materials made by specialists within the framework of inquiries and criminal charges brought to light the peculiarities that cause problems concerning the authenticity of analysis and interpretation of what underage victims had said: firstly, the way the evidence of the minor was registered - in the form of a written text, more often than not with the help of an adult (parents, relatives, or an official: police investigator, psychologist, etc.). Secondly, the way the spoken material was put down on paper and the time it was done: in one text or in several; in texts written only by the victim or by the victim with his/her relatives; in texts written right after the incident or sometime later.

The first factor poses the problem of whether or not psychological and linguistic characteristics of the words registered as evidence of the victim correspond to his/her age and to his/her individual and psychological characteristics. As a rule, the words said by a child that are put down in interrogation protocols by adult officials and signed by them, do not correspond to the child's age, nor to the level of the child's verbal development, nor to the child's individual and psychological peculiarities because the police investigator writes it all down as it is professionally accepted with required juridical correctness and exactness of formulation, but the way it is written down on paper does not correspond to the child's or adolescent's level of development.

The second factor actualizes, on the one hand, the problem of how well the victim is prepared or how well he/she has learned the text or the degree of its spontaneity, on the other hand, there is the problem to what extent the contents of the evidence correspond to what actually happened.

Analysis of verbal materials within the framework of the legal cases, in which the specialists had taken part, showed that usually more than one text or audio (video) recording is given for analysis. As a rule, it is several narrations, registered or taped within time intervals of several days, weeks or months. Their contents and speech characteristics, more often than not, contradicted the age specificities of functioning and level of development of the cognitive functions of the child: perception, memory, thinking process. Thus, the earlier texts of the minor often contained considerably less details of the traumatic event than

the later ones, created after repeated retellings to different people: relatives, friends, police investigators - people who asked numerous exacting questions about the details of what happened, when and how. This problem was clearly seen when the episodes and their compositions were compared in the texts of the victim belonging to different periods of time, when analysis of the degree and character of their structuring and concretization was made.

Numerous repetitions of past events made the child memorize them and, as a rule, this blurred the boundary between the real events and their interpretation in the mind of the underage victim that took place in the child's mind during the discussion. Studies of psychology of the mind convincingly prove that children aged from 5 to 10 are inclined to interpret events the way the adult who is important for them sees it.

Analysis of the presented speech material also stressed the significance of the methods of determining spontaneity or preparedness of the evidence given by the child, how well it was memorized by him, especially in dialogues with the police investigator. Observation has shown that to solve this problem it is necessary to take into account such psychological, psycho-physiological and linguistic peculiarities of spontaneous speech as the active use of components of non-verbal communication (mimics and gesticulation); absence of space uniformity in speech, as well as contradictions in speech; brevity of expression, the presence of parts of sentences and unfinished sentences, breaks in utterances and inconsistency of speech from the logical point of view, the emotional factor and assessment, inattention to way of expressing thoughts, etc.

On the whole, analysis of speech material showed the necessity of three stages: pre-text, text and post-text analysis. The pre-text stage is to consist of preliminary viewing of video recordings, division of the video recording into fragments and work with them; the text stage presupposes the viewing and listening to audio and video tapes, the making of shorthand scripts of the verbal behavior by way of discourse transcription; the post-text stage consists of verbal and non-verbal means and selection of utterances that can help answer the questions standing before the specialist.

Conclusions: Expertise of speech material in cases connected with sexual crimes against minors require the obligatory presence of specialists or linguistic experts that are acquainted with methods of linguistic, psycho-linguistic, onto-linguistic and psychological analysis of speech of underage victims.

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THE RISK FACTORS DISRUPTING PSYCHOLOGICAL ADAPTATION IN PATIENTS ON PROLONGED DIALYSIS TREATMENT

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Background: Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is always associated with psychological effects on the personality of the dialysis patients. As any other chronic ailment, CKD is an unending process that turns the patient into an invalid and one that requires the patient's own efforts to help him psychologically adapt to systematic dialysis procedures. At this, psychological adaptation is to be understood as the ability of the person to adequately and critically see the body as an Ego, to perceive its image and be able to evaluate oneself in a situation of stress caused by an incurable chronic illness.

The aim of study: To discover the risk factors of psychological adaptation disruption in patients on prolonged dialysis.

Subjects and methods: Sixty-seven patients (43 males and 24 females) with CKD for a period of 15.9±9.8 years took part in the study carried out by the Dialysis Center of the "Ural Medical Center" in Yekaterinburg. The average age of the male patients was 55.5±13.5, which of the female patients was 54.5±14.3. All the patients had been on dialysis from 2 to 15 years. Patients were selected in accordance with principles of medical ethics and deontology, on volunteer basis. Design of study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Center. Study of the patients' psychological adaptation was carried out with the help of the research methodology of self-attitude ("MIS", by S.P. Panteleyev); with the Lazarus coping-test; with T.F. Cash's questionnaire "SIBID" and "BIGLI". Extent of anxiety and depression was determined by A. Beck's Anxiety and Depression Scale.