

Causes of Sexual Crimes in Afghanistan and Ways to Prevent Them

Shahidullah Safi¹, Zahidullah Shenwari² and Matiullah Weqar³

^{1,2,3}Professor, Department of Judgement and Prosecution, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Paktia University, AFGHANISTAN.

¹Corresponding Author: shahidsafi22@gmail.com

ORCID

<https://orcid.org/0009-0000-9372-6983>



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ABSTRACT

Sexual crimes significantly undermine the cultural and moral fabric of society. Similar to other types of crime, these offenses have identifiable causes that must be understood to effectively prevent their occurrence. Recognizing the importance of addressing the root causes of sexual crimes in Afghanistan is crucial for fostering social development, stability, and intellectual and cultural security.

This article aims to identify the underlying causes of sexual crimes in Afghan society and propose measures for their prevention, which have contributed to the rise of such offenses. To conduct this research, both library resources and internet sources were utilized.

The investigation revealed three primary categories of causes for sexual crimes in Afghanistan: family-related factors, personal issues, and broader social influences. Addressing these factors is essential for formulating effective prevention strategies.

Keywords- sexual crimes, causes of sexual crimes, solutions.

I. INTRODUCTION

Crimes have a significant impact on society, families, and individuals, and they are universally regarded as detrimental. To effectively prevent these crimes, it is essential to first identify their underlying causes and work towards eliminating them. In the context of sexual crimes, understanding these causes is particularly important.

Currently, some women and girls engage in sexual relationships outside of formal unions. These relationships often serve dual purposes: achieving material gains and contributing to the erosion of moral standards. Men are also implicated in sexual deviance. Furthermore, adolescents exhibit sexual deviant behaviors in various ways, necessitating a multifaceted approach to prevention. This scholarly article explores the

social factors that contribute to the emergence of sexual deviance and related crimes.

On the one hand, social factors, moral values and the environment have an effect on sexual crimes and deviations, on the other hand, the personality of the same person also has an effect on the creation of crimes; Therefore, all these factors were taken into consideration during the research. In this research article, all the causes of sexual crimes are divided into three parts; Which include: Domestic reasons, Individual and personal reasons, Socio-economic and cultural reasons.

Research Problem

The lack of specific identification of the various causes of sexual crimes in Afghanistan hinders effective eradication efforts.

Questions

1. What are the underlying causes of sexual crimes in Afghanistan?

2. What strategies can be implemented to address the factors that contribute to the increase and decrease of sexual crimes in Afghanistan?

Objectives

1. To identify and analyze the causes of sexual crimes in Afghanistan.
2. To determine effective prevention strategies for the causes of sexual crimes in Afghanistan.

Hypothesis

1. The primary causes of sexual crimes in Afghanistan are familial, personal, and social factors.
2. There are no significant causal factors (familial, personal, and social) contributing to sexual crimes in Afghanistan

II. FAMILY REASONS

Family plays an important role in the socialization of people. Sociologists say that any behavior of parents has a direct impact on their children. Therefore, differentiating between children has negative consequences. Some of the family reasons that push a person to commit sexual crime and deviance are as follows reasons (Azizi, 1399 AH, P. 11).

(A): Parents do not pay attention to their children's sexual issues

When parents show their weakness during an argument with their children, then the children know that the parents are treating them with indifference and weakness. Therefore, their children cannot understand social principles well. From the observation of those criminals who have just reached the stage of puberty, one of the factors of crime is parental indifference. They do not accept any household responsibility and are self-willed (De Francis, V, 1995). Also, they cannot establish a relationship of love and affection among themselves (Ki Nia, 1382 AH, P.199). In this regard, Dr. Ki Nia says: Parents should consider balance in all matters, they should not overdo it. If the parents do not pay attention to the sexual issues of their children or if they are not given correct and timely information when the children reach puberty; So sex leads to deviations. Because at this stage there is a possibility of unusual actions. Mohammad Wali. S says: There are families in Afghanistan who strictly monitor and control their children's sexual desires against the truth. That is, it is excessive in control, which creates an atmosphere of mistrust between children and parents. Some families do not react to sexual issues and do not supervise the family. Both situations are alarming (Wali. S, personal communication, July 23, 2024).

(b) Disputes between family members

When parents are involved in criminal deviance and other members of the family learn from them and call this deviance a legitimate act because their parents do it. Dr. Ki Nia says this about the crime of children and young people: (Children have a great need for imitation in their lives and this psychological effort is true) (Ki Nia, 1382 AH. P. 199). A parent who is addicted to drugs causes his

children to commit various crimes, until he encourages his children and wife to engage in sexual deviance and crimes in order to earn money (Griffee et al., 2014).

In the case of disagreement, the family members are not happy, even they do not come home. Divorce leads to sexual deviance for all members of the family. Everyone is expected to commit a crime. In such situations, children are deprived of their parents' love and cannot receive full education. If the family does not have Islamic knowledge and does not create a religious environment in the family, then the possibility of sexual deviations increases.

(c) Monitoring and control

If the necessary monitoring is not done in the family, arbitrariness arises, everyone looks at their own preferences and tastes, and in this way, they are led to be unruly (Mwangangi, R. K. 2019).

In a family that lacks strong management, supervision, good relationships and good behavior; Sexual deviation occurs (Hassanzadeh, 1381, P. 84). Sitting with non-mahrams in family, gatherings and parties, as well as being friends with several women, also helps to normalize gender deviations (Alasvand, 1385). Disregarding the hijab, women and girls stripping themselves, having unrestrained relationships in the society and the weak management of parents over the family are the things that lead to sexual deviations and crimes.

(d) Disparate behavior and hatred in the family

Most of the parents consciously or unconsciously differentiate between their children, this creates disagreement and hatred between them. It has a negative effect on his spirit (Jensen, A. C., & Whiteman, S. D. 2014). In Afghanistan, girls are not loved or supported by their families. Most absconding crimes in Afghanistan are caused by the bad behavior of parents. Some run away as a result of domestic violence and some because of moral corruption (Azizi, 1399, P.16). Parents should have affection for children, especially girls. Some women in the society resort to sexual deviations and crimes based on economic problems. If financial assistance is given to these women, it will be prevented.

III. PERSONAL REASONS

Personal reasons are related to the individual, the individual commits sexual crimes and deviations consciously and intentionally or naturally. Moral and psychological characteristics, life, age, gender, beauty, selfishness, hatred, love, moral weakness and modesty, etc. They are the reasons that lead a person to sexual crimes and deviations. (Akbar, Azizi, 1399, P.17).

(a) Psychological causes

In the investigation of crime, psychological causes are given much attention. The brain is the center of intellect, consciousness, understanding, consciousness and will; So whenever the nerve is destroyed or weakened for any reason; As a result, a person cannot distinguish

between good and bad, which is why he commits crimes. (Safi, 1399, P. 71). Psychologists are of the opinion that sex offenders are suffering from mental illness, their existence prepares the ground for sexual crimes, then slowly they enter prostitution (Joseph K.P. Lee, Henry J. Jackson, Pip Pattison & Tony Ward, 2002). Common characteristics of sex offenders include feelings of inadequacy, anger, heightened sexual desire, a lack of need for others, and a lack of empathy (Behnam, 1385, P. 321). Someone who has an anti-social personality, individual family and social principles are worthless to him, he is only immersed in his own pleasures. Such people show sexual reactions very quickly, this characteristic can be seen in both men and women. (Mills, J. F., Anderson, D., & Kroner, D. G. 2004). One theory says that the origin of sexual deviations in man is related to his childhood (Behnam, 1385, P. 212).

It is possible that sexual deviations start as a result of imitating another criminal, therefore it is necessary to monitor children; Because children are naturally affected by the behavior of their environment.

(b): Life-related causes

The subject of sexual deviations is also related to age, beauty, gender and lifestyle. Caesar Lombroz said this for the first time in his work (Criminal Human Identification). Later, his followers clarified this issue in the light of hereditary, genetic body structure and individual characteristics. (Jahn, K et al., 2022).

This section includes both children and adults (Azizi, 1399, P. 19). Islamic texts also prove that sexual deviations are hereditary, that is why the holy religion of Islam has forbidden marriage with prostitutes. Children of prostitutes, especially those born as a result of illicit relations, are more interested in sexual relations. (Muhammad Ali, 1385, P.185). Therefore, aspects related to human life; Such as: body, soul, morals, environment and family should be taken into consideration.

(c): moral reasons

When a person does not have religious studies, it is expected that his behavior will be immoral. Also, women who wear inappropriate clothing (tight, delicate...), or decorate and act in such a way that other people's attention is attracted, not only do they stimulate the sexual power of young people; But they are also involved in sexual deviations and crimes. (Fisher, B. S., Daigle, L. E., & Cullen, F. T. 2010). Islamic faith and morals are very important in the training of young men and women; It is necessary for every family in the society and every person in the family to equip themselves with Islamic beliefs and morals (Azizi, 1399, P.20). So, a Muslim never forgets the pleasures of the eternal world after death as opposed to the temporary pleasures. A sexual relationship between a woman and a man should be based on affection and morality. Therefore, morality is what prevents sexual deviations. Morals are so important that the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him peace, said: I have been sent to perfect morals.

(d): Alcoholism

Addiction to alcoholic beverages is called alcoholism. According to a statistic that was conducted in the French country, it shows; 65%of crimes have been committed by alcoholics (Safi, 1399, P.111).

From the point of view of the holy religion of Islam, the prohibition of alcohol is fixed; Accordingly, all Muslims are strictly prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages; Allah (swt) said about this:(Believers! Intoxicants, games of chance, idolatrous sacrifices at altars, and divining arrows are all abominations, the handiwork of Satan. So, turn wholly away from it that you may attain to true success) (Al-Ma'idah, Ayat 90). Also, it has been proven scientifically and practically; Alcohol plays a major role in the occurrence of sexual crimes. (Abbey, A. 2011).

IV. SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC REASONS

In every society there are sexual, social, cultural and economic reasons. (Sutherland believes that deviant behavior is learned from misguided and criminal friends in society) (White Whins, 1383, p. 159). A person does not turn to sexual crimes when he reaches maturity, but there are socio-cultural and economic reasons in the family and society that make a person a sex criminal. (Tewksbury, R., Mustaine, E. E., & Covington, M. 2010). Due to some specific reasons in the society, the sexual issues of young men and women are not paid attention to. that induces a person to commit sexual crimes. Let's discuss a few reasons (Azizi, 1399 AH. P.21).

A. Sexual knowledge of boys and girls

It is very important for boys and girls to learn about sex. The existence of strict customs in Afghanistan means that no one even asks anyone about sexual matters.

B. Religious values

Ignoring religious values increases sexual crimes. The more religious values are ignored, the more moral deviations increase.

C. Poverty and unemployment

Poverty and unemployment also make people commit sexual crimes. The government needs to provide employment to all citizens. (Ciacci, R., & Sviatschi, M. M. 2022). Research shows that most of the girls and women turn to illicit sex because they cannot get the essentials of life due to poverty (Azizi, 1399 AH. P.23).

D. Increasing age

Boys and girls who reach the stage of puberty, feel lust in themselves towards the opposite sex. The sexual instinct comes with the thought of fulfillment. Getting married is a good solution (Azizi, 1399 AH. P.23). But in increasing the age of marriage, strict family behavior, high expenses and poverty increase the age of marriage, that's why young people remain single for a long time. (Jackson, E. K. 2016). Various studies show that singleness and increasing age lead to sexual crimes. On this basis, the more single people there are, the more

sexual crimes and deviations there are, unlike married people.

E. way of life

In today's society, the lifestyle of young people and girls is considered an important reason for the emergence of sexual crimes and deviations. It is necessary to live in such a way that all aspects of it should be equal to Islamic law and social principles. (Azizi, 1399 AH. P.24).

V. CONCLUSION

The fulfillment of sexual desire is a natural aspect of human life. However, when this desire is not satisfied in accordance with Islamic Sharia and laws, it is classified as a sexual crime. The prevalence of such crimes indicates a decline in social and cultural standards. While it is acknowledged that sexual crimes will not completely vanish, there are effective social and moral strategies that can be employed to prevent these offenses within society.

In Afghanistan, three primary factors contribute to the occurrence of sexual crimes: family factors (including the dynamics between parents, their behavior towards children, and the level of supervision of children), personal factors (encompassing psychological issues, life circumstances, and ethical considerations), and social factors.

To address and reduce sexual crimes in Afghan society, legal and judicial bodies must first implement effective policies aimed at fostering healthy family environments. These policies should provide clear guidance on various aspects of family life, such as parent-child interactions and oversight of children's activities. By establishing such standards, healthier families can be nurtured, leading to well-adjusted children who will benefit society as a whole.

Additionally, a supportive psychological environment should be cultivated to ensure the mental well-being of individuals, as a sound mental state is foundational for developing positive character traits. Such characters play a crucial role in preventing sexual crimes.

Social, cultural, and economic factors also greatly influence the rates of sexual crimes. Therefore, it is essential to educate both boys and girls about the dangers associated with illicit sexual behavior.

One significant driver of sexual crimes in Afghan society is poverty and unemployment. When individuals face economic hardship, they may resort to committing sexual crimes to survive. The government must leverage all available resources and strategies to combat unemployment in order to alleviate poverty and, consequently, help prevent sexual offenses.

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