

SOCIAL NETWORKS AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

ABSTRACT: *Ever since the beginnings of history, it was impossible to imagine a society free of the widespread influence of various means of human communication. This is especially true of modern society. Different types of media shape individual development, their thinking, attitudes and behaviours, in a good as well as in bad way. For this reason, countless criminological and psychological studies have been done to comprehend and explain the influence of mass media on crime incidence rate. This topic has increasingly occupied scholars and has been the subject of conferences and panel discussions worldwide. Until recently, television was the most influential medium, exerting enormous influence on the younger generations. However, with the emergence of the Internet and social media, the audience's attention has been hijacked by social networks content, primarily targeting young people – and not just at scheduled times, but throughout the day. This paper will discuss the etiological influence of social media on juvenile delinquency phenomenon.*

KEY WORDS: *juvenile delinquency, social networks, Internet, media, juvenile*