



Family Psychology

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The family is the most important institution of personal socialization. It is the family where a person receives the first experience of social interaction. Over a period of several years it is the sole place where the child gets such experience. Then he faces such social institutions as kinder- garten, school, and street. However the family still remains the most important factor of personal socialization. The family can be considered as a model and a form of *basic vital training of personality*. The socialization arises from purposeful education, as well as from interpersonal learning. The process of interpersonal learning follows two main directions in its turn. On the one hand the person gains social experience through immediate interaction with parents, brothers and sisters; on the other hand the socialization is carried out with the help of observational learning of interpersonal interaction of other family members.

Traditionally the family is regarded as the institution which satisfies safety-security need. We would like to attract your attention to the possible destructive influence of the family upon personality development and a hazard factor of delinquent behavior and delinquent personality development. Families with alcoholism, drug addiction, antisocial values, antisocial behavior, and families with frequent conflicts, aggression and violence against child, emotional deprivation fall into a category of families with psychosocial disorders. A lot of families disorders correlate with delinquent behavior of adolescents which is confirmed by statistics data and test researches.

Social disorders of personality development have been connected to family structure disorders, that have been used in reference of incomplete family- the family with one parent (the most widespread –the lack of the father). The statistics data about adolescent crime collected all over the world strengthened this theory. Nevertheless they discovered a new tendency in the 1960s and 1970s. First of all the difference between complete and incomplete families for quantity of delinquent youth has gradually decreased, and then has disappeared. Presently they think that the main factor of negative family impact over personality development doesn't consist in structural, but in psychosocial family disorder. This is a global tendency.

It is necessary to underline that structural family deformation is extremely undesirable.

It contributes a lot in social personality deviation, especially if we do not reduce the range of deviations to delinquent behavior. Besides, researches show different



results of delinquency. For instance, according to one of Russian researches 50% of delinquent adolescents live in incomplete families. It means the second half has the complete family. But 70% of delinquent adolescents have the families with different manifestation of psychosocial deviations. (Korolev V.V.) Another researcher (Zabrianski G.I.) has noted the same tendency, though the received figures vary: 39% of delinquent youth who were sentenced lived in complete families and 56% correspondingly in incomplete ones. Frankly speaking, we should take into account the number of incomplete and complete families in the society: there are less incomplete families. There is also evidence that can not be invoked in favor of this above-mentioned tendency. Thus, the data received in one of researches (Yliashenko A.N.) stipulate that 53% of criminal youths and 62% of criminal girls live in incomplete families (separated or even uncreated) In the control group of adolescents with prosocial outcomes, the number of adolescents from incomplete families correspondingly decreased in 2 or 2.5.

As a whole, when we speak about impact into antisocial development of adolescents and about structural and psychosocial deformation of the families, we should realize that they are not polar categories. The notion of psychosocial deformation is much larger than structural deformation. Psychosocial deformation is not unique to complete families but to the incomplete families as well. Though, probably, they are not equal.

The important mechanism of negative family influence on the personality development is the deviant family socialization. Antisocial values, standards and stereotypes can be assimilated through interpersonal learning and imitation if such values and standards predominate in the family. In compliance with the concept of interpersonal learning (Bandura A.), the socialization consists in adaptation of usual reactions, accepted in the close environment of the individual.

In the frame of this concept the antisocial behavior is considered as a result of specific social learning. In this case the origin and reinforcement of such behavior we should seek in early childhood; first it depends on how parents have brought up their child in first years of life and then later during his adolescence. The reinforcement of antisocial behavior follows three main directions: the frank declaration of antisocial standards and values emphasizing that is the only way to be successful, parents' criminal or antisocial behavior towards children., observational learning of deviant attitudes of real parents behavior even if they verbally declare prosocial values and behavior. The family matrix that trains youth in prosocial behavior doesn't only suggest the lack of reinforcement of antisocial behavior and punishment but it primarily consists in interpersonal learning of prosocial skills, constructive ways of problem solving and implementation of different personal motives. As it was established, the biggest difference between children with prosocial and delinquent behavior lies in the fact that the delinquent youths do not prefer patterns of destructive behavior; they simply do not know how to relate to people. So socialization it is the process of acquiring of knowledge and prosocial skills, it is bringing up of personal dispositions and attitudes that let react to the frustration in socially acceptable way.



The family transfers to the adolescent the patterns of problem solving and certain values.

The family with alcohol problems, for example, increases the probability of antisocial behavior and causes socio-pedagogical abandonment, development of infantile personal trait, neurotic disorders. Besides it reinforces the pattern of family interactions, creating immature personality using the alcohol or drugs if the situation becomes complicated. (Emeliantseva T.A.)

Other important mechanism of family influence on development of social deviations and antisocial behavior is emotional indifference to the child, rejection of his personality. There is a great number of researches that convincingly shows dependence between negative interactions in the system "parents-child", emotional deprivation and deviant personality development.

They have found out that if the child has negative relations with one or both parents, if the tendency of positive Self-esteem and Self-concept are not embodied in parents appraisal and if the child doesn't feel parents support and trusteeship, the possibility of delinquent, criminal behavior increases, it leads to rejection by peer group, the child uses aggressive behavior towards family members.

The main condition of effective socialization and prevention of deviant behavior is the development of affection, when the child seeks positive regard and appraisal of close environment, first of all of his parents. Then the affection reinforces the adaptation to social requirements and interdicts, that is to say prosocial behavior. We have to underline that one of the factors which play important role in development of deviant behavior, is not only interpersonal learning itself, but frustration emerging if the child doesn't get parents love and harsh and inconsistent discipline.

A significant body of researches suggests that aggressive and nonaggressive adolescents have different degree of parents attachment and intimacy. The aim of one of such researches (Bandura A., Walters R.) was to study particularities of identification of violent and nonviolent youths. They revealed that the parents' identification of nonaggressive youths is stronger than of aggressive ones. The degree of difference between two these groups was distinguished by mother and father's identification. The strongest difference exists in father's identification among aggressive and nonaggressive adolescents. The relevant difference of mother's identification is less significant. Mother's identification among aggressive and nonaggressive adolescents appears rather high and close to average group index.

The last fact can be explained, in our opinion, by exclusive role of mother in the system of affection and social attitudes of the adolescent. It is clear that the violation of mother's identification can't be discovered in any deviant behavior, but in very serious cases of personal development disorders. For example, the results of one of the researches (Rean A.A, Sannikova M. U.) provide evidence that the attitude to mother is the most positive in the system of relations with close environment (we have also studied the attitudes to father and peer group). We have found high correlations among lowering of positive attitude to the mother, increase of negative descriptors



(characteristics) used for mother's description and general negative attitude to all social relations. We predict that this fact is the fundamental phenomenon of total negativism (negativism of norms, phenomena and social objects) which is characteristic to people having negative attitude to their mothers. In the whole, negative attitude to the mother is the important indicator of unfortunate personal development.

Reverting to the title of the article, we'd like to emphasize that the family shouldn't be a factor of social personal deviations, it is to say eventually the factor of social disadaptation. On the contrary, the family should be a factor of effective personal socialization, the factor of social adaptation and personal success. But this aim requires a lot of efforts. The efforts must be applied by individuals, close environment, all the society and without fail by the state. Efforts should go into every kind of strengthening of family values in the society, diversified family support and social care of its development.