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Development of communicative competence of each member of a family as one of effective means of preventive measures of ideology of extremism and terrorism

It is theoretically and empirically proved that one of a principal reason of emergence of a phenomenon of terrorism is a quality of relations in a family. The elaborated programme of psychological correctional training in development of communicative competence of each member of a family promotes preventive measures of extremism and terrorism.

Key words: terrorism, reasons of terrorism, a psychological portrait of a terrorist, family as a resource of preventive measures of extremism and terrorism.

The concept of terrorism has no standard definition. The interpretation of its content originates from different theoretical sources. I.R. Mikheev explains the given fact with complexity of the phenomenon of terrorism and reasons of subjective character existing at domestic and international levels [3].

There is a widespread opinion that «terrorism (from Latin “terror” – fear, horror) is a use of violence or a threat of its commitment concerning separate persons, a group of persons, or various objects, accompanied by frightening of the population and purposeful imposition of conditions of fear, depression, intensity in order to obtain political, economic, ideological and other results which are efficient for terrorists and represent an increased public danger and a public character of its commitment» [3].

Researchers examine reasons and motivation of terrorism from the point of view of both psychological reflection of objective parameters of the crisis phenomena of a society in its psychological state and results of comparative psychological researches of motivation of a real terrorist activity. Comparison of these two directions of the analysis allows us to determine a degree of a psychological state of the society for motivation of terrorism, possible prospects of the practical approach to the prevention and neutralization of spheres of terrorist activity [4].

At the same time it is marked in psychological researches of motivation of terrorism that an obvious psychopathology among terrorists is rather an unusual phenomenon. And there are reasons for this statement. In the domestic psychological literature personal determinants which frequently become incentive motives of the introduction of individuals to the way of terrorism are described: «a low self-esteem; an insufficient personal identity; hyper-concentration on protection of the own «Self» by means of a projection with a constant aggressive-defensive readiness; elements of splitting of the person; a strong need for joining a group, i.e. for a group identification or a belonging; experience of a great extent of the social injustice with a propensity to project reasons of the own failures onto the society; a social isolation and an estrangement, feeling of a presence at the far side of the society and a loss of life's prospect. And at the same time the given list of characteristics is not a generalized psychological



profile of the personality of a terrorist. In a number of cases political-ideological motives of joining a terrorist group are of great importance. But these motives are more often a form of rationalization of more deep personal motives such as an aspirations for strengthening the personal identity and, that is especially important, needs of belonging to a group» [4].

As a matter of fact «a terrorist group in psychological sense releases an individual from incompleteness or split of psychosocial identity. It becomes for him/her a stabilizing psychological basis, allowing hem/her to feel like an integral person; an important component of his/her self-consciousness and finding of the meaning of life; a powerful mechanism of spiritual, valuable and behavioural stereotyping» [4].

At the same time scientists studying the problems of terrorism consider that if in any cultural community and especially in multinational one there is no adequate relaxation of a normal social activity and a normal social aggressiveness of an individual to socially significant purposes, they easily become marginal and take other shapes up to pathological displays in the form of narrowly national "ideological unity" or aggression and fanaticism of small groups» [2].

However, taking only coercive measure is not enough to solve the problem of terrorism once and for all. Even having a well-organized reconnaissance, wielding the best methods of struggle against terrorism, the very education of the moral person is the most effective means of preventive measures of terrorism [2].

The terrorism is not a consequence of national, political or religious mistakes and exaggerations, but it is a problem of rather a low level of moral-ethical development which is equally urgent both in the Chechen Republic and in Russia. Therefore the best way for beginning preventive measures of terrorism is to start from oneself.

«Analysing the psychological state of the Russian society, psychologists proceed from its following understanding: it is a prevailing in the society as a whole and in various social and ethnic groups emotional-mental state (or a social-psychological climate) through which attitudes of citizens to their life, their past and their future as well as their perception of the social-political reality, their views, spirits and tendencies of behaviour are interpreted. As a common parameter of the psychological state of the society such specific indicators as statistics of suicides, neuroses and psychoses, an occupational traumatism, and also the facts of mental epidemics are used» [4].

The results of the analysis testify that parameters of «mental and spiritual health of the Russian society, its psychological state are at an unprecedented low level. For a large mass of the population it is primarily characterized by the loss of the life's prospects, hopes and belief in future; the loss of the meaning of their life; feeling of inability to overcome the life's difficulties, feeling of despair in an anemia; depression and unconscious neglect of their life and health; psychological readiness for mental infection and suggestibility» [4].

In V.A. Sosnin's opinion, the constructive solution of the problem depends on necessary in the given moment, purposeful, joint and coordinated reorganizations in economic, social and political spheres in our country [4].



Today the problem of terrorism disturbs everybody irrespective of what country he/she lives in and whether the tragedy has wounded his/her native and close people or has not. The terrorism brings an anguish of loss, indignation, tears, but at the same time it makes everyone think of the reasons of happening events and of what things or actions we can do in the existing circumstances [1].

So, the personnel of the General Psychology Department of Psychology Faculty of the Southern Federal University have got a positive experience of preventive measures of ideology of extremism and terrorism. S.V. Gridneva, candidate of science in Psychology, an assistant professor of the given department has carried out a number of educational procedures (master-classes, seminars and trainings for schoolchildren, students and representatives of teaching staff of Pedagogical Institute and Psychology Faculty of the Southern Federal University, the Chechen State University, the Kabardino-Balkarian State University, etc.) which have been devoted to the insufficiently studied subject of family resources in antiterrorist activity.

The practical, learner-centered approach to the training organization has allowed participants to realize that the very family is a source of knowledge and comprehension of oneself and the own life-sense values by each member of the family; it develops a feeling of belonging at each member of the family, helps to form an active civic attitude, and also to design a psychological portrait of a terrorist, to analyse styles of family interaction which would be a resource for development of a humane person or, on the contrary, would promote a formation of culture of violence in the family, and, hence, the young generation of these families could belong to «a high-risk group» with a potential orientation to participation in extremist and terrorist groups.

Within the framework of educational procedures the participants have been offered a programme of a psychological correctional training and given an opportunity to take part in it personally while the trainer has a session with the audience showing effective techniques of working with a family. The participants at one time have had two roles: members of a family and experts.

Then applying the received knowledge and skills, participants of educational procedures have carried out independent work aimed at development of their own model of preventive measures of ideology of terrorism in a family taking into account regional and professional features of the participants.

Discussions based on the feed-back from this joint activity have revealed the novelty and unreadiness of the discussed problematics in theory and in practice, and also insufficient understanding by modern parents the necessity of forming the civil consciousness, the tolerant attitude to people and to the world as a whole, and other moral values at their children.

The first active productive steps to attraction of families to the state antiterrorist policy of have been taken in the Chechen Republic; and a positive experience of similar work of law-enforcement machinery, psychologists and families in the Republic of Ingushetia has been also submitted in the television program called «the Military program» by A. Sladkov on September the 18, 2010.



The results of final interrogations according to the questionnaire «Family as effective means of preventive measures of ideology of terrorism» which have been conducted in various groups of participants of educational procedures have shown that all respondents felt a state of an emotional comfort during educational procedures and realized the improvement of their own competence in communication as a necessary condition of an effective joint activity. 94 % of participants noted that during the training they so distinctly realized a huge role of quality of family interaction for preventive measures of ideology of extremism and terrorism for the first time. 88 % of participants declared doubtless usefulness of the given educational procedures for them personally. And 82 % of participant of groups announced their readiness to continue raising the level of their skills at this sort of educational procedures in the future. 73 % of participants highly estimated training hand-outs which, in their opinion, would help them during the work at the investigated problem in their professional activity in future.

Thus, it is possible to draw a conclusion that the system of psychological correction training aimed at development of communicative competence in personal communication of all members of a family is in great demand. The literary data show that training is more intense and effective way of increasing personal and professional competence than many directive measures of compulsion, prohibitions and constraints, as it has got a learner-centered character. In our opinion, it is possible to effectively provide the professional psychological help to members of a family which has got «high-risk group» children and to those who has survived an act of terrorism, to increase their psychological competence and minimize their psychological difficulties in mutual understanding, to prevent extremist and terrorist activity with the help of trainings carried out regularly.

Our experience has shown that developing of communicative competence and an active civic attitude of each member of a family is a basis not only for personal success, but also for peace and safety of the country. Preventive measures of extremism and terrorism demand a lot of time and general efforts of family, educational establishments, public organizations and law-enforcement machinery. And in particular the sort of active joint efforts will necessarily bring positive results.

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