

**CRIMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF FACTORS AFFECTING FEMALE
CRIME: PROBLEMS AND THEIR SOLUTIONS**

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the analysis of the specific factors underlying female recidivism, as well as the major challenges that impede its prevention. The study examines the distinctive characteristics of women's repeated offending, including economic vulnerability, dependence on intimate partners, traumatic experiences, mental health disorders, drug and alcohol addiction, as well as the influence of social and cultural stereotypes.

Keywords: criminal recidivism, criminological determination, female recidivism, causes and conditions of crime, female criminality.

1. Introduction.

Changes in legislation in our republic in recent years have also affected crime issues, specifically the improvement of the fight against female recidivism. The need to combat female recidivism is crucial because women's criminal behavior has a profoundly negative impact on society, its institutions and communities, especially the family, and its overall moral and psychological atmosphere. Female recidivism is dangerous because its growth or decline is an indicator of the moral health of society, its spirituality, and its attitude toward fundamental human values.

In our article, we attempt to classify the most significant factors in the state and development of female recidivism into criminal-political, socio-economic, legal, organizational-managerial, moral-psychological, and other socially significant factors.

Literature review on the topic.

In our study, we sought to deeply analyze the research of a number of domestic and international scholars, including their scientific views, to analyze female recidivism, the penalties applied to them, and measures to prevent female crime. In particular, we note the research of Russian scholars:



R. Kabulov, K.R. Abdurasulova, G.U. Akhmedova, A.G. Zakirova, M. Usmanaliev, and Z.S. Zaripov. Among international scholars, we highlight the research of Yu.M. Antonyan, M.N. Gernet, and M.V. Karpushin.

2. Research Methodology.

This study utilizes a comprehensive approach to examine female recidivism: criminological (analysis of the structure, causes, and personality of female offenders), psychological (emotionality, impulsivity, and motives), sociological (the influence of social institutions, lifestyle, and victimization), and legal (statistics and types of crime). Documentary research, expert assessments, surveys, and victimological studies are used to understand the characteristics of female recidivism, often related to property, drugs, and family and social issues.

3. Analysis and Results.

The increase in female recidivism is influenced by specific factors, such as economic and family factors, lack of post-release support, antisocial relationships, and internal problems, as well as domestic violence. These factors require gender-sensitive resocialization programs, as domestic violence is a powerful victimization and criminogenic factor in crime studies.

Economic factors significantly influence the rise in female recidivism. Poverty, unemployment, and high levels of income inequality can drive women to repeat offenses such as theft, fraud, and embezzlement, especially if they have previous convictions for similar crimes.

The consequences of unemployment after release lead to decreased work motivation, increased alcoholism, and often lead women to forgo legally acquired essential consumer goods, pushing them to commit repeat offenses.

Another important area of concern for women who have committed repeat offenses is their legal awareness. Deformations in their legal awareness manifest themselves in legal illiteracy and a loss of guidelines for lawful behavior. A significant proportion of repeat offenders are dominated by motives of physical survival and immediate gain. Many of these women have lost their sense of purpose in life as a result of disappointed expectations. According to statistics, the female crime rate in Uzbekistan for 2019-2024 was: in 2019, 5,032 women committed crimes, of which 435 were sentenced to imprisonment, of which 6.6% were repeat offenders; in 2020, a total of 5,774 women, 427 of whom were sentenced to imprisonment, of which 6.8% of women were for repeat offences; in 2021, a total of 9,759 of which 806 women were sentenced to imprisonment, 8.7% of which are repeat offenders; in



2022, a total of 11,460 women, of which 1,241 were imprisoned, 10.2% of which are repeat offenders; in 2023, a total of 10,891 women were convicted, of which 1,290 were imprisoned, 9% of which are repeat offenders of women; in 2024, Of the 7,132 women, 1,182 were sentenced to imprisonment, of which 8.8% were repeat offenders.

From 2019 to 2024, the rate of repeat offences among women increased by 2.4%, while the use of imprisonment sentences tripled. The overall share of crime among women in 2019 was 11.8% of the total crime rate, and in 2024, it was 12.2%. This indicates the need to improve the social adaptation of released women to society. This also includes the need to establish practices for training women released from penal institutions for professions in demand in the labour market, which will effectively contribute to their social rehabilitation and adaptation to society. Therefore, monitoring the employment status of women released from penal institutions using the Employment Service information system is of paramount importance.

By regional distribution, the number of women who reoffended in 2024 was 7,163, with the highest proportions in the Fergana (940), Tashkent (737) regions, and Tashkent city (1,189). The lowest numbers of female offenders were registered in the Syrdarya (169) and Jizzakh (203) regions, as well as in the Republic of Karakalpakstan (265).

A criminological analysis of female repeat offenders revealed that specific personality traits of certain female repeat offenders include social and moral degradation, affective instability, decreased adaptive mechanisms for self-regulation, inappropriate rage, psychological dependence on repeated drug use, and a lack of accountability before the law. In analyzing the socio-demographic factors of women who repeat offenses, we concluded that the most criminally active group is women aged 30-40. This period often coincides with the peak of social and emotional stress: career development, raising children, and personal problems. A significant portion of women are unemployed or employed in low-paying, low-skilled sectors of the economy.

According to official data, 586 women who had violated the law were registered for preventive measures in 2024. Most of these women were residents of the regions. Crimes are often committed in family settings—due to arguments, conflicts, and emotional outbursts. Unfortunately, the victims of such crimes are loved ones: husbands, children, relatives, or cohabitants. Such crimes can have various causes; in some cases, women act deliberately, while in others, they act in self-defense or under pressure. Sometimes, crime becomes the only way to stop domestic violence, which has been a long-term sufferer for a woman.



When studying the family status of this category of women, we found a statistically high proportion of single, divorced, and single mothers, indicating profound family maladjustment and a distortion of moral and legal norms. They are characterized by egocentrism, impulsiveness, or, conversely, a high degree of cunning and calculation.

The loss of family ties among women who have served their sentences, as well as their voluntary refusal to return to their loved ones, is another factor that should be considered when studying female crime. Women who have reoffended give reasons for not establishing family ties and returning to their families, citing "their lack of shame in public," while the support of family and loved ones is an important incentive for women to start their lives afresh.

I would also like to draw special attention to the psychological characteristics of women who reoffend, noting the high correlation between childhood abuse and subsequent recidivism due to unresolved psychological trauma. This leads to increased anxiety, emotional instability, a tendency toward neurotic and affective reactions, and low self-esteem, offset by aggressive and demonstrative behavior.

Therefore, a set of measures aimed at preventing female crime must be specific and distinct from general preventive measures, as the target of intervention—female crime—is quite specific. Therefore, in recent years, Uzbekistan has focused on the early prevention and criminalization of domestic violence, which often triggers retaliatory crimes by women, in the area of female crime and delinquency. The main innovations adopted in this regard include early crime prevention in the mahalla.

Particular attention is paid to crime prevention among women and in family and domestic relations. In mahallas with high crime rates, scientific research is being conducted to identify the causes of crime and its early prevention.

There is no hope of reducing female crime unless issues of social security for women and their unequal status in society compared to men are addressed. Women's criminal behavior is determined by the interaction of objective and subjective factors in social reality, among which social factors play a leading role.

Modern female crime has its own socially determined characteristics, which are directly dependent on economic, legal, and demographic factors, such as age, employment, financial status, and family relationships.

Consideration of issues related to women's criminal behavior is primarily driven by the need to study female crime as an independent structural element of crime.



Difficulties in managing emotions are a more significant factor in recidivism for women than for men. Women with cognitive disabilities face a double stigma, which leads them to return to criminal activity. Changing gender roles in society among female criminals leads to an increase in violent crime. We attributed the following to the specific causes of female recidivism:

1. The focus of criminal law policy on forced socialization and intimidation for convicted women;
2. The absence of provisions regulating women's post-penitentiary adaptation, comprehensive support for women after release, and adequate oversight of these individuals;
3. Social and moral neglect due to their psychophysiological makeup and exposure to antisocial group sentiments.

A significant factor in the adaptation of women who have served their sentences is discrimination in employment, especially for those with previous convictions, which leads them to relapse into criminality. Particular attention should be paid to how the maladjustment of women who have served their sentences to life outside the prison system can lead to recidivism.

Based on the numerous factors influencing the rise in female recidivism, we can confidently say that reducing female crime in Uzbekistan requires a comprehensive approach that includes both prevention and rehabilitation measures and improvements in women's socioeconomic conditions. Only through the joint efforts of government agencies, public organizations, and society itself can we reduce crime and ensure safety for all citizens.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations.

Our research allows us to conclude that female crime is a complex, structurally and motivationally heterogeneous phenomenon, driven by the combined effects of socioeconomic, psychological, and biological factors.

Its specific characteristics are manifested in the predominance of selfish and selfish-violent motivations, close ties to family and everyday life, and the personality traits of female offenders, who are characterized by profound social and psychological distress. Current trends indicate a definite evolution of female crime toward greater organization and brutality. Therefore, effective, comprehensive prevention is a priority in this area. Preventing female crime will help improve the moral climate in society and improve the education of the younger generation.

Based on the results of our research, we can offer the following practical recommendations for preventing female recidivism:



- To reduce the risk of women reoffending, ensure their participation in specialized gender-specific rehabilitation programs while serving their sentences;

- Conduct psychological discussions with women while serving their sentences to encourage them to maintain family ties with loved ones and relatives, as strong family ties are a key factor reducing the likelihood of recidivism in women.

Stricter separation of first-time offenders from repeat offenders in prisons is also necessary to prevent the "learning" of criminal behavior.

Develop programs aimed at reintegrating women into society, including vocational training in relevant professions and employment support.

Develop programs to provide effective psychological support to women who have served their sentences and help them adapt to life outside prison.

We believe that only through the joint efforts of government agencies and society can we reduce crime rates and ensure safety for all citizens.

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