

SUBJECT, TASKS AND PRINCIPLES OF LEGAL PSYCHOLOGY

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Abstract. Features of the development of psychological knowledge depend not only on the connections between psychology and other sciences. They are no less determined by the growing needs of social practice. As is known, previously psychology was predominantly a theoretical (worldview) discipline, but now, while maintaining its cognitive role, it is increasingly becoming an area of professional practical activity in industry, public administration, the education system, healthcare, culture, sports, etc. Thus, modern psychology is a very extensive system of scientific disciplines, at different stages of formation and associated with various areas of practice.

Key words: legal, criminal psychology, problems, tasks, principles

The main part

We all live in a certain psychological reality, the laws, phenomena and mechanisms of which are unchanged and invariably influence our consciousness. Legal psychology, therefore, studies the psychological reality that arises in all possible types of legal relations. The following aspects can be highlighted in these studies:

- activities of various government, legal and economic organizations;
- the influence of these organizations on the legal system;
- life, behavior and legal relations in civil society.

At the same time, directly considering the subject of this discipline, three areas of research can be distinguished:

- psychological phenomena not related to the field of law;
- area of law;
- the area of intersection of law and psychology.

Firstly, we have already said that historically this science developed precisely under the influence of the psychological community. At the same time, within the framework of general psychology, such basic concepts as:

- memory;
- attention;
- motives;
- personality - its definition and the study of its constituent elements.

Secondly, the activities of psychologists within the framework of legal psychology are accompanied by certain legal norms. Moreover, these laws do not speak about psychological phenomena in their pure form, but about legal relations, i.e., the psychologist here is completely immersed in the sphere of law. At the same time, the task of psychologists will be to track the process of transformation of the sphere of law into legal-psychological patterns. And this applies to both individual types of their activities and its most general patterns. And the third area is the overlap that arises when both law and psychology operate. Legal psychology is a huge and interesting branch of research at the intersection of psychology and law, which makes it an interdisciplinary field, and the workers involved in it are specialists who combine the knowledge and skills of a competent lawyer and psychologist at the same time.

In general, we can distinguish three most important types of tasks facing this discipline:

- scientific synthesis of psychological and legal knowledge;
- development of the personality and professionalism of workers associated with legal activities, as well as the re-education of convicts;
- increasing the efficiency of legislative and executive bodies, as well as their specialists.

If we talk about the first task, then we can distinguish two subtasks:

1. Arming all legal workers, as well as all citizens who are involved in the development of legal norms, with relevant legal and psychological knowledge. Currently, laws and legal norms are often adopted based on the abstract principle of the “common good” without taking into account how much they contribute to the socialization of the individual and influence the mental sphere of society as a whole.
2. Reveal the psychological and legal essence of basic legal categories. In criminal law, this may include the categories of corpus delicti, guilt, motive, purpose and identity of the offender.

Conclusion

Russian science faces a universal problem that is also characteristic of all international practice - the problem of the theory and methodology of psychological and legal research. It arises due to the fact that legal psychology still continues to build its methodology and theory. Problems more specific and reality:

- terminology and problems associated with the dual legal and psychological interpretation of concepts. For example, in legal literature the concept of motive differs from the content it has in psychology. In the criminal code and in legal works, a motive is understood not as something that prompts a person to act, but as a certain formulated goal (for example, a crime);
- unscientific and descriptive concepts. For example, criminal psychology notes that the term aggression can be understood as aggression in the family, aggressive behavior of a child, etc. In this regard, simply within the framework of the definition of aggression, a large number of acts that do not fall within the scope of attention of law enforcement agencies can be cut off.

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