Analyze the College Students' Crime with the Perspective of Criminal Psychology and the Corrective Solution Measures

WANG Lina
School of Political Science and Law, Henan Polytechnic University P. R. China, 454000
Linda1010@tom.com

Abstract: In recent years, the college students’ crime-committing rate is presenting an increasing trend. This paper mainly concerns the reasons of the college students’ crime-committing and the criminal psychology. We recommend that colleges should enhance the education in mental health of college students and carry out law publicity. Meanwhile, colleges should also pay attention to the humanistic care for the students and make efforts to strengthen school management in order to take precautions against crime-committing effectively.

Key words: College students, Criminal physiology, Demands, Colleges and universities, Administration

Foreword

In the last few years, the college students’ crime-committing rate has been presenting an increasing trend. According to the relative surveys, the number of the college students’ crime-committing covers 1.26% of the total number. The number of college students’ crime-committing has been increasing since 1999. Compared with 2003, this number has increased by 54.5% in 2004; and in the year 2005, this number has nearly doubled. In recent years, juvenile delinquency accounted for 70% to 80% of the social criminal offences, while the college students occupied 17% of the total number.

From Murdering case by Ma Jiajue from Yunnan University, injuring bear’s case by Liu Haiyang from Tsinghua University, and the teacher-murdering case by Fu Chengli from China University of political science and law, we can get that the college students’ crime-committing is presenting a characteristic of more cruel, more complex, diversification.

When exploring the leading cause of college students’ illegal activities, we will find the psychological problem is one of the most vital causes. But meanwhile, educational deficiency and loopholes of the supervisory of families and schools’ are also the important reasons. Only starting with the criminal psychology and analyzing the real reasons of crime-committing of college students, can we find out the corresponding countermeasures and promote the improvement and perfection of administration measures.

1 Reasons accounting for the emerging of the college students’ crime-committing

1.1 The internal course
1.1.1 Features of certain age-period belonging to the college students
In our country, adolescents are those who are aged from 14 to 25 accounting to the criminology research. And college students are often aged from 18 to 23. Therefore, college students make up an important part of the adolescents.

The college students, lying in the mid and late period of adolescent, though are basically mature and also belonging to the high IQ group with active and quick thinking, their psyche are developing from immaturity to maturity and also their value are unsteady. Life in the Ivory Tower delays their movement to the society. Therefore, from the psychological view, compared with the same ages in society, college students are rather brittle and puerile and they look at things in the simple way.

1.1.2. The Demand Theory and Crime-Mentality
According to the most common dichotomy method, man’s demand can be divided into physiological demand and social demand. Physiological demand will help maintain the existence of life and the
continuity of races, while social demand will help satisfy people with the obtaining of power achievements and self-esteem, etc.

Some scholars define crime from the angle from crime-psychology as this: Crime is an action which deserves the corresponding penal punishment. It is a kind of unrecognized and intolerable way in society by actors who own the capability of taking the responsibility of criminal actions to satisfy their own demands, which will infringes the main social value protected by law. Therefore, from the angle of the demand theory, we may get that the emerging system of crime-psychology caused by demand is that once it realized by people and related to the concrete satisfying methods or targets (producing inner forces to motivate individuals to act), demands will be converted into motivation. Under the provocation of bad or not good motivation, actors will pursue the satisfaction of demands in an unreasonable and improper way, regardless of the benefit of others and the society, which is certain to become a threat or cause some real damage to the relationship of the society protected by law and will finally bring about a crime.

College students, as members of society, also have the physiological demand and social demand. However, compared with the same ages in society, college students, as the knowledgeable adolescent group, possesses more and higher elements of social demands. According to the scholars’, research in our country the main demands of the college students may be ordered like this (from the most urgent to the least urgent): development, respect, communication, contribution, safety and physiological demands. Therefore, the advantaged demands of the college students mainly lie in the superior social demands or mental demands.

At the same time, staying in the colleges in the different areas and levels, college students with different sexes from different grades and family backgrounds will also have different individual demands, when comes the contradiction of strong communication demands and loneliness, ideal and reality independence and dependence, low self-evaluation and high self-expectation, success desire and continuous setbacks, emotion and reason, physiology’s maturity and sexual psychology’s relatively immaturity, etc, once these contradictions can not be released off, they will be involved in some physiological problems. These badly unsatisfying demands and long time absolved physiological contradictions may attribute to the college students’ emerging of the criminal motivation and formation of crime-committing. Therefore, making a full understanding of the different crime physiologies will help us to effectively prevent students from their committing crimes.

1.2 External causes

1.2.1 Absence of the humanism in education

Our traditional education on exams urges the school, society and family to pay only attention to students’ scores instead of moral cultivation and basic qualities. All these lead to some college students’ lack of humanity spirit and social responsibility, low sense of self-esteem and self-control. What’s more, with the increasing enrollment of the colleges, schools will lower their enrollment standard, thus has also led to the rising crime rate of some students in recent years. Therefore we should help to change some students’ idea of absolute utilitarianism, cynical passivism and vulgar egoism; We should cultivate them with the respect of the basic social value, the formation of plain moral feelings and the establishment of the basic yardstick of the freedom of sense; We should make them have a basic feeling of the duty of social life and possess humanity spirit.

1.2.2 Influences of bad culture in transitional period of the transitional period of the society

In the transitional period of China, every social member, including the college students, are influenced in different aspects and degrees, this will cause the multiplex, and vagueness of the social value and goal, as well as the freedom to choose and act. And with the increasing intensity of the social competition, there will be more chances for college students to choose their goals of life. This again will lead to some students’ anxiety of choosing their goals and decadence of doing whatever they like; Together with the dissatisfaction of college students’ psychological demand, it will easily make the college students troubled with psychological problems and then become the subjective research of crime-committing.

At the same time, under the circumstance of the market economy, some members in society regard material benefits as the only yardstick to measure the personal achievements. The absolute mammonism
becomes a fashion and these bad cultures of pursuing the material benefits misguide some college students’ concept of value and value of life. Also, the excessive pursuit of material enjoyment will tempt and stimulate these college students to commit crimes.

According to the survey of college students’ crime-committing reported on Chinese Education Newspaper in Nov.12, 2004, larceny covers half of the total crimes, taking the first position, while in girls’ crime-committing, larceny and prostitution occupy 70% of the total crimes. Reasons accounting for this are desires for money and pleasure.

2 Strengthen the psychological well-being education of college students and take precautions against crime-committing

2.1 Establish the demand guidance system and warning system of college students

Demands are different in every period of college; we should give the proper education according to different periods. At first, we should make a regular psychological health investigation to the college students so as to make a comprehensible knowledge of students’ psychological condition; we will establish psychological records for the students to find out the “problem students” who require the most attention; we are going to talk with students one by one and go to their houses to know more about the students and figure out the special need hiding after the psychological problems. Furthermore, we should set up a Demand Warning organization according to the psychology records. This organization includes psychological advice organization which will timely give concerns and helps to those students who have psychological problems.

2.2 Attach importance to the demands of the guidance on psychological health and offer counseling on psychology

According to the sampling investigation on 176,000 college students several years ago, 20% of them were found to have psychological diseases. In order to guide the demands of the students better, we may guide their demands through the psychological health education. To be more specific, colleges should popularize the courses of the psychological health education, establish a sound counseling administration of psychological health, enrich the counseling service of psychology, offer a variety of services such as telephone counseling, internet counseling, group counseling, community counseling, psychological drama and so on. At the same time, in order to prevent crimes, it is necessary to establish a psychological propaganda column and broadcasting column and to set up an Psychological Health Association to offer timely help to those college students who are trapped in metal misery and have a tendency to commit crimes. Psychological counseling can help college students release their psychological pressure and improve their sustaining ability towards psychological pressure and adaptation ability to social environment, and it will also help to prevent crime tendency. First of all, psychological counseling will relieve college students from sense of puzzling and sense of disappointment and help them set up their goals. Furthermore, psychological counseling will help college students to face calmly with psychological pressures coming from nervousness in studies, poverty in lives and difficulties in getting a job. It will also encourage students to take a more optimistic, stronger, and more confident attitude towards lives. What’s more, psychological counseling will help students free from the excessively dependence of the internet, overcome the psychological barrier and the tendency of self-seclusion, and learn to communicate with people around them to establish a good relationship with them.

3 Carry out legality propaganda and take precautions against crime-committing

Colleges should create an atmosphere of learning law, understanding law, using law, keeping law and protecting law, for example, the increasing of the legality propaganda columns and the propaganda magazines. Also colleges should take up all kinds of methods to strengthen the education of laws, for
example, holding a legality lecture, competition of law culture, mock court and so on. In addition, schools should improve the contact ions with the judicial organs where the workers will educate the students with real cases so that they will have a better concept of laws.

Surveys show that recessive crimes are rather serious in some colleges. Recessive crimes refer to crimes which actors have committed conform to all the components of a crime-committing, but not so serious. Some colleges, in order to keep the honor of their schools, just conceal some facts. They handle the students who should have been accused of criminal duty with the punishment according to disobey of the rules, which help some students to avoid the punishment of law. This attitude of colleges is certain to lead to the overflow of theft, fighting and even prostitution in colleges.

4 Attach importance to the humanistic care in the universities and take precautions against crime-committing

4.1 Open a course on the value of life in accordance with the requirements of the college students
In order to enable the students to adapt to the process of socialization successfully, colleges should take the personal basic ability training as their first consideration so that the students can improve their basic survival and communication skills. Except for the professional courses, more realistic and practical courses on the value of life should be added to the setting of curriculum for young people. For instance, the courses on marriage and love, the courses on interpersonal communicating, the courses on learning skills and the courses on career planning. In this way, students can understand themselves better, develop their potential ability, practice their knowledge, thinking independently, solve their problems, enhance their social adjusting ability and take precautions against crime-committing.

4.2 Strengthen the construction of campus culture and better the atmosphere of campus
Campus culture is a comprehensive embodiment of the spirits, traditions, styles and the dream-pursuit of the school. A good construction of campus culture will help to create a school characterized by fine tradition, good atmosphere of study and lofty ideals, only in such a situation, can the students receive a good edification and then convert the excellent traditional ethics and national culture into their own inner quality. Therefore, colleges and universities should make great efforts on the analysis and study of the various cultural phenomena on campus to guide the direction of cultural activities on campus in a proper way. Furthermore, Colleges should enhance the guidance on their newspapers and broadcasting in order that they can play a right role in guiding the direction of public opinion; At the same time, it is necessary to improve the supervision system, enhance the community management and prevent the bad cultural from affecting the students, so that colleges and universities will play a key role in the spiritual civilization construction.

5 Make efforts to strengthen school management and to prevent crimes

5.1 To Encourage the motivation of all the stuffs in the college, keep in touch with families and prevent crime-committing.
Nowadays, except the counselors and the masters, teachers have little communication with students, and there are also some limitations to the numbers and energy of the counselors and the masters. It is badly unnecessary to only rely on them to keep the students’ lives and studies in mind. Therefore, colleges should establish an Information-Assembling Internet to make a collection of the studies, lives and psychology of the college students; And to make full use of every staff’s activeness and motivation. Colleges should create more chances for the students and the teachers to communicate and know each other, also it is of great significations to hold some art activities to encourage the participation of both teachers and students, for example, the weekend party, the singing competition, and so on.
5.2 To build the criminal prosecution system
Colleges should build a system to call account ascertain, where the responsibility lies, especially with the associated teachers and managers who have direct responsibility. And take punishment measures to increase the sense of duty of the colleges and teachers, so as to prevent the crime-committing of college students.

5.3 To strengthen the comprehensive security management and purify the environment of the campus
In recent years, the college students’ crime-committing rate is presenting an increasing trend, which attributes greatly to the surrounding environment on campus. Therefore, colleges and universities should cooperate with the law enforcement agencies to make a comprehensive governance to eliminate the influences aroused by negative factors around the campus. Furthermore, colleges should strengthen the governance on the surrounding environment, and give timely punishment to the illegal and criminal activities. What’s more, colleges should establish a set of safety management system. Meanwhile, colleges should strengthen the management of the dormitories, and make a strict control of the students living outside the campus. At the same time, colleges should strengthen the protection power to make a good control of the environment in campus; and strengthen the internal security management to purify the environment of the campus, and create a favorable atmosphere to prevent crime-committing of students.

6 Conclusion
Anyhow, colleges and universities should focus on students' psychological health in order to prevent students from crime after they got the internal and external causes of crime. They should set the need mechanism and warning system and provide counseling service. Meanwhile, they should promote legal knowledge regularly, and set living courses according to the need of students, strengthen the construction of campus culture, and optimize the atmosphere of the campus. As well as, they should contact the families often and build the criminal accountability system, and strengthen the comprehensive security management and purify the environment of the campus. Only in this way can we have the nip in the bud, and try to reduce the incidence rate of university students’ crimes.

References