

FOREWORD

From a perspective of what the history of interpersonal relationships teaches us, it is not difficult to conclude that many societies experienced immense degrees of atrocities, which were the product of “alienation between men”. This sociopathological symptom became particularly expressed in the previous years, and the “modern alienation” began a specific transformation, so it is different from one from times before in form and volume. Today the alienation, despite civilization achievements, human rights and freedoms and democracy that “feeds” us immoderately, became much more intensive and abstract, and it latently transformed into the dominant social model of behavior.

Scenes of sexual molestation of children, particularly on the Internet, surpassed the critical point, and spread with very fast and dynamic tempo, partly because the technological platforms did not show usefulness that keeps pace with the problem, as they simply could not find an answer to the question: “What motivates people to sexual molestation of children?”

Sexual molestation of children is one of the greatest atrocities because it relates to causing hard psychophysical consequences to this vulnerable social group. Children as the most endangered, innocent victims of this crime, live through terrible traumas, that are a result of physical and emotional abuse and neglect. Naturally, in the given context, various forms of exploitation of the juveniles shall be mentioned, such as child pornography or child trafficking for sexual exploitation... It is nonsensical that parents, people who are close to them, teachers, meaning those whose duty is the care and proper development of the children often become mapped as perpetrators or accomplices in this inhuman crime. Although violence against children is a frequent phenomenon, the level of reporting this crime is low, so the children as victims of this crime often remain invisible, not only in the domain of statistical reports and analytics of government agencies but in evaluating of efficiency estimations of current initiatives and strategies for combatting this sort of crime. What was said relates to the persons who are perpetrators of this crime – whom we call pedophiles, which makes phenomenology and etiology quite delicate.

Pedophilia is a form of paraphilias, characterized by constant and intensive sexual fantasies, impulses and behavior that relate to children (usually under 13 years of age). This symptomatology is more expresses percentage-wise in males than in females, although it is observed that this deviancy is much more perfidious and discrete in females. Pedophilia is present everywhere and can be found in all social classes, regardless of wealth, education, or religion. Some pedophiles are attracted only by boys, other only by girls, and there is a third category

of these persons who are attracted to both genders. Some pedophiles show a subtle affinity to certain physical attributes (age, build, face, hair, voice, etc.), while the others are less “picky”. These people, with personality structure disorder, are usually known to a child. They can be members of an immediate or wider family or persons with authority, like teachers and coaches. Some of them show incestuous tendencies and are attracted by children from their own families. This is a generally unspoken topic. Many family members avoid bringing that to the surface and try to handle the problem themselves because otherwise they will face public judgment and carry a social stigma. In that case, child-victim is exposed to additional risks for mental and physical health.

Despite the statistics, the prevalence of pedophilia is debatable, as it is instinctively measured by the total number of registered pedophiles in the general population. Although sporadic pedophile impulses are more frequent than it is perceived, the long-term fixations and repetition of sexual fantasies that include children of that age are necessary for making a diagnosis by physicians. Naturally, estimations of physicians are made concerning special criteria, including being unable to control sexual impulses toward children, and the absence of proper functioning in business and family environment, or in interactions with friends.

With a certain category of pedophiles, deviancy becomes a part of their personality. They became very susceptible and dedicated to it, and live by that. They are susceptible to get predatory attributes, and they are ready to use force or coercion for sexual exploitation of children. Many of them have antisocial personality disorder comorbid with some mental disorders. In time they can develop dependence from psychoactive substances, alcohol, and drugs. They were often sexually molested as children and come from dysfunctional families. On the other side, there is a group of pedophiles who are mildly aware of their auto-destructive sexual impulse, which makes them feel insecurity, anxiety, shame, and guilt. From all that was said, we can see all the complexity of this problem, which is very significant for the treatment perspective of the affected.

The treatment is usually long-term and uncertain psychotherapy, with medications that affect sexual impulse and testosterone levels. The effects of treatment are limited. The best results are achieved when the individuals apply voluntarily before they commit the incriminated offense. The treatment demanded after the arrest can be less efficient. Albeit, some pedophiles in penitentiary conditions can create a habit of abstaining from pedophilic activities with a real chance to be reintegrated in society by continual surveillance and long-term treatment (which includes medication).

In that sense, before you are several scientific papers, which do not advocate simple concepts and solutions of this socio-pathological phenomenon, both in essence and in content. Spontaneous incarceration of pedophiles in prisons or similar institutions, even for a long time, will not manage to change their pedo-

philiac habits, affinities, desires, and fantasies. Therefore a multidisciplinary approach is necessary, which potentiates prevention of pedophilia with finding mechanisms for the dedicated and useful treatment of the affected persons, which would relieve the community and the victims from fear, created by this frustrating offense, and then would give answers to this endured negative event with planned protection resources.

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