



## THE BEHAVIOR OF THE VICTIM AS A FACTOR CAUSING A CRIME

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**Annotation:** this article thoroughly examines the opinions of legal scholars regarding the victim's behavior as a factor contributing to the commission of a crime, and the author has developed theoretical proposals and recommendations.

**keywords:** Crime, victim, behavior, conflicts, cultural factors.

Crime often occurs due to conflicts between people, social, economic, or cultural factors. However, when analyzing the causes of crimes, it is not enough to study only the motives and activities of a criminal. In certain cases, the victim's behavior can also have a direct impact on the commission of the crime. The victim's behavior, lifestyle, speech, or reactions in a specific situation can lead to the perpetrator committing aggressive acts. In this article, we attempted to scientifically analyze the role of victim behavior in the commission of a crime, the opinions of scientists on this matter, as well as best foreign practices.

As noted above, not only the intentions and motives of the criminal, but also the behavior of the victim, can play a significant role in the commission of a crime. The idea that "the victim's actions may be the cause of the crime" is supported by several psychological, social, and legal theories.[1]

Psychologically, French psychologist Albert Bandura argued in his "Social Learning Theory" that people learn their behavior by seeing and experiencing others.[2] Bandura proposes a similar approach to understanding criminals, meaning that the victim's behavior, such as provocation, provocation of aggression, or indifference to a particular situation, can lead to aggressive behavior of the perpetrator.

Focus and Jenkins call the victim's behavior "provocation." They believe that various forms of influence on the victim by the perpetrator, such as literal, physiological or psychological blows, can be supported by the victim's own actions. If the victim demonstrates dissatisfaction, self-doubt, or anger in self-defense or in reacting to a situation that creates the crime, it can cause the crime to occur.[3]

Behavior that causes a crime can also be found in David Buss's Evolutionary Psychology.[4] Buss argues that people are sometimes inclined to do this through violence in order to protect their lives, maintain their status, or achieve social uplift. Some of the victim's actions (such as weakening, provocation, or high-level humiliation of the perpetrator) influence the psychological reaction of the perpetrator, which in turn can lead to the commission of the crime.

Various scientific studies have been conducted abroad to study the impact of victim behavior on the crime. For example, psychological studies conducted in the United States have shown that aggressive or provocative behavior of the victim exacerbates the aggressive reactions of the perpetrator. Studies have shown that in some cases, the perpetrator evaluates

their aggressive behavior by "observing" the victim's behavior, thereby becoming a motivation for committing the crime.

Studies conducted in Britain have shown that the victim's passive behavior, that is, their lack of self-defense, can lead to aggression that can be used against the perpetrator. The victim's passive behavior can provoke the criminal's actions and cause him harm.

The occurrence of crime often depends on social and cultural factors. The victim's behavior, in turn, varies depending on the cultural values and social norms of society. For example, in American and European countries, socially accepted behaviors and sexual roles can sometimes be the cause of crime. On the other hand, in Asian countries, traditional family values and the hierarchical structure in society value the victim's behavior even more highly, thereby provoking the perpetrator's reaction.

Improving the victim's behavior is crucial for reducing crime and preventing it. First and foremost, systematic research related to the actions and motives of the perpetrator should be conducted. Social and psychological programs, psychotherapy, and religious or spiritual training may be organized to reduce the aggressive behavior of users.

Research has shown that psychological services and conflict resolution training conducted in Uzbekistan, Russia, Japan, and other countries are aimed at improving the behavior of victims, studying the protection of their rights, and demonstrating how they behave in situations of communication with a criminal.

The victim's behavior can be an important factor in the commission of the crime. From a psychological and social perspective, the victim's passive, aggressive, or provocative behavior can amplify the motives of the perpetrator. Advanced foreign experience shows that to effectively combat criminals and prevent crimes, it is necessary to change the behavior of the victim and introduce socio-psychological approaches. At the same time, comprehensive approaches to reducing crime should be developed, taking into account social and cultural factors.

In this regard, by analyzing various views of criminologists and taking into account their opinions, we can express our position aimed at reducing these cases.

In particular, Associate Professor K.A. Saitkulov, based on scientific analysis, divides individuals prone to or most likely to be victims of crime into three groups, emphasizing that the representatives of the second group are the most significant.[5] Representatives of this group include individuals who exhibit provocative behavior, openly demonstrate their lives on social media, have self-praise, aggressive behavior, and a high desire to achieve their goals quickly and easily. In our opinion, the scientist rightly emphasized that individuals who exhibit such behavior may be the direct cause of crimes committed against them.

In our opinion, it is necessary to conduct preventive measures with representatives of this group on a deeper and wider scale. For example, in some cases, citizens may resort to illegal or ethical methods to achieve their goals, leading to the commission of a crime. For example, citizen A. in order to enroll his child in a higher educational institution, when he realizes that his level of knowledge is insufficient, he contacts acquaintances whom he does not know and trusts, and pays a large amount for enrolling his child in a higher educational institution. As a result, citizen A. is deceived and becomes a victim of the crime.

Therefore, in order for preventive measures to be effective, it is important to correctly analyze the behavior of such individuals and take effective measures against them.



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