

Abstract

The research project of this work involved two independent studies. The first one was of a differential character and its aim was to indicate the possible diversity of juveniles from detention centres in comparison to their age - mates being at large in terms of self-image, self-esteem and cognitive distortions. The second study was of a quasi-experimental nature and its aim was to determine whether the social resocialization process of juveniles would positively change their self-image and self-esteem.

The following variable measurement tools were used in the study: MSEI Multidimensional Self-Esteem Form (O'Brien Epstein, 1988), ACL Adjective List (Gough Heilbrun, 1983), HIT Questionnaire 'How I Think' (Gibbs, Barriga, Potter Liao, 2001) and a self-constructed form covering respondents' sociodemographic data such as: their age, education, school situation, family status, their origin, religiosity and the living environment.

Dependent variables measured in the quantitative form Y were as follows: Y1 - the level of self-esteem, Y2 - the level of negative and positive self-image, Y3 - the level of cognitive distortions. On the other hand, independent variables diversifying study research groups were following: X1 – an experience of the custodial sentence (study I), X2 - progress in the resocialization process (study II), X3 – a type of the youth custody centre (study II).

The research was conducted all over Poland and a total number of 446 people aged from 14 to 21 participated in the study. The research included 223 juveniles from open, half - open and closed correctional facilities as well as 223 peers who have never served a prison sentence and corresponding to their age and education.

The conducted study indicated that a degree of evaluating the progress of the social resocialization process did not significantly affect the changes in the self-image reported during the measurement number II. The level of self-esteem obtained in measurement II was also not significantly different in study groups. Juveniles from correctional facilities are characterized by a higher rate of egocentricity, the need for achievements, need for domination, need for understanding oneself and others, need for affiliation, need for heterosexual contacts, need for psychological exhibitionism, need for autonomy, need for aggression, need for changes, need for care and support, trust in oneself, ideal me, creative personality and masculinity in comparison to their peers with no criminal record.

Słowa kluczowe: resocjalizacja, efekty / rezultaty resocjalizacji, samoocena, obraz samego siebie, młodzieżowe ośrodki wychowawcze

Key words: resocialization, effects / results of resocialization, self-esteem, self-image, juvenile detention centre