Women and Children as Victims and Offenders: Background, Prevention, Reintegration
Suggestions for Succeeding Generations

Helmut Kury, Sławomir Redo, Evelyn Shea Editors

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This work compiles experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children regarding crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders, and serves as a cross-disciplinary work for academic and policy-making analyses and follow-up in developing and developed countries.

Furthermore, it argues for a more humane and effective approach to countering delinquency and crime among future generations. In a world where development positively depends on the rule of law and the related investment security, two global trends may chart the course of development: urbanization and education. Urbanization will globalize the concepts of “justice” and “fairness”; education will be dominated by the urban mindset and digital service economy, just as a culture of lawfulness will. This work looks at crime prevention education as an investment in the sustainable quality of life of succeeding generations, and at those who pursue such crime prevention as the providers of much-needed skills in the educational portfolio. Adopting a reformist approach, this work collects articles with findings and recommendations that may be relevant to domestic and international policymaking, including the United Nations Studies and their educational value for the welfare of coming generations. The books address the relevant United Nations ideas by combining them with academic approaches. Guided by the Editors’ respective fields of expertise, and in full recognition of academic freedom and “organized scepticism”, it includes contributions by lawyers, criminologists, sociologists and other eminent experts seeking to bridge the gap between academic and policy perspectives, as appropriate, against the international background, including the United Nations developments.

The first volume opens with a foreword by Marta Santos Pais, the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and a general introduction by the editors. Part I provides an overview of United Nations principles for crime prevention and the treatment of women and children. Part II concentrates on education and the social learning of children and adolescents. The importance of quality education is stressed as is its impact on the behaviour of children of all ages. It also includes a discussion of the factors that still hinder access to good schooling in many parts of the world. Part III presents international research findings on children, juveniles and women both as victims and offenders. Statistics show overwhelmingly that these groups are more often victims than offenders.

The second volume opens with Part IV, which presents articles on different kinds of crime prevention. The effectiveness of punishment and, in particular, imprisonment is examined by contrasting it with alternative sanctions and the following questions are raised: Does harsh punishment have a crime preventive effect? What are the side effects of imprisonment on the offenders and their families? Are alternatives, such as restorative justice or mediation, more effective and cheaper? Part V outlines proactive strategies of crime prevention, e.g. for potential sex offenders or in the domain of internet crime. Part VI envisions a more peaceful and inclusive society, which would be realized by improving the protection of women and children in their everyday life, and easing the reintegration of those who have become offenders. The importance of the role played by the UN in formulating these goals is underlined. The volume concludes with an epilogue of the 70th President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Martin Sajdik, and a post scriptum of the editors.
About the Editors

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Helmut Kury; Studied Psychology at the University of Freiburg, Germany; 1973 -1980 Research Assistant at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Penal Law – Department of Criminology (MPI); 1980 - 1988 First Director of the new established Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony, Germany; 1988 Professor at the University of Freiburg and Senior Researcher at the MPI. Research on crime development, juvenile delinquency, evaluation of resocialization programs in prisons, fear of crime, punitivity, and prognosis of violent deviant behaviour. Published more than 600 articles in national and international scientific journals; Editor of the book series “Crime and Crime Policy”; Editor and Co-editor of several books, including “Punitivity – International Developments” (2011-2012), Co-author for 3 vols. of the textbook “Rechtspsychologie” (2012) on forensic/legal psychology; Expert for the courts in individual crime prognosis; Member of various national and international societies of criminology; Member of the editorial boards of numerous criminological journals.

Dr. iur. habil. Sławomir Redo; F. UN Senior Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Expert and member of staff at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (ret.); Visiting Scholar at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York (Austria); Senior Program Adviser, Academic Council on the United Nations System; Member of the Editorial Board of: the Asian Journal of Criminology; Caribbean Journal of Criminology, the Journal of International Organization Studies; Author of: “Blue Criminology. The Power of United Nations Ideas to Counter Crime Globally” (2012) and three other books; Co-Editor of e.g.: “For the Rule of Law: Criminal Justice Teaching and Training across the World” (2008) and “Global Crime and Justice Report” (1999). About 70 publications on various crime and justice issues, mostly covered by United Nations law and practice, including cross-national crime trends, crime prevention, computerization of criminal justice, cyberspace crime, extradition, policing, principles of prosecution, judicial independence, victim compensation, the death penalty, organized crime, and international criminal justice education.


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