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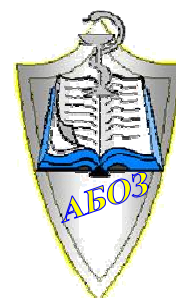
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A ZOSÚLAĎOVANIE PRÁCE A RODINY
V PRAXI MODERNÝCH ORGANIZÁCIÍ »**

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THE SAFETY OF FUNCTIONARIES IN THE SPECIAL UNITS OF
PRISON SERVICE AND ITS INFLUENCE ON FAMILY LIFE
**BEZPIECZEŃSTWO FUNKCJONARIUSZY GRUP SPECJALNYCH SŁUŻBY
WIĘZIENNEJ I JEGO WPŁYW NA ŻYCIE RODZINNE**

PIOTROWSKI Andrzej*
POKLEK Robert**

Streszczenie: Artykuł przedstawia wyniki badań przeprowadzonych w celu ustalenia poziomu poczucia bezpieczeństwa w Grupach Interwencyjnych Służby Więziennej. Formacja ta powołana została w 2010 r. jako grupa specjalna, której zadaniem jest zapobieganie wydarzeniom nadzwyczajnym, likwidacja skutków takich wydarzeń oraz wykonywanie zadań szczególnie trudnych i niebezpiecznych w instytucjach więziennych. Z przeprowadzonych badań wynika, że funkcjonariusze z grup specjalnych charakteryzują się bardzo wysokim poziomem poczucia bezpieczeństwa oraz jego składowych, czego źródłem można upatrywać w efektywnej selekcji oraz w wysokim poziomie szkolenia permanentnego. Tak wysokie poczucie bezpieczeństwa w miejscu pracy przekłada się na stabilne funkcjonowanie rodzinne.

Słowa kluczowe: Bezpieczeństwo, Służba Więzienna, grupy specjalne, rodzina.

Abstract: The article presents the results of researches conducted in order to establish the level of the sense of safeness in The Intervention Group of Prison Service. This unit has been established in 2010 as a special unit whose aim is to prevent extraordinary occurrences, the liquidation of the results of such events as well as completing very demanding and dangerous task in penitentiary institution. According to conducted researches, the functionaries from special units characterize with quite high level of the sense of safeness as well as its components whose origin can be observed in the effective selection and high level of the permanent training. So high level of sense of safety on the workplace influences also the stability of the family ties.

Key words: Safety, Prison Service, Special Units, Family.

INTRODUCTION

In Polish penitentiary system Prison Service (PS) is uniformed and armed apolitical formation subservient to the Justice Minister, possessing own organizational structure. To the main tasks of PS belong:

1. leading penitentiary and resettlement projects towards people cursed with penalty, mainly through organizing encouraging gaining the professional qualifications, teaching, cultural and educational classes as well as sport classes and specialized therapeutic undertaking;
2. temporary arrest in a way protecting criminal procedure connected with crimes and financial transgressions.
3. guarantee that the rights of imprisoned or temporary arrested people as well as sentenced persons will be obeyed and that they will be given humanitarian conditions, respecting dignity, health and religious care

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4. humanitarian treatment of the imprisoned people
5. the social security against culprits and financial criminals imprisoned into penitentiary and custody
6. guaranteeing the safety and the order in penitentiary
7. the execution on the territory of Poland temporary arrest as well as prison sentences and the enforcement measurements effecting in prison sentences if they are going to be fulfilled in penitentiary and custody and if they come from the judgement constituted by appropriate organ
8. cooperation with proper foreign formations and international organizations on the grounds of agreements and international settlement

1 THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM

In Poland there are 15 county inspectorates PS, 86 penitentiaries, 70 custodies, 40 external divisions. The prison personnel consists of around 30 thousand people. In the organizational structure of the prison unit we can differentiate a few basic divisions: penitentiary, security, healthcare. Leading all of the penitentiary and resettlement interactions belongs to the duties of the penitentiary unit functionary. Guaranteeing order and safety is the main duty of the PS security.

Fulfilling these tasks in the close contact with criminals can lead to the dangerous situations threatening all the functionaries: physical aggression; assaults; remonstrance; contact with infected people; drastic symptoms of prison subculture; conflicts among prisoners. From the data collected during researches regarding professional stress in PS it was revealed that in the opinion of the security unit functionaries, the prisoners are becoming more and more brutal every year. The fact that the population of the prisoners is still changing is not meaningless. The influence is created by: the organized criminality, international gangs; people charged for terrorism, kidnappers; professional and ordered killers.

The functionaries revealed in 2011 around 800 times that they found dangerous and life-threatening items on the territory of the penitentiary such as: psychoactive substances; alcohol; mobile phones and dangerous articles. According to the data collected by the PS at the end of 2011, the 80 thousand population of the prisoners is constituted of: 5 thousand people arrested and charged for murders, about 5 thousand prisoners accused of the crimes against public safety and communication, another 5 thousand for maltreating, about 12 thousand prisoners accused of mugging and 1000 people accused of involvement into organized crime. To the group of imprisoned people setting quite high threat for the safety of the penitentiary institutions belong so called dangerous prisoners whose number is about 400 every year. These numbers represent how many of the imprisoned people may constitute threat for the Prison Service functionaries who work in the penitentiary institutions.

The statement settled above regarding to the situations which may lower the safety level of the functionaries as well as institutions is not depleting the long list of the occurrences. However, it shows that the safety in the penitentiaries and custodies is the fundamental case. The safety in the unit is divided into the safety of the workplace of the functionaries as well as the internal safety of the nation. The Prison Service protects the society against the people who are threatening it but on the other hand the functionaries in their work are exposed to the dangerous occurrences. Their unpredictability and negative consequences are in the spotlight of the functionaries from the security unit.

Their safety as well as the other workers depends on the level of professionalism. The main source of threat is the functioning of the prisoners. The most popular factors are:

- the influence of the stress connected with the isolation in prison (often connected with the fact of imprisonment) as a difficult situation causing multiple mental disorders;
- very emotional reactions of the imprisoned people on the changeable legal status (long sentence) and personal situations (lack of information from the relatives, dysfunctional family relations, unemployment, relatives' diseases);
- the behaviour of prisoners following the fact of the adhesion to the prison subculture;
- the attempt to gain the power and maintaining the influence in the group;
- the dynamic increase the number of imprisoned people connected with the organized crime, brutal crimes and the high role of the position which is fulfilled by the people in the imprisoned people as well as these outside the prison;
- acting under the influence of drugs and alcohol;
- debt belonging to the prisoners and the lack of the possibilities to pay it, drastic way of getting money;
- devastating the property and safety means on purpose;
- the behaviour caused by mental disorder;
- refusal of the cooperation, passive defiance, rebels;
- aggression, suicidal behaviour;
- the behaviour leading to eliciting the influence on the decisions of the prison administration;
- the increase of the aggressive attitude, the intensity of irrational complaints and necessity of their explanation.

The professional life has an influence on family life, especially in the work place where the potentially life treating circumstances may occur. Accumulation of dangerous situations on the workplace may diminish of the safety perception of the whole family. The prison warden which does not feel safe on the workplace transmit the negative emotions in home, what may destabilize the family life.

It is impossible to eliminate safety threat in the institution such as penitentiary and custody. The safety is not a state which can be accomplished only once. Constant caring for the high level of it, preventing threats and the liquidation of their effects belong to the main aims of the safety unit. To raise the level of safety in 2010 within the measures of the safety unit there have been formed three special groups – Intervention Groups of Prison Service (IGPS). They are selected units of the PS which tasks mainly rely on:

- the prevention of the phenomenal events or the liquidation of their effects;
- escorting prisoners who demand special security measurements;
- the participation in the security and defensive trainings;

In the normal process of a service the functionaries from The Intervention Groups (IG) report to penitentiary headmaster or to custody where they work and fulfil security tasks. IG is an elite and people working there characterize with superior psychical and physical abilities. The decision about recruitment is made by County Administrator. The base of the recruitment is model opinion and exceptional abilities. What is more, these people are often interested in martial arts and have some records. The Intervention Groups fulfil their service in the groups of sixteen people and are divided into two sections in which there are eight functionaries. These sections function in the biggest county units. Each unit is represented by sixteen functionaries. The responsibility for regular trainings, frequent physical and psychological test, helps maintaining IG on the high level of tactical effectiveness. The high number of trainings is supported by the other services: Central Bureau of Investigation in Police Headquarter; Execute Unit of Police Headquarter in Warsaw; Self-Supporting Anti-Terrorist Sub-Unit. It allows to coordinate all of the tasks, creating better cooperation as well as to exchange the experience and use the knowledge, experience of other formations.

Main form of the IG actions is the prevention. The awareness of IG's alertness affects prisoners' behaviour in a positive way. Moreover, their appearance in an emergency situation helps to take control over sudden occurrence without physical intervention. The creation of IG can be called the quality and technology leap which leads to improvement in the security system. Well trained people from IG become the inspiration and role model to raise security functionaries' qualifications. It is important because all of the skills when trained frequently can be maintained on the highest level. It is possible only by frequent attendance to the trainings.

In the past – in 2001- a research was made to check the level of the sense of security among security unit functionaries as well as penitentiary units. It was to measure the connection between the safety sense and the level of physical form as well as to measure the differences between security unit functionaries and non-security functionaries when it comes to safety sense. The research demonstrated a positive correlation between physical form and steadiness sense ($r = 0,413$), the sense of dependence ($r = 0,346$) and general sense of security ($r = 0,361$). It was claimed that there are no differences in the sense of safety among the security unit functionaries and the non-security functionaries. However, the IG functionaries play important role in security, they have not been tested in terms of their service. Indeed, these people are responsible for very dangerous and life-threatening tasks. The conducted research was to check their sense of safety when it comes to their duties. The safety research conducted on IG is a continuation of the medical staff research working in prison conducted by A. Piotrowski and S. Pich as well as the actualization of the researches conducted by R. Pogleka from the decade.

2 THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The aim of the research. The essential aim of the research was the arrangement of the general level and components of the IG functionaries' sense of safety in comparison to security unit functionaries in Prison Service as well as with the people hired in the civil occupations.

The sample was of research of research. Tested people were chosen amongst IG functionaries ($n = 15$), security unit functionaries ($n=45$) and people with civil occupations ($n = 40$) as a subject to compare. In the analyzed research took part the IG functionaries from one group.

The method. In the research was used The Sense Of Safety Questionnaire prepared by Z. Uchnast which is used to determine the variable creating the syndrome of the sense of safety or lack of it. The questionnaire consists of three scales and measures three sources of the sense of safety: intimacy, steadiness and trust. The scale of the sense of intimacy shows in what degree the person is integrated with other people and the world. The scale of steadiness measures the sense of steadiness, the order and the scale of trust measures the level of trust towards oneself, self –affirmation. The main result (max. 30 points) is created through adding the results coming from the mentioned scales (max. 10 points). The higher points result the bigger is the level of the sense of safety.

Results:

The collation of the obtained results based on The Questionnaire of The Sense Of Safety according to the examined group is place in the Table nr 1.

Table 1. The results in The Questionnaire of The Sense of Safety according to the examined group.

The scales of The Questionnaire Of The Sense Of Safety	Surveyed group	M	SD	F	p
General result (Total)	Intervention Group Functionaries	28,00	2,67	14,95	,000
	Prison Service Functionaries	21,93	7,11		
	Civil workers	17,65	6,49		
The sense of intimacy	Intervention Group Functionaries	9,40	1,12	12,57	,000
	Prison Service Functionaries	7,57	2,34		
	Civil workers	6,15	2,31		
The sense of steadiness	Intervention Group Functionaries	8,80	1,93	8,53	,000
	Prison Service Functionaries	6,57	2,90		
	Civil workers	5,53	2,45		
Self Trust	Intervention Group Functionaries	9,80	,414	1,21	,302
	Prison Service Functionaries	8,68	1,02		
	Civil workers	6,74	2,80		

The conducted analysis prove that IG functionaries have got statistically the highest level of the general sense of safety, the highest level of the sense of intimacy and the highest level of the sense of steadiness from the examined groups. The variant analysis used (test Tukey B) did not indicate any statistically crucial differences in the level of self trust among surveyed groups. The results obtained from the scales and in general are very high when it comes to the IG functionaries which means about the high level of the sense of safety. Remain Prison Service functionaries acquired not so high results but still higher than the civil workers.

The crucial fact is that the scattering of the results indicated by SD parameter) amongst IG functionaries is the lowest. It means, on the one hand, that they are similar and also about using the same methods of selection. Moreover, high level of the results in the scales of The Questionnaire Of The sense Of Safety may mean about its effective process and high standard of trainings. Because in this research took part a group serving in the one county, the high level of the results similarity may mean about their good and effective cooperation. The reliance to the people who cooperate is a base for the efficient accomplishment of the tasks following the duties of the security unit. High level of the sense of safety has its sources in the effectiveness of the occupational functioning. High level of trainings, continuous exercises, fulfilling difficult and dangerous tasks in an effective way as well as growing level of security of penitentiary units is causes the subjective growth of the degree of the sense of safety amongst IG functionaries. Only high level of professionalism allows to feel safe in the place and among the people which seem to be dangerous. The level of safety all of the Prison Service workers and whole society depends on the security level functionaries' and particular IG personnel's professionalism. The professionally trained prison wardens thanks to their abilities feel safe on the work place and do not transmit their fears on their family life.

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