

Domestic Violence: a Multidisciplinary Analysis Beyond The Crime

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Abstract:

Domestic violence continues to be a particularly serious social problem, in Portugal and beyond. This is a complex issue, either due to the its harmful consequences for the victims and their families, whether due to of its multifaceted causes.

There is a feeling or even widespread conviction that the formal bodies of control of crime and combating domestic violence systematically fail to its mission and that the sanctioning intervention of Criminal Law arrives too late.

By assuming a claim holistic, this research project aims to explore legal, psychosocial and educational aspects that are more or less latent in the phenomenology of domestic violence and the way the contemporary society decided to address this reality.

The analysis of the Law in force will be an unavoidable starting point and the analysis of the norm incriminating offense contained in article 152 of the Penal Code will be a necessary crossing point of a journey which is not confined to the formal field of the mere application of the law and the exercise of the punitive power of the State. Because it is a vast and rich subject, domestic violence launches an invitation for the development of a set of multidisciplinary activities open to plurality of perspectives and experiences, which will effectively contribute to the construction of more effective narratives about how our community face the causes and consequences of the phenomenon.

The main goal is to align the diversity of scientific and theoretical debates with a focus on a preventive logic which is sufficiently permeable to a serious and definitive integration of a new component in the complicated equation of the problem of violence domestic: the role of formal education to promote a culture of citizenship and respect for fundamental human rights.

To this end, the knowledge of psychology, social sciences and educational sciences, as well as their crossing with criminal law knowledge, will be crucial for a synergy capable of to contribute to more adjusted public policies.

The statutory law refers the importance of stimulating initiatives which contribute to the development of more effective measures to prevent violence domestic and victim protection. The proposed investigation is inserted in this horizon, with the concern of making the scientific effort bear fruit - in the name of the principle of equality - in the effective providing services to the community and in the development of the autonomous and socially responsible human being.

