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**ON THE ISSUE OF SYSTEMATIZATION OF THE
CHARACTERISTICS OF VICTIMS OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES
COMMITTED IN THE FIELD OF HOUSING CONSTRUCTION**

**ДО ПИТАННЯ СИСТЕМАТИЗАЦІЇ ОЗНАК ЖЕРТВ
КРИМІНАЛЬНИХ ПРАВОПОРУШЕНЬ, ВЧИНЮВАНИХ
У СФЕРІ ЖИТЛОВОГО БУДІВНИЦТВА**

Ryvovarov V. V.

*Doctor of Philosophy, Docent,
Academician Stashis Scientific
Research Institute
for the Study of Crime Problems
Kharkiv, Ukraine*

Пивоваров В. В.

*кандидат юридичних наук, доцент,
Науково-дослідний інститут
вивчення проблем злочинності
імені академіка В. В. Сташиса
м. Харків, Україна*

Sirets O. O.

*Postgraduate Student
Academician Stashis Scientific
Research Institute
for the Study of Crime Problems
Kharkiv, Ukraine*

Сірець О. О.

*аспірант
Науково-дослідний інститут
вивчення проблем злочинності
імені академіка В. В. Сташиса
м. Харків, Україна*

We consider it possible to put forward the hypothesis that the key empirical basis for studying the problems of crime in the field of housing construction is Art. 190, 191, 197-1, 364-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. In the context of this hypothesis, we can state that the nature of the victim of criminal offenses committed in the field of housing construction is complex,

since in fact a number of interrelated illegal acts are committed in this field, often in combination. Among the primary tasks of such research is the task of systematizing the characteristics of victims of such criminal offenses, primarily with the aim of deriving a probable generalized portrait of victims of criminal offenses committed in the field of housing construction.

Of course, depending on the subject composition, the number of victims of criminal offenses committed in the field of housing construction can include not only individuals, but also legal entities, territorial communities and the state. At the same time, territorial communities and the state are often only able to act as indirect victims (except for territorial communities, which can also become direct victims in exceptional cases – for example, as owners or tenants of a certain land plot). Legal entities as victims also have their own characteristics, since, being a corporate entity, they are not endowed with specific psychological and social features inherent in individual natural persons, which are of exclusive interest to the sciences of criminology and victimology. Therefore, an individual as the victim occupies the main place in our study.

By analyzing the characteristics of the victims of the above-mentioned criminal offenses, as well as the victim characteristics of an entrepreneur, with the subsequent systematization of such characteristics and their generalization, a natural person as a victim of criminal offenses committed in the field of housing construction should be characterized as follows:

1. In terms of gender, based on the analyzed previous studies, we can note that, probably, the overwhelming majority of this category of victims are men. At the same time, we emphasize the fundamental aspect that the modern social and family role of women has not only changed, but also significantly increased to the level of equating the importance of men and women.

2. Through the generalization of information from previous studies, it was established that the average age of the victims is 28-50 years.

3. Despite the presence in a number of other studies of references to the significance of the social origin or level of education of the victim of the considered types of criminal offenses, we assume that they do not play a fundamental role in forming the portrait of the victim of criminal offenses committed in the field of housing construction. The reason for this is a number of specific features of modern society (including the domestic one), in particular: firstly, the presence of a high level of education of a certain person, on the one hand, does not necessarily correspond to the level of intellectual development of such a person, on the other hand, and vice versa; secondly, there are precedents when individuals without a high level of education achieved significant achievements.

4. The income level of potential victims of this category is average and higher.

5. According to previous studies, the victims in the absolute majority of cases are local residents and citizens of Ukraine. We must disagree with such a thesis and assume its irrelevance in connection with the high mobility of modern society, both domestically and internationally. Thus, we believe that the issues of place of residence and citizenship do not play a decisive role in depicting the portrait of a victim of criminal offenses committed in the field of housing construction.

6. For the most part, a positive portrait of the victim in question is inherent, characterized in the vast majority of cases by the absence of a criminal past of such a person, as well as the absence of immoral guidelines in the course of life.

7. Such a person is characterized by a number of signs, including activity, publicity, even demonstrativeness, optimism, self-confidence, sufficient success.

8. As a general rule, a potential victim of this category meets high social standards, in particular, is characterized by high social adaptability.

9. The considered potential victim is capable of forming a mental conclusion, making strategic decisions. At the same time, although to a much lesser extent, self-confidence, credulity, carelessness, even uncriticalness when perceiving information are characteristic of her.

10. One of the most distinctive characteristics of a victim of a criminal offense committed in the field of housing construction is his propensity to risk.

In addition, for this category of victims, there are also other signs, which, however, we convincingly consider optional, since they are not universally obligatory and present in all cases, but rather are considered to be able to supplement the general portrait of the victim of this category for its better understanding. Such signs are:

1. Demonstrative superiority in relation to others.

2. Boasting of the existence of corrupt connections in the authorities, presumably accompanied by disregard for the requirements of the law.

3. In many cases, victims of this category of criminal offenses are persons who do not have their own home at the time of investment.

4. In the vast majority of cases, victims learn about the possibility of investing in real estate from advertisements placed on various platforms, less often – the source of information is other people [1, p. 65-66; 2, p. 175-177; 3, p. 119-120; 4, p. 93; 5, p. 145; 6, p. 56; 7, p. 117-121].

In conclusion, it should be noted that modern social relations are developing and changing, and in connection with this, it is impossible for this

study to fully cover the comprehensive range of specific characteristics inherent in the considered category of victims. Therefore, there is an urgent need to continue the criminological research of this problem in further scientific developments.

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