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Theoretical approaches to victimological modelling: A review of concepts and determinants

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■ **Abstract.** The relevance of the research topic is due to the need to deepen the scientific understanding of the patterns of the formation and implementation of victimisation in modern conditions as a result of the increasing diversity of victimogenic factors, the complication of victimisation mechanisms, the emergence of new forms of unlawful encroachments and the transformation of social, economic, informational and security processes, and the actualisation of the need to improve the methodological tools for the study of victimological phenomena. The purpose of the study was a comprehensive theoretical and methodological analysis of the main approaches to victimological modelling, the generalisation of existing concepts of its understanding and the systematisation of the main determinants of victimisation. The methodological basis of the study was a complex of general scientific and special scientific methods, in particular, such

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methods as dialectical, systemic, method of analysis and synthesis, generalisation, comparative, structural-functional, formal-logical, classification. The article provided a theoretical analysis of the main approaches to victimological modelling as an important direction of research into the patterns of formation and implementation of victimisation, identifying connections between offenses and the behaviour of their victims. The conceptual apparatus of modern victimology was highlighted as the initial element of the theory of victimological modelling, its essence, structure, functions and significance for the scientific knowledge of victimisation processes. Special attention was paid to the definition and systematisation of the determinants of victimisation, which were considered as interrelated and mutually conditioned victimogenic phenomena and processes that created conditions for the implementation of victim behaviour and the emergence of victimogenic situations. The prospects of victimological modelling as a methodological basis for predicting victimisation, identifying victimogenic factors and developing measures to prevent it were determined. The practical significance of the study lies in the possibility of using the systematised determinants of victimisation and the principles of victimological modeling to predict victimogenic risks, improve their assessment methods, and develop evidence-based measures to prevent victimisation

■ **Keywords:** antisocial behaviour; victimology; victimogenic factors; victimological behaviour; victims of crime; behaviour modelling

■ Introduction

The relevance of the study of theoretical approaches to victimological modelling is due to the need to deepen the scientific understanding of the patterns of formation and implementation of victimisation in modern conditions. The growing diversity of victimogenic factors, the complication of victimisation mechanisms, the emergence of new forms of unlawful encroachments and the transformation of social, economic, informational and security processes actualise the need to improve the methodological tools for the study of victimological phenomena. The relevance of the article stems from the need to study the determinants of victimological behaviour among victims of offenses in order to study its characteristics and prevent the causes and conditions of victimisation, the consequences of long-term victimisation that arises as a result of antisocial behaviour of victims of offenses. The study of the impact of victimological antisocial behaviour of victims on the commission of offenses and the consequences of various types of criminal victimisation today are among the most relevant criminological studies. In order to quickly identify and prevent the impact of deviant antisocial behaviour of victims on the commission of offenses, it is necessary to thoroughly investigate the concept of a victim, the reasons and conditions under which a person, due to the victim characteristics of his behaviour, becomes a victim of criminal encroachments. Victimological modelling allows to systematically reflect the relationships between a person, his behaviour, social environment, victimogenic determinants and a specific situation in which the risk of victimisation is realised. Its use contributes to identifying patterns in the formation of victimisation, determining the most significant determinants of victimisation, predicting relevant processes and scientifically substantiating victimological prevention measures. At the same time, the lack of a single conceptual approach to determining the essence, structure and functional purpose of the victimological model necessitates further theoretical understanding of this issue.

Many scientists have devoted their empirical research to the topic of the influence of antisocial behaviour of victims on their commission of offenses, including those devoted to the principles of behavioural sequence of victims of crimes. R. Movchan *et al.* (2021) examined victim behaviour in the context of online sexual violence, focusing on behavioural and situational determinants that may increase vulnerability to victimisation and on prevention through influencing the behaviour of potential victims. Their findings complement broader approaches to victimological modelling by demonstrating how individual behaviour, the digital environment, and specific situational factors interact in the formation and prevention of victimisation. V. Heap (2021) highlighted the results of the "Research on the consequences of prolonged victimisation through antisocial behaviour" conducted in England. The study interviewed victims about the long-term antisocial behaviour they experienced and the consequences that affected their lives. The author found that victims with long-term antisocial behaviour experience a range of mental and physical health consequences, as well as changes in their behaviour. The results of research on the victim behaviour of victims of crime indicate the cumulative harm associated with their antisocial behaviour, which requires a more thorough study, understanding and resolution of the problems of victims of crime, as well as providing greater support to such victims.

A separate scientific direction is formed by research on modelling in criminology and victimology. Modelling is considered as a method of scientific knowledge that allows you to reproduce the essential

properties, connections and patterns of the phenomenon under study in the form of a certain model. The application of such an approach to victimological issues creates an opportunity to systematise information about the victim, victimogenic factors, the mechanism of victimisation, the conditions for the emergence of a victimogenic situation and the consequences of an unlawful act. At the same time, the scientific literature lacks a unified approach to determining the structure, types and functions of the victimological model of crime prevention.

An important direction is research devoted to victimisation and victimisation. Within this direction, victimisation is considered as a property of a person, social group or a certain community, which characterises the tendency to acquire the status of a victim, while victimisation encompasses the process of transforming a potential victim into a real one as a result of the influence of a complex of external and internal factors. In the scientific literature, various approaches have been formed to explaining the nature of victimisation - from individual-psychological and behavioural to social, situational and systemic. Thus, G. Fuller *et al.* (2025; 2026) progressively develop a relational model of victim behaviour, moving beyond the traditional active/passive dichotomy through the application of the Interpersonal Circumplex to conceptualise victim agency during violent crime. Their subsequent use of behaviour sequence analysis extends this framework into a dynamic model of victim–offender interaction, treating victim behaviour as a situational determinant that both responds to and may influence the unfolding of criminal events. M. O'Connell (2024) concluded in his study that it is necessary to study the activities and lifestyles of crime victims, which may increase the likelihood of victimisation, and that such knowledge about crime victims should be used to prevent further victimisation, rather than to directly blame the individual. Scholars have consistently used more specific indicators of victims' activities and lifestyles immediately before the crime to explain how they influence the commission of crimes.

The purpose of the study was a comprehensive theoretical and methodological analysis of the main approaches to victimological modelling, generalisation of existing concepts of its understanding and systematisation of the main determinants of victimisation. Achieving the set goal involved determining the essence and content of victimological modelling, clarifying its role in the study of victimisation mechanisms, characterising the main theoretical approaches to building victimological models, as well as identifying and classifying factors that influence the formation and implementation of victimisation. The article main scientific concepts, approaches, and provisions regarding the essence and content of victimological modelling are investigated, and its structural and functional characteristics are also identified. The generalisation method is used to systematise scientific views on the nature of victimhood and determine the common and distinctive characteristics of existing conceptual approaches. The comparative method made it possible to compare different theoretical approaches to understanding victimological modelling, to determine their advantages, limitations, and possibilities of practical application. The structural-functional method was used to determine the main components of the victimological model and establish the nature of the relationships between them. The use of the formal-logical method contributed to the clarification of the conceptual and categorical apparatus of the study, the formulation of theoretical propositions and conclusions.

■ Research into the determination of victim behaviour and basic victimological concepts by Ukrainian scientists

The problem of the victim, the victim, victimisation, victimisation and victimological prevention was developed and studied in their works by Ukrainian scientists and scholars. The mentioned works highlight the issues of the concept and types of victimisation, the mechanism of victimisation, the classification of victims, victimological prevention and counteraction to crime, victimological modelling. Of considerable theoretical interest are also studies of mass victimisation, its determinants and patterns of distribution, which allows expanding the traditional understanding of victimological processes beyond the individual level. Thus, E.M. Moiseyev *et al.* (2006) investigated criminological victimology as a subfield of knowledge about the victim of a crime, revealed the issues of the concept, levels and types of victimisation, the mechanism of criminological victimisation, the concept of determination of victim behaviour, the regularities of the formation of the personality of victims of crimes, the classification of victims, victimological prevention of certain types of crimes. R. Movchan *et al.* (2021) conducted a study aimed at identifying the features of the manifestation of a person's victim behaviour and counteracting the commission of sexual violence on the Internet by influencing the behaviour of the victim. V.V. Golina *et al.* (2017) investigated victimology as a branch of knowledge about the victim of a crime, the regularities of the formation of his personality, victimisation and victimisation behaviour of victims and their manifestations in typical situations, as well as measures to prevent victimisation at the general social, special minological and individual levels. A.O. Dolgy *et al.* (2017) in their study concluded that victimology develops the victim from the point of view of his moral, psychological and

social characteristics that affect his vulnerability, and also highlighted the situation preceding the crime, stopped the commission of the crime. Perhaps due to the interest of victimologists in the consequences of various types of criminal victimisation, there is little empirical research devoted to the influence of antisocial behaviour of victims on the commission of offenses. A.O. Dzhuzha & D.M. Tychyna (2020), having carried out victimological monitoring, came to conclusions regarding the influence of the behaviour of victims of criminals on criminological stopping during the commission of crimes.

Analysis of scientific sources shows that research in this area is increasingly focused on a comprehensive and systematic understanding of victimological processes. This involves taking into account the simultaneous influence of the characteristics of the person, his behaviour, social environment, victimogenic determinants, characteristics of the offender and a specific situation. This approach makes it possible to move beyond the simplified interpretation of victimisation as merely a personal characteristic of the victim and to conceptualise it as the result of a complex interaction among individual, social, and situational factors. At the same time, the analysis of scientific works indicates the presence of a number of unresolved and debatable issues. In particular, the concept and structure of the victimological model, the criteria for classifying models, the relationship between the concepts of "victimhood", "victimisation", "victimogenicity" and "victimological determination", as well as the mechanisms for integrating different groups of determinants into a single model, require further clarification. The issues of using victimological modelling to predict victimisation and scientific support for the victimological prevention system remain insufficiently developed. Thus, the literature review indicates significant scientific achievements in the field of research on the victim, victimisation, victimisation and its determinants, but at the same time reveals the need for further conceptualisation of victimological modelling. It is the systematisation of existing theoretical approaches, the definition of structural components of the victimological model and the comprehensive study of the determinants of victimisation that constitute a promising direction for further scientific research.

■ World practice of researching victim behaviour and its role in the mechanism of victimisation

Identifying connections between crimes and victim behaviour at crime scenes has long been used in law enforcement practice in Europe, the United States, and Canada. However, the framework for analysing the connections between violent crimes has focused on determining the extent to which victim behaviour influenced the commission of serial sexual crimes, with the aim of further using this analysis to link victims and offenders. Since then, researchers from various disciplines, including psychology and criminology, and more recently, computer science, have conducted research focused on creating an evidence base for basic theoretical assumptions about the relationship between crime and the behaviour of crime victims, as well as on identifying behavioural characteristics that can be used to establish a connection between victims and offenders (Fuller *et al.*, 2023).

The results of the study highlighted the influence of the victim's activities on the offenders' decisions regarding target selection (e.g., attacking the victim at home, on the street, or in a social setting), and how this influence can influence the offender's change in target selection scenario (Georgoulis *et al.*, 2024). Studying marginalised victims such as sex workers and people who use drugs, A.M. Chai *et al.* (2023) concluded that offender behaviour is similar across marginalised groups, and that marginalised individuals are at risk of becoming victims of more serious violent crimes. The sample of A.M. Chai *et al.* (2023) consisted of 402 French sex workers who had been violent victimisation (1990-2018). After analysing latent crimes against victims of the sex industry, scientists came to a decision on victimological prevention of crimes in this area: 1) indoor care; 2) outdoor care; 3) mobile protection; 4) mobile care. Crime prevention methods proposed for each class to reduce the risk of violence included pre-screening clients, installing panic buttons/video surveillance systems, offering self-defence and conflict management courses, and working together.

Conducting a study, T. Bernier *et al.* (2021) found that in 56% (23/41) cases, sex workers in high-income countries created occupational health and safety strategies (e.g., lists of unsuccessful dates) and shared them online. In 24% (10/41) of cases, mostly in low- and middle-income countries, non-sex workers organisations developed and disseminated (via text messages) HIV-focused occupational health and safety strategies. In 20% (8/41) of cases, civil society organisations collaborated with the sex worker community to develop occupational health and safety strategies that were disseminated via information and communication technologies (ICTs). Thus, T. Bernier *et al.* (2021) concluded that sex workers face health inequalities due to their unique occupational risks, and to prevent the prevalence of sex work among Sexually and gender minority (SGM) individuals seeking online help, interventions need to be predicted (modelled) in the prevention and treatment of sexual and substance use-related victims of sex work. S. Arayasirikul (2026) examining the risk of sex work and substance use among individuals of sexual and

gender minority backgrounds recruited online in San Francisco (California, USA), came to the following conclusions. SGM communities experience victimisation due to persistent oppression (Hoskin, 2020). According to scientists N.K. Aggarwal *et al.* (2021), K.J. Jackson & G. Santos (2023), a combination of social isolation, economic hardship, and the Internet contribute to the formation of sex work. The results of the scientists' studies indicate that people with a history of sex work may be at increased risk of becoming a victim of domestic violence. The higher the level of domestic violence or intimate partner violence S. Kurbatfinski *et al.* (2024), and intimate partner violence is a common experience among people involved in the sex business (Zemlak *et al.*, 2024).

Relationship dynamics within SGM partnerships may differ in terms of sexual and gender roles, power, and how violence occurs and is experienced. A recent systematic review of the literature found that bidirectional violence was most prevalent among SGM intimate partners compared to non-SGM partners A. Machado *et al.* (2024). The interactions between substance use, violence, and trauma are complex and need to be explored in the future S. Morton *et al.* (2022). This study has limited generalisability due to its design and possible sampling bias toward people seeking help online who may be at increased risk. Nonetheless, these findings support the need for substance use prevention interventions to serve people with a history of sex work and to address domestic violence as a unique manifestation of violence. Although stigma remains a significant barrier for people who work in sex work and those who use psychoactive substances, addressing domestic violence can offer a personal alternative to intervention in the material possible consequences of violence and psychoactive substance use mechanisms of promotion and overcoming violence. Public health interventions that cross-train providers of psychoactive substances of domestic violence and sex work literacy, and vice versa, are needed to better facilitate screening, referral, and treatment.

Investigating the differences between child and adult sexual victimisation through the lens of their agency and behaviour theories, J. Chopin & E. Beauregard (2021) found that both types of victims were viewed as attractive targets for offenders due to their perceived vulnerability and lower likelihood of resistance. Having analysed the sexual victimisation of women with disabilities through the lens of their activities and lifestyle theories, J. Chopin & E. Beauregard (2023) concluded that women with disabilities are more likely to experience extreme forms of sexual victimisation through excessive violence, and are likely to be targeted not because they pose a particularly high risk, but because of their vulnerability and greater attractiveness to offenders. Thus, the results of the research show that a person's lifestyle and activities can have a major impact on their victimisation. Information about the victim and her circumstances can not only affect the level of risk, but also play a role in the offender's perception of the person's vulnerability.

Theoretical explanations of the determination of victimological behaviour of the victim of crimes in particular and victimology as a science in general have long focused on the perspectives of the theory of studying lifestyles and routines, one of which claimed that a person's daily life increases his risk of victimisation, the other simply claimed that crimes occur when there is a combination of motivated offenders, appropriate goals and a lack of qualified guardianship (Ahlin & Antunes, 2025). For decades, the theory of studying lifestyles and routines has been considered the predominant theoretical explanation of victimisation and the impact of violence, which is in sharp contrast to the multitude of theories developed to assess and understand crime and delinquency. Compared to criminology and other social sciences, victimology is a relatively new discipline, not because victims are a new phenomenon, but because for too long the focus has been on explaining deviant behaviour and criminal law responses to that behaviour, including prevention and punishment.

With the emergence of victim-lifestyle theory, researchers have concluded that as victimological research has grown, so have theoretical approaches to victimology. Scholars have sought to highlight current trends in victimology research, intentionally curating a variety of methodologies and topical areas to demonstrate the breadth of research (Ahlin & Antunes, 2025). Regarding current trends in research on victims of crimes, scientists (Movchan *et al.*, 2021) have proven that the development of information technology, as well as the sometimes unstable general mental state of society, makes Internet users a vulnerable category in relation to crimes committed on the Internet. A feature of committing violence on the Internet is the voluntary entry into such relationships of a person who finds himself in the role of a victim. At the same time, situations are not uncommon when a person, by his actions, subconsciously provoked the commission of violence against him, in connection with which an in-depth study of a person's victim behaviour on the Internet is an important aspect of developing a mechanism for preventing the commission of violence on the World Wide Web.

Basic categories of victimology

To reveal theoretical approaches to victimological modelling, it is advisable, first of all, to turn to scientific views on the nature of the victim of a criminal offense, the features of her behaviour, the phenomenon of victimisation, the victimological situation and

the system of determinants of victimisation. Such a sequence is due to the fact that victimological modelling cannot be separated from the basic categories of victimology: they form its conceptual and methodological foundation. In the modern sense, such a conceptual apparatus includes, in particular, the victim, victimhood, victimisation, devictimisation, victimological determination, victimological situation, victimological prevention and victimological security. In a broad social sense, a victim can be considered a person who has been harmed as a result of the influence of certain adverse circumstances or objective factors. In criminology and victimology, this concept acquires a more specific meaning and is primarily associated with causing harm as a result of a criminally unlawful act. It is this approach that makes it possible to focus research not only on the fact of causing harm, but also on the personal, social, behavioural and situational characteristics of a person, which are important for understanding the mechanism of victimisation. In this context, the position of R. Movchan *et al.* (2021) is noteworthy, who consider the victim as a person who has directly or indirectly suffered harm as a result of a criminal act. This approach creates the possibility of a comprehensive study of the victim's personality, their behaviour and interaction with other elements of the criminal situation. At the same time, the concept of a "potential victim" makes it possible to examine not only realised but also potential victimisation, which is particularly important for predicting and preventing offences.

At the same time, it is fundamentally important to avoid a simplified interpretation of the victim's behaviour as the direct "cause" of the crime. In the modern victimological approach, the victim's behaviour can be considered as one of the elements of a complex system of determination and victimisation mechanism, which interacts with the victim's personal characteristics, the offender's behaviour, the social environment and the specific situation (Klymyuk, 2021). Therefore, it is more correct to speak not about the victim's "guilt" or "reason" for committing a crime, but about the victimogenic significance of individual behavioural patterns. It is quite reasonable to assume that every person is a potential victim, but the main attention is paid to actual victims, since in this case there is a strong connection between "cause and effect". At the same time, the victim's victim behaviour has a special place in the list of possible reasons, since such behaviour is the basis for committing a crime, in particular, one accompanied by violence.

The behaviour of the victim is one of the most controversial issues in victimology. Her scientific research makes it possible to establish how personal characteristics, life experience, social environment, psychological attitudes and specific situational circumstances affect the probability of a person falling into a victimogenic situation. B.M. Golovkin (2016) considers the victim's behaviour as an external manifestation of his internal state, which is formed under the influence of genotype, life experience and habitat. At the same time, a person's behaviour is related to a complex of his psychophysiological and psychological characteristics, which can influence the perception of criminal danger and the reaction to it. This approach is important for modelling, as it allows you to consider the victim's behaviour not in isolation, but as a result of the interaction of the internal properties of the person and the external environment. Therefore, the model of individual victimisation should take into account not only the behavioural characteristics of a person, but also the conditions of his socialisation, the peculiarities of the microenvironment, life circumstances and characteristics of a specific situation.

In this aspect, the concept of V.A. Tulyakov (2003) deserves attention, according to which, depending on the degree of connection with criminal behaviour, different types of victims can be considered, in particular, accidental and determined victims. The latter is characterised by a more active behavioural interaction with the situation and the presence of behavioural manifestations that can catalyse the development of a conflict situation. At the same time, it is advisable to consider this concept as one of the theoretical approaches, and not as a universal explanation of the mechanism of victimisation. The randomness of victimisation, the victim's behaviour, his personal characteristics, and external conditions can be combined in various ratios, which necessitates the use of multifactorial models.

Modern victimology does not contain the results of special research into the motives of victim behaviour, although motivation is an important element in determining the commission of a crime. Deepening the issue, it should be recognised that the victim's behaviour has its own motivation, different from the criminal's, which acts as a specific victimological determinant of the crime. Thus, the interaction of motivation and objective victimological determinants occurs in a certain victimological situation, which predicts or contributes to the victimisation of an individual in a specific place and at a specific time (Woodhams & Toye, 2007). The next level of theoretical analysis is the concept of victimhood and victimisation. Traditionally, victimhood is considered as a probabilistic property of a person, social group or other subject, which determines the possibility of becoming a victim of a criminal offense. At the same time, victimisation can have a personal, role and situational nature and depend both on the characteristics of the person himself and on the specific circumstances of his life.

Victimisation, accordingly, characterises the process of realisation or growth of victimhood, while devictimisation is associated with a decrease in its level and the formation of a person's ability to counteract victimogenic influences. It is the dynamic nature of these processes that creates the possibility of their modelling and forecasting. Therefore, the object of victimological modelling can be not only the actual victim of a crime, but also the process of victimisation formation, the mechanism of victimisation, the victimological situation, the system of determinants and the relationships between them.

Of particular importance for the development of the relevant issues is the concept (Kornjakova *et al.*, 2016), according to which victimological modelling is formed as a relatively new direction of criminological knowledge and has the potential to develop into a separate victimological theory. The authors emphasise its interdisciplinary nature and ability to integrate victimological information formed within the framework of criminal law, criminal process, criminology and other sciences. They propose to understand the victimological model as a hypothetical construct that reflects the victimological, and in some cases, criminological object of research. The construction of such a model involves successive stages: the formation of knowledge about the object; research of the created model as an independent object; practical verification of the knowledge obtained and its use to improve the theory and practice of crime prevention. This leads to an important conclusion for the review article: victimological modelling extends beyond the statistical description of victims. Its task is to create an abstract construct that reflects the essential properties and relationships of the victimological object and can be used for its explanation, prediction, and preventive impact.

In the course of the research, the emergence of the theory of victimological modelling as a distinct victimological theory (Kornjakova *et al.*, 2016) can be identified, providing a basis for defining and refining its principal characteristics: victimological modelling is a relatively new scientific direction in criminology; victimological modelling fills with victimological information the characteristics of crime developed by other sciences, such as criminal law, criminal process, forensics, the theory of operational and investigative activities, and when feedback occurs, it uses the knowledge of these sciences to develop its own theory and create a model of victimological crime prevention; victimological modelling serves as a scientific methodological basis for the prevention of victimisation and victimological provision of national security of the state.

In authour opinion, the theory of victimological modelling is a type of sociological theories (sociological-legal), has all their features and is characterised by similar structural elements. Being closely related to theoretical sciences, the theory of victimological modelling has a number of specific features determined by the theory of law. These include, first of all, the connection with legal concepts, the theory of criminal law and criminology. The conceptual apparatus of modern victimology as an initial element of the theory of victimological modelling consists of the following concepts: victimhood and victimisation, devictimisation, victimogenic and antivictimogenic determinants, victimological crime prevention and victimological forecasting. A victimological model is understood as a hypothetical construction reflecting the victimological and, in some cases, criminological object of research. The first stage of building any victimological model assumes the availability of knowledge about the object of modelling, that is, about the future model. At the second stage, the victimological model acts as an independent object of victimological research, the result of which is a set of criminological knowledge about the victimological model.

The third stage consists in the practical verification of knowledge obtained using victimological models and their use to create a theory of victimological modelling in criminological science and crime prevention practice, to identify further opportunities for change, management and (or) control. The functions of victimological modelling include: in-depth study of existing negative socio-legal phenomena and processes related to crime based on a systemic approach, scientific knowledge from the standpoint of victimology; identification of the main areas of application and use of systematised victimological knowledge; conducting a comparative analysis of the primary object of victimological modelling and the obtained new victimological model, determining its qualitative characteristics. In addition, victimological modelling in criminological science and crime prevention practice performs important heuristic functions, i.e. it allows you to identify negative victimological trends and, taking into account the obtained victimological information, outline positive ways to solve the problems of ensuring national security. In modern conditions, the conceptual apparatus of victimology is expanding and consists of the following terms: victim, victimhood, victimisation and devictimisation, victimological determination, victimological situation, victimological prevention, victimological security.

The following are traditional victimological provisions:

1) the probability of becoming a victim of a crime depends on the specific phenomenon of victimisation;

2) victimisation is a probabilistic property of an individual, a tendency to become a victim of a crime, and it can be personal, role-related and situational;

3) the victim's behaviour has a significant impact on the motivation of criminal behaviour;

4) victimisation depends on a number of factors, in particular: on individual personal characteristics and situational factors, that is, on the degree of conflict in the situation, the specific features of the place and time in which it develops; on the legal status and professional and role characteristics of the person;

5) the degree of objectivity can change, the process of its growth is victimisation, as well as its decrease is devictimisation; at the same time, by influencing the degree of victimisation, it is possible to reduce its level and thus exercise a targeted preventive influence on crime.

The central component of victimological modelling is the study of determination. Victimological determination involves establishing relationships between social phenomena, personal characteristics, behavioural manifestations, situational circumstances and victimisation processes. The material you provided substantiates the need to study temporal, spatial, functional, correlational and other relationships between the relevant phenomena. The differentiation of causes, conditions and other factors is important. The cause directly generates a certain consequence, while the condition creates an opportunity or a favorable environment for its occurrence. Therefore, for an adequate model of victimological determination, it is necessary not only to establish a list of factors, but also to determine the nature, strength and direction of their relationship.

At this level, victimological modelling acquires particular scientific significance by enabling a transition from a simple enumeration of determinants to the identification of their structure, hierarchy, and interactions. The material provided rightly notes that the task of victimology is not only to identify determinants, but also to determine the degree and intensity of their interaction, their quantitative and qualitative characteristics. Thus, a systematic approach to the study of victimisation makes it possible to distinguish among determinants the main (actually causal) and secondary (conditions and other factors), as well as to focus the attention of victimologists on the study of the former, taking into account the existence and interrelationship with the latter. The primary task of victimology extends beyond identifying determinants to assessing the degree and intensity of their interaction, as well as their quantitative and qualitative characteristics.

In modern victimological studies, such victimological determinants as the processes of globalisation, urbanisation and fear of crime are distinguished. Most determinants do not in themselves generate victimisation, but determine its structure and dynamics in each specific period of social development. Social disadvantage is one of the main causes of victimisation of an individual. Therefore, the main determinant of victimisation of marginalised groups of the population in a number of countries is their characteristic persistent tendency to asocial behaviour, when it is difficult to distinguish a criminal from a victim if both come from a marginal environment, since they have almost the same personal deformations and stereotypes of behaviour. Social disadvantage is one of the main elements of modelling the determination of victimisation. Victims from a marginal environment are characterised by selfish habits, loss of a sense of responsibility, indifference to the problems of other people, cynicism. They are characterised by weakened feelings of shame, duty, conscience, as well as incontinence and conflict, rudeness, aggressiveness, lying, ill-mannеredness, low level of education. Among the representatives who reproduce the forms of marginal subculture, 65-75% of people become victims of crimes, in the commission of which their provocative behaviour plays a decisive role (Golina *et al.*, 2017).

Modelling of victimological determinants of criminology can be carried out on the basis of various criteria. First of all, two models of victimological determination are distinguished: what affects primary victimisation; what affects repeated (recidivist) victimisation. To build an adequate and optimal model of victimological determination, it is necessary to take into account victimogenic and anti-victimogenic factors that affect the level, structure and dynamics of crime (Dzhuzha & Kolb, 2014). Primary and recurrent victimisation are closely interconnected, therefore, both models of determination – both primary and recurrent victimisation – are interconnected. Thus, victimological modelling primarily determines the system of models of victimological determination of crime. Based on the above, it is advisable to include the following system of determinants in the victimogenic and anti-victimogenic models of determination: determinants that affect primary victimisation; determinants that affect recurrent victimisation; determinants of selfish crimes; determinants of violent crimes; universal model of determination.

A survey of experts from various scientific fields – sociology, demography, criminology, statistics – revealed the feasibility of creating a system of victimological modelling of criminological determinants, which combines the determinants of crime into the following models:

- model of victimogenic (anti-victimogenic) social-group determination;
- model of seasonal victimogenic (anti-victimogenic) determination;
- model of geographical victimogenic (anti-victimogenic) determination;
- model of criminal-legal victimogenic (anti-victimogenic) determination, which includes the

type, nature and prevalence of a particular crime among all crimes.

Social inequality in society exacerbates social conflicts that can develop into extremism and nationalism. Marginalisation of the population causes a decrease in the standard of living, while destroying traditional social ties and transforming the system of value orientations. Among the main victimogenic determinants of crime, domestic scientists especially single out illegal migration, which fuels the marginal segment of society and is accompanied by the emergence of new conflicts in the host country. The increased level of victimisation of migrants is due to the difficulties of their integration into the cultural space of the country of residence. Serious problems are also associated with internal migration caused by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, economic uneven development of regions, interethnic problems, and the growth of crime in certain parts of the country. Public opinion often forms a negative image of a migrant, spreading xenophobic sentiments, which increases the level of social tension and causes mass victimisation. Immoral, deviant behaviour, imposing a sense of pseudo-freedom and psychological permissiveness, acts as a catalyst for the determinants of mass victimisation. The legal determinants of mass victimisation lie in the shortcomings of the legal regulation of the restoration of the violated rights of the victim. The legislation of the state is aimed at protecting rights and ensuring social justice by holding offenders accountable. At the same time, law enforcement efforts should focus not only on punishing offenders but also on providing victims with legal, psychological, and material assistance, as a sense of legal insecurity can contribute to widespread victimisation.

The model of determination of individual victimisation and individual victim behaviour is based on the interest of criminologists in the mechanism of individual criminal behaviour and the possibilities of its prediction. The interaction of the criminal and the victim in the mechanism of committing a crime leads to the idea of creating a model of determination of individual victimisation. The disclosure of such a model allows criminology in general and victimology in particular to approach the key goal – effective crime prevention. The determination of individual victim behaviour is the victimogenic conditioning of the actions of a crime victim by his or her personal properties that interact with the victimological situation in which a person finds himself or herself and chooses a victim style of behaviour. The source of information about such determination should be the created model of determination of individual victimity. Therefore, when developing a model of individual victim behaviour in the theory of victimological modelling, it is important to establish the factors that determine the most likely variant of the victim's behaviour.

Thus, some victims, regardless of social factors, have a victimogenic predisposition. Such people have individual victimisation and have victimogenic-deviant character traits. They are more likely to find themselves in victimological situations, and that is why crimes are committed against them in the subjective dimension. In this regard, it is necessary to implement victimological prevention measures. Thus, individual victimisation means the critical admissibility of victimogenic behaviour and provocation of a crime, which is realised due to the action of factors, but at the same time does not deprive the potential victim of the opportunity to choose a style of anti-victim behaviour. Individual victimisation can be corrected and reduced by purposefully changing personal properties and character traits in an anti-victimogenic direction. Since individual victimisation is determined by the manifestations of the psychophysiological characteristics of the potential victim, it is necessary to study these features and explain to the potential victim why the realisation of his individual victimisation is possible. Individual victimisation is socially controlled if it is determined by socio-psychological and moral properties, because these qualities can be regulated and orient the potential victim towards anti-victim behaviour. In the process of modelling the determination of individual victimisation, it is important to study the personality from the position of its victimological identification in relation to society, social group and self-identification. Such a three-part victimological study of the victim's personality allows for a more qualitative determination of individual victimisation and the development of an appropriate victimological prevention program.

One of the components of modelling the determination of mass victimisation is the creation of a model of determination of individual victimisation and victim behaviour. However, if the determinants of mass victimisation are caused by unfavorable conditions of the social environment, individual victimisation is more influenced by the person's immediate environment and the microenvironment in which it is formed. When modelling the determination of mass victimisation, the degree of influence of urbanisation, industrialisation, technologisation of production, migration processes, as well as unemployment and social tension is of great importance. Most of the determinants known to criminological science do not in themselves generate victimhood, but act as its background factors and contribute to the formation of a model of determination of mass victimhood.

Recognising the uniqueness of each crime and its victim, it is possible to identify mechanisms common to all cases of individual victimhood. When

modelling the determination of individual victimhood, the socio-psychological mechanism of victimisation should be considered. This mechanism is understood as a system of elements and stages of changing the degree of victimhood of an individual as a result of the interaction of external and internal factors. At the same time, the social (external) component of this mechanism is represented by a complex of conditions that exist in society and have victimogenic potential, and the psychological (internal) component is represented by a system of psychological processes that form the victim's motivation for behaviour.

The analysis of scientific approaches makes it possible to classify the determinants of victimisation at several levels. At the individual level, psychophysiological, psychological, behavioural, and personal characteristics are considered. At the microsocial level, the family, household, professional and leisure environment are important. At the macrosocial level, socio-economic, political, legal, cultural, migration and other processes influence. To build models of determination, it is proposed to distinguish between determinants of primary and repeated victimisation, as well as determinants of selfish, violent offenses and universal determinants. Separately, socio-group, seasonal, geographical and criminal-legal models can be formed. This approach indicates the multilevel nature of victimological modelling. Accordingly, a universal model should not exclude specialised models, but should integrate them as separate levels or subsystems. The determinants of victimisation should be sought in a wide range of relationships between a potential victim – a person as a social being – and the surrounding reality, as well as in what constitutes the meaning of a person's life. The determinants of mass victimisation should be understood as interconnected, mutually conditioned victimogenic social phenomena and processes, as well as the features of the emergence and development of the most victimogenic circumstances that provoke the realisation of mass victimisation. These include victimogenic phenomena in the political, economic, legal, social and moral-spiritual spheres of society's life. The phenomena that cause the most acute human reaction occur in the political sphere. Political interests associated with the struggle for power determine the commission of crimes, especially those that are realised through violence. The most striking examples of negative criminal phenomena determined by political processes include terrorism and corruption, which, in turn, have significant victimogenic potential and cause mass victimisation.

A special place in the structure of the victimological model is occupied by the victimological situation. It is a spatial-temporal and socio-psychological context within which the victim, the offender, the social environment and specific circumstances interact. Thus, it is advisable to consider the victimological situation not simply as a set of circumstances, but as a dynamic system of interaction of internal and external determinants, which can precede victimisation, contribute to its implementation or arise directly during the commission of a criminal offense. The classifications proposed in the studies distinguish victimogenic, neutral and anti-victimogenic situations, as well as situations of varying intensity. It is proposed to consider personally formed, pre-criminal, criminogenic-victim and post-criminal situations separately. This provision is directly relevant to modelling, as it makes it possible to conceptualise victimisation as a process rather than as a one-time event. The classification of victimological situations within the framework of the study of victimological determination includes:

1) victimogenic, neutral and anti-criminogenic situations;

2) high-intensity, medium-intensity and weakly expressed situations.

The review makes it possible to propose the following logic for theoretical victimological modelling: determinants → victimisation formation → victimological situation → victim/anti-victim behaviour → victimisation → consequences → devictimisation/ preventive influence. At the same time, the relationship between the indicated elements is not linear. It is systemic, probabilistic and interdependent in nature. The same factors can have different effects depending on the personal characteristics of the potential victim, the specific situation, the behaviour of the offender and the social environment. That is why a model in which individual victimisation is considered at the intersection of three blocks seems promising: internal characteristics of the person – needs, motives, attitudes, values, psychological properties, life experience; external environment – family, everyday life, work, leisure, social group, economic and legal conditions; situational factors – place, time, nature of interaction, level of conflict, presence of criminal threat and possibility of anti-victim behaviour. In the provided material, a similar approach can already be traced: the social component of the victimisation mechanism is associated with external conditions, and the psychological component – with the processes of forming victim motivation; motives, attitudes, needs, interests and expectations are separately determined as elements of the psychological component of the model.

When modelling the phenomenon of social life that causes victimisation, it is advisable to consider it through the prism of the existence of two models: victimogenic and anti-victimogenic. The first is the model of causes, the second is the model of conditions. Victimological modelling of criminological determination of crime is designed to analyse

statistical and dynamic patterns of causes and conditions of victimisation. It is impossible to develop a system for preventing crime in the future without knowledge of the victimological causes and conditions of this phenomenon and their extrapolation. In constructing a model of victimological determination, a general victimological causal model can be distinguished, in which social phenomena are viewed as dynamically interrelated with crime and as factors contributing to its occurrence. A social victimological causal model is also distinguished, in which one phenomenon, owing to its intrinsic causal nature, gives rise to another under favourable conditions, forming a model of conditions conducive to crime commission. This model consists of victimogenic conditions of personality formation, subjective and victimogenic conditions of the situation of committing a crime, as well as objective conditions. At the same time, it is important to know the victimological elements of the causal relationship of crimes, as well as victimogenic and anti-victimogenic models of determination.

The considered positions are fundamental in the victimological modelling of criminological determination. A special place in victimological modelling is occupied by the study of the general patterns of the internal dynamics of crime, as well as its relationship with mass victimisation and other social phenomena. Acting as an element of the model of determination of individual activity, social processes and phenomena acquire specific objective forms. As such elements, the spheres of the victim's social life that have victimological significance and are characterised by quantitative and qualitative model parameters can be considered. In science, the following spheres of human life are distinguished: family, everyday life, leisure, education, work. For each of these areas, it is necessary to identify victimological parameters that can be included in the modelling of the determination of individual victimisation. The psychological component of the model of determination of individual victimisation can be represented by the following main elements: motives, attitudes, claims, expectations, needs, interests, which act as determinants when filling them with victimological content.

A number of victimological studies indicate the presence of a certain similarity between the mechanisms of criminal and victim behaviour, focusing on their substantive similarity (Bennell & Canter, 2002; Tonkin *et al.*, 2011; Slater *et al.*, 2015). Analysing such a position, it should be recognised that victim behaviour has its own, different from criminal, motivation, which is a specific victimological determinant of crime. From these positions, the study of the motivation of victim behaviour of crime victims within the framework of modelling the determination of individual victimisation is one of the tasks and components of the subject of the theory of victimological modelling in modern criminological science and the practice of crime prevention. Hence the need to classify the motives of victims' behaviour into victimogenic and anti-victimogenic, which requires a separate large-scale study, similar to that which was carried out and continues to be carried out within the framework of criminological study of the motivation of criminal behaviour.

Another element of the mechanism of committing a crime – a specific life situation - is of no less interest for modelling the determination of individual victimhood. The situation, which within the framework of such modelling is appropriately called victimological, encompasses the parameters of the interaction of the criminal, the victim and the social environment, as well as the features of the subjective reflection of objective reality in the minds of both the criminal and the victim. Thus, the victimological situation is one of the key elements of the model of determination of individual victimhood. The interaction of motivation, subjective determinants and objective victimological determinants of individual victimisation occurs against the background of a certain victimological situation that precedes or contributes to the victimisation of a person in a specific place and at a specific time.

The results of victimological studies of M.G. Verbenksy *et al.* (2024) indicate that victimogenicity has the following features of a victimological situation:

1) by place of commission: residential sector – 80%, with about 40% of crimes committed in individual apartments;

2) by time: night period – from 20:00 to 6:00;

3) by types of victim behaviour of the victim: impudent (provoking) – 37%; careless – 30%; provocative – 29%; frivolous – 10%.

These conclusions can serve as an empirical basis for the scientific classification of victimological situations. In particular, according to the peculiarities of the formation of the situation, they are divided into: personally formed, which affect the formation of increased individual victimisation; pre-criminal, which are formed immediately before the commission of a crime; criminogenic-victimogenic, which arise during the commission of a crime; post-criminal, which occur after the commission of a crime. The proposed and developed classifications in the future should be closely related to the practice of victimological crime prevention and meet its needs. Developing the proposed approach, modelling the determinants of individual victimisation involves the isolation of: victimological (victimogenic, neutral and anti-victimogenic) situations; highly significant, medium-intensity and weakly expressed situations. Such a model makes it possible to apply it in statistical observation of victimisation and in programming of victimological crime prevention measures. With

regard to modelling the determination of individual victimisation, the following should be highlighted: motivation constitutes the central element of the mechanism of crime commission on the part of both the offender and the victim, particularly the motivation underlying individual victim behaviour and its specific characteristics; moreover, the proposed model of victimological situations can be applied to develop more advanced tools for the statistical observation of crime and victimisation.

Conclusions

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions can be drawn. The study substantiates the need for the emergence of a theory of victimological modelling of the behaviour of victims of offenses. The conceptual apparatus of modern victimology as the initial element of the theory of victimological modelling, the conceptual principles of victimological modelling, its essence, structure, functions and significance for the scientific knowledge of victimisation processes are highlighted. The conceptual foundations of modern victimology are considered as a fundamental element of the theory of victimological modelling. Special attention was paid to the definition and systematisation of the determinants of victimisation, which are considered as interrelated and mutually conditioned victimogenic phenomena and processes that create conditions for the implementation of victim behaviour and the emergence of victimogenic situations. The results of studies of victim behaviour of crime victims are analysed, which indicate cumulative harm associated with antisocial behaviour of crime victims, which requires a more thorough study, understanding and solution of the problems faced by crime victims, as well as providing them with greater support.

The main scientific approaches to building victimological models are summarised, in particular, systemic, structural-functional, deterministic, socio-psychological and situational approaches. The feasibility of comprehensive use of various theoretical and methodological approaches when modelling victimological processes is substantiated. The prospects of victimological modelling as a methodological basis for predicting victimisation, identifying victimogenic factors and developing measures to prevent it are determined. The study found that individual victimisation can be corrected and reduced by purposefully changing personal properties and character traits in an anti-victimogenic direction. In the process of modelling the determination of individual victimisation, it is important to study the individual from the position of his victimological identification in relation to society, social group and self-identification. One of the components of modelling the determination of mass victimisation is the creation of a model of determination of individual victimisation and victim behaviour. However, if the determinants of mass victimisation are caused by unfavourable conditions of the social environment, individual victimisation is more influenced by the immediate environment of the person and the microenvironment in which its formation takes place. When modelling the determination of mass victimisation, the degree of influence of urbanisation, industrialisation, technologisation of production, migration processes, as well as unemployment and social tension is of great importance. Most of the determinants known to criminological science do not in themselves generate victimisation, but act as its background factors and contribute to the formation of a model of determination of mass victimisation.

Thus, the conducted research indicates that systematic modelling of victimological processes can contribute to a deeper theoretical understanding of the mechanisms of victimisation and, consequently, enhance the effectiveness of victimological prevention measures. Thus, a review of theoretical approaches shows that victimological modelling was formed at the intersection of studies of the victim, victimhood, victimisation and criminological determination. Its modern understanding involves a transition from studying individual characteristics of the victim to systemic modelling of the interaction of personal, behavioural, social and situational factors. At the same time, an analysis of scientific approaches indicates that the primary object of modelling should not be the victim but rather the process of victimisation and its realisation under the influence of a complex set of interrelated determinants. Such an approach makes it possible to avoid excessive concentration on the victim's behaviour and provides a comprehensive understanding of the causes and conditions of victimisation. In this context, a promising direction for further theoretical development is the construction of a multilevel victimological model integrating individual, social-group, situational, and mass levels of victimisation, while also enabling the relationship between victimogenic and anti-victimogenic factors to be determined. It is this model that can become the theoretical basis for victimological forecasting, statistical observation, and programming of victimological prevention measures.

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Теоретичні підходи до віктимологічного моделювання: огляд концепцій та детермінант

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■ **Анотація.** Актуальність теми дослідження зумовлена необхідністю поглиблення наукового осмислення закономірностей формування та реалізації віктимізації в сучасних умовах у результаті зростання різноманітності віктимогенних чинників, ускладнення механізмів віктимізації, появи нових форм протиправних посягань і трансформації соціальних, економічних, інформаційних та безпекових процесів, а також актуалізацією необхідності вдосконалення методичного інструментарію для вивчення віктимологічних явищ. Метою дослідження був комплексний теоретико-методологічний аналіз основних підходів до віктимологічного моделювання, узагальнення наявних концепцій його тлумачення та систематизація основних детермінант віктимізації. Методологічною основою дослідження став комплекс загальнонаукових і спеціально-наукових методів, таких як: порівняльний, структурно-функціональний, формально-логічний, а також методи узагальнення та класифікації. У статті здійснено теоретичний аналіз основних підходів до віктимологічного моделювання як важливого напряму дослідження закономірностей формування та реалізації віктимізації, виявлення зв'язків між правопорушеннями й поведінкою їх жертв. Виокремлено понятійний апарат сучасної віктимології як вихідний елемент теорії віктимологічного моделювання, його сутність, структуру, функції та значення для наукового пізнання процесів віктимізації. Посилену увагу зосереджено на визначенні та систематизації детермінант віктимізації як взаємопов'язаних і взаємозумовлених віктимогенних явищ і процесів, що створюють умови для реалізації віктимної поведінки та виникнення віктимогенних ситуацій. Окреслено перспективи віктимологічного моделювання як методологічної основи прогнозування віктимізації, виявлення віктимогенних чинників і розроблення заходів запобігання їм. Практичне значення дослідження полягає в можливості використання систематизованих детермінант віктимізації та положень віктимологічного моделювання для прогнозування віктимогенних ризиків, удосконалення методик їх оцінювання та розроблення обґрунтованих напрямів протидії віктимізації

■ **Ключові слова:** антисоціальна поведінка; віктимологія; віктимогенні чинники; віктимологічна поведінка; жертви правопорушень; моделювання поведінки