

6. Defending Against COVID-19 Cyber Scams <https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ncas/current-activity/2020/03/06/defending-against-covid-19-cyber-scams>

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FEMALE CRIMINALITY: NEW AND OLD CHALLENGES

The first prisons, hospitals, correctional houses and asylums of the XVII century Developed to contain unruly members of society who were seen to represent a threat to the social order. They housed both men and women, though early studies, such as those by Lombroso and Ferrero, hardly mentioned the presence of women. Their conception of ‘atavistic man’ and the “natural inferiority” of women, nevertheless, continue to permeate criminal justice responses to women who come into contact with the law [1].

Women, tend to be excluded from the dominant discourse of criminology, law and penology. The invisibility of women has been a key factor within the criminal justice system in hindering fair treatment of female offenders. Building on feminist critiques of traditional criminological theories [4], recent gendered approaches to the study of women’s criminal behaviour have had considerable influence on contemporary criminological thought. Studies in many countries over the last four decades, have increased the visibility of women as subjects of criminal law, although the discipline has not abandoned its paternalistic logic. The participation of women in public life increase so would their participation in crime, predicting that men and women would be equally represented in crime statistics in the future. Their predictions have not been born out to date. According to the UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Vienna in 2000, women represent only 5% of the world’s prison population. Moreover, as many studies have demonstrated, most crime is committed by men, in all nations, in all communities, among all age groups, throughout recorded history and for all crimes (with the exception of those specifically related to being a woman, such as abortion, infanticide and prostitution). This proportion is echoed in the United States (in 2004, the number of women in state prisons represented 5.2% of the prison population), the European Union, (women represented between 4 and 8% of the prison population in 2006) and Latin America:

Contribution Percentage of Women in Prison in Latin America, 2006

Argentina 5 %, Ecuador 9.5 %, Panama 6.6 %, Bolivia 7 %, El Salvador 5.4 %, Peru 7 %, Brazil 6.3 %, Guatemala 5.3 %, Dominican Rep. 3.3 %, Chile 8 %, Honduras 3.4 %, Uruguay 5 %, Colombia 6.4 %, Mexico 5 %, Venezuela 6.6 %, Costa Rica 8.1 %, Nicaragua 6.4 %

These figures pose several questions: How can we explain the low numbers of female offenders? Are informal control mechanisms more effective in containing women's transgressions? Does the different way that women are socialised explain their underrepresentation in crime? Are transcultural elements present in male/female relations that explain this phenomenon? What are they?

The similarities in the proportions of women in prison in different countries, whether in contexts as different as Latin America and Europe, are surprising. It suggests that explanations for these parallels lie outside ethnic, cultural or socio-economic differences, and are intrinsic to gender relationships. In the EU, as in Latin America, the female prison population has increased over the last decade at a much faster rate than the male. There are the social risk factors for women who come into contact with the criminal justice system. These include: growing unemployment, disproportionately affecting young people, women and the most socially excluded, job insecurity, an absence of institutional support, low educational attainment, housing problems, low income, family breakdown and being a single parent, a lack of social networks, migration, links to drug trafficking, prostitution, and being from a minority ethnic group, as well as individual factors such as age, sex, health, drug dependency, and experience of violence and abuse. The prison sentences are frequently and disproportionately imposed on people who are already socially excluded. Social exclusion refers to the numerous and changing factors that hinder individuals from fully participating in everyday interactions, activities and enjoying the rights that others enjoy in modern societies. These factors particularly affect people, in urban and rural areas, who have been subjected to discrimination or segregation, exacerbating failings in the social system and compounding social inequalities. Gender is a vital factor in the re-production of forms of exclusion. Also apparent were the links between starting drug consumption at an early age, poverty, violence, self-harm and a lack of resources. The women at greatest risk of starting to consume drugs at an early age were those who had fathers who were addicts, who had been abandoned or who had suffered sexual abuse. On average about 60 to 80% of women prisoners in European countries are drug misusers. The study also suggests that some women's relationships with criminal partners could push them into contact with the criminal justice system, as more or less voluntary accomplices, and when covering for them. In conclusion, the situation of women prisoners is a reflection of social inequalities [3, p. 280]; inequalities in access to education, gender inequality, and segregation in societies which prohibit women from participating fully in public life. Prisons compound the existing exclusion of women offenders.

References:

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LE DISPOSITIF NATIONAL DE LUTTE CONTRE LA CYBERCRIMINALITÉ EN FRANCE ET EN UKRAINE

La société connaît aujourd’hui une phase de transformation numérique de grande ampleur et l’ensemble de nos systèmes sont de plus en plus interconnectés [1]. Attaques informatiques contre les systèmes d’information d’entreprises ou d’institutions, vols de bases de données afin d’obtenir une rançon, espionnage, financement d’organisations terroristes par du crowdfunding, escroqueries en ligne : la délinquance a investi l’espace cyber. Les menaces peuvent provenir d’Etats, d’entreprises privées ou d’organisations criminelles. Certaines opérations relèvent d’une nouvelle forme de cybercriminalité organisée. Aussi, les attaques informatiques ne constituent plus un simple risque conjoncturel, mais sont devenues systémiques, comme l’ont démontré les attaques[1].

La cybercriminalité est l’une des formes de la criminalité qui connaît la plus forte croissance tant au niveau national qu’international. Elle recouvre ainsi toute activité illégale ou irrégulière réalisée à travers le cyberspace: escroqueries, fraudes, extorsions, abus, espionnages, vandalismes etc. La cybercriminalité comprend toute forme de malveillance électronique effectuée au moyen de l’informatique et des télécommunications (téléphonie, cartes bleue etc)[2].

En droit français, la cybercriminalité est définie comme l’ensemble des infractions pénales qui sont commises via les réseaux informatiques, notamment, sur le réseau Internet. Ce terme désigne à la fois:

1) les atteintes aux biens: fraude à la carte bleue sur Internet sans le consentement de son titulaire; vente par petites annonces ou aux enchères d’objets volés ou contrefaits; encaissement d’un paiement sans livraison de la marchandise ou autres escroqueries en tout genre; piratage d’ordinateur; gravure pour soi ou pour autrui de musiques, films ou logiciels.