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Fecha de presentación: octubre, 2021

Fecha de aceptación: diciembre, 2021

Fecha de publicación: febrero, 2022

PREVENTION AND PROPHYLACTICS

OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS: THE CONVERGENCE APPROACH IN THE EDUCATIONAL SPACE OF RUSSIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH OSSETIA

PREVENCIÓN Y PROFILÁCTICA DEL COMPORTAMIENTO DESVÍO EN ADOLESCENTES: EL ENFOQUE DE CONVERGENCIA EN EL ESPACIO EDUCATIVO DE RUSIA Y LA REPÚBLICA DE OSSETIA DEL SUR

Olga V. Pogožheva¹

E-mail: olga-pogozheva@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8084-3320>

Maksim S. Trofimov¹

E-mail: sim-pai@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8584-6563>

Aza M. Plieva²

E-mail: aza.plieva@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3518-7293>

¹ North Caucasus Federal University, Russian Federation.

² South Ossetian State University named after A.A. Tibilov, Tskhinval, Republic of South Ossetia.

Suggested citation (APA, 7th edition)

Pogozheva, O. V., Trofimov, M. S., & Plieva, A. M. (2022). Prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior among adolescents: the convergence approach in the educational space of Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia *Revista Universidad y Sociedad*, 14(S1), 679-687.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study is to develop new interdisciplinary scientific knowledge about the deviant behavior of adolescents in Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia, its causes and characteristics in a convergent connection with the mechanism of legal regulation in the educational space of the two states. The effectiveness of the legal regulation of measures for the prevention of adolescent deviant behavior is contingent on the introduction of comprehensive psychological support measures for minors into the practice of state institutions and educational organizations based on a convergence approach, in which the formation of the regulatory framework for the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents has to be based not only on fundamental and practice-oriented research but also on a deep psychological and pedagogical analysis of the causes and conditions behind the emergence of deviations in the adolescent environment.

Keywords: Deviant behavior, convergence approach, pandemic, legal regulation, self-isolation.

RESUMEN

El propósito del estudio es desarrollar nuevos conocimientos científicos interdisciplinarios sobre el comportamiento desviado de los adolescentes en Rusia y la República de Osetia del Sur, sus causas y características en una conexión convergente con el mecanismo de regulación legal en el espacio educativo de los dos estados. La efectividad de la regulación legal de las medidas de prevención de la conducta desviada de los adolescentes está supeditada a la introducción de medidas integrales de apoyo psicológico a los menores en la práctica de las instituciones estatales y organizaciones educativas basadas en un enfoque de convergencia, en el que la formación del marco normativo para la prevención y profiláctica de la conducta desviada en los adolescentes debe basarse no solo en una investigación fundamental y orientada a la práctica, sino también en un análisis psicológico y pedagógico profundo de las causas y condiciones detrás de la aparición de desviaciones en el adolescente en -ambiente.

Keywords: Comportamiento desviado, enfoque de convergencia, pandemia, regulación legal, autoaislamiento.

INTRODUCTION

The traditions of longstanding relations between Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia have objectively created opportunities for the development of the two countries. At present, they outline the trends of their purposeful progress toward the reinforcement of contacts and connection in resolving the common problems in various spheres of state and public life and, above all, in the development of legal, in social interaction in the educational environment. In this regard, the tasks of the socio-cultural level are being actualized and the forms of their legal regulation are being provided, becoming a priority.

On the territories of the two countries, subjects are carrying various cultural and historical traditions, who have managed to accumulate the experience of real cooperation and close legal, economic, socio-cultural, and other types of interaction in the states over the years.

The educational space of Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia has factually retained the association and interaction of specialists of various levels and qualifications, which is an important factor in the development of the modern level of education in the two states, in the expansion and development of legal and psychological and pedagogical interaction in them, which is undoubtedly gaining general humanitarian significance.

The experience of the development of Russian-South Ossetian relations shows that the most important institution of civil society and a mechanism for the democratization of foreign and domestic policy of states can be people's diplomacy, the subjects of which are not only official state structures, special agencies, but also people, scientists capable of forming new integration relations between the peoples and institutions of the countries in a particular area of interstate relations.

The aforementioned vividly demonstrates the international communication that has developed between the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of South Ossetia, as well as the legislative bodies of these states and scientists and practitioners, whose joint activities made it possible to develop and implement normative legal acts of the Republic of South Ossetia in the field of education, to form the normative-institutional assessment of the quality of education, to conduct serious interdisciplinary scientific and practical research.

The states independently form their institutional and normative systems in various spheres of public administration and set tasks for the authorities, scientists, and practitioners that must be solved as efficiently as possible. The

convergence approach is what provides the resources necessary to achieve the necessary results. Convergence (from Latin *convergere* – “bring closer”) refers to a certain fusion of some characteristics and elements of independent phenomena (Oxford Russian Dictionary, 2000). Contemporary science uses the terms “political convergence”, “ecological convergence”, “economic convergence”, “legal convergence” and more. The convergence approach, which allows uniting the efforts of various specialists and specialized institutions on both the national and international levels of interaction is precisely the approach that needs to be used for the system of public administration of all types of social relations.

The above testifies to the need for a serious, scientific, and practical comprehension of this problem, the development of a conceptually sound system of standards, naturally, taking into account the regional component and geopolitical reality, historical and cultural heritage, interdisciplinary interaction in the formation of an integrated system of support for minors in the continuum of their life activities (the convergence approach).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study of the normative and legal acts concerning the implementation of measures for the prevention and prophylactics of adolescent deviant behavior uses a set of norms of Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia, as well as scientific works, basic training manuals, books, and monographs by both domestic and foreign authors.

The methodological basis for the study is formed by two groups of scientific research methods: general scientific and special scientific methods. The employed general scientific methods include the historical-dialectical, statistical, and logical methods, synthesis, and analysis.

Substantial practical and theoretical comprehension is achieved by means of specific scientific methods, among which we should note such methods related to legal science as:

- The normative-logical and technical-legal methods allowing to analyze the legal norms contained in the modern legislation, as well as to study the applied aspect of scientific research regarding the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents according to the normative-logical rules adopted in the legal technique;
- the historical and political method, which provides for a legal study of the prevention and prophylactics of adolescent deviant behavior in Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia at different historical and political stag-

es, thus allowing to trace back the process of formation and development of the legal framework of legislation in this field of public relations, as well as to identify the means, techniques, and methods of preventing deviant behavior of minors;

- the systemic-structural method allowing to trace the relationship of adolescents with the state and society and consider them as subjects of state protection having individual personal characteristics;
- the method of analogy, the use of which gives the opportunity to compare adolescent deviant behavior in Russia (taking into account the regional aspect – on the example of the Stavropol Territory) and the Republic of South Ossetia, as well as legislative systems of the two countries, which, in turn, allows developing new practices with similar characteristics.

Since the conducted research is on the junction of legal science and psychology, it is necessary to take into consideration the special scientific methods of psychology, namely the nomothetic methods, the methods of the idiographic approach, and qualitative research methods (case analysis, in-depth interview, semi-structured interview, content analysis, expert assessment).

The application of general and special scientific research methods together with the use of several basic principles of scientific research organization provides an opportunity to study the legal regulation of measures to prevent deviant behavior in the context of a convergent approach in the educational space of Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia. Moreover, it allows investigating the genesis of this phenomenon from the point of the interdisciplinary approach, to identify the distinguishing characteristics of psychological support for minors in the educational process, develop recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the existing methods for the legal regulation of measures for the prevention of deviant behavior in minors.

To conduct a comprehensive, high-quality, and in-depth analysis of the legislative framework of adolescent deviant behavior, as well as of the issues of its prevention and prophylactics, formulation of the relevant conclusions and proposals, and comparison of the initial data and the obtained results, the study explores the experience of the Russian Federation. This approach is due to the fact that the Russian methods and techniques, legal regulation, and practice of educational organizations in the prevention and prophylactics of delinquency among minors accumulate the best experience of other states.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of research presented in the present work are based on our studies of the normative-legal acts of the Republic of South Ossetia and the Russian Federation concerning the measures for the prevention and prophylactics of adolescent deviant behavior in the multidimensional plane of their continuum-personal space, based on the convergent approach in the educational environment.

To conduct a comprehensive and thorough scientific study of the legal regulation of the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior of minors in Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia based on a convergent approach in the educational space, we analyze the Regulation on the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of South Ossetia of November 27, 2019 (Regulation on the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of South Ossetia, 2019). The main objectives of the Ministry of Education are the development and implementation of state policy in education, the formation of regulatory and institutional frameworks to address problems in national education, the development of scientific and innovative activities, etc.

An important legal document securing the friendly relations between Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia is the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the Republic of South Ossetia on Unionism and Integration of March 18, 2015, which replaced the Treaty of 2008 and marked the beginning of the present stage of international legal relations between the two states. In accordance with Article 10 of the Treaty, the Russian Federation assists the Republic of South Ossetia in science and education and contributes to improving the quality of education in the country (Treaty between the Russian Federation and the Republic of South Ossetia, 2015).

Of significance is currently the stage of activities related to the modernization and material and technical equipment of schools and preschool institutions of South Ossetia, which is carried out at the expense of the Investment program to promote socio-economic development of the Republic of South Ossetia in 2020-2022. Today, almost 90% of South Ossetia's budgets are formed from the allocations of the Russian Federation. In addition, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation together with the Russian Foundation for Basic Research supports international scientific cooperation between scientists of the Republic of South Ossetia and Russia to modernize the normative-legal and institutional foundations of national education in the Republic of South Ossetia. In accordance with the Plan for Modernization of the Preschool and General Education Network of the Republic of South

Ossetia for 2019-2021, several key problems in general education should be solved, among which we can note the low quality of educational services in remote rural settlements, including due to the lack of qualified personnel, improving the quality of the organization of children's recreation and health improvement, and many others.

As part of the ongoing scientific and institutional study, it is necessary to refer to the definition of "children's health". For example, the World Health Organization defines children's health as a state of bodily, mental, and social well-being. In this multidimensional definition of importance is psychological and mental health, which undoubtedly includes the formation of proper attitudes to a healthy lifestyle, strengthening the skills of social competence in the continuum of children's life activities, the development of personal value characteristics, and the prevention of deviations and addictions.

According to V.D. Mendelevich, deviant behavior "is the unity of actions that do not correspond to the generally recognized norms, which manifests in the imbalance of mental processes, disadaptation, disruption of the process of self-realization, or the loss of self-control" (Mendelevich, 2001). From the psychological standpoint, V.T. Kondrashenko views deviant behavior as a socio-psychological concept, because such behavior, firstly, does not align with social norms and rules of behavior in society and, second, is not tied to mental illness (Kondrashenko, 1988). A slightly different position is held by D.F. Petrusevich who argues that "deviant behavior is abnormal behavior characterized by repetition and manifesting in the form of actions and deeds that are contrary to the most important social and legal norms, which, in turn, has a negative impact on the individual, society, and the state as a whole" (Petrusevich, 2011).

Foreign scholars point out that the defining criteria of deviant behavior are ambiguous and often controversial (Becker, 1963; Durkheim, 1964). Following modern approaches, foreign researchers consider deviant behavior as separate deviations most common for adolescents, such as cyberbullying and shoplifting (Wright, 2015; Belsey, 2019). Furthermore, N. Smelser offers his classic definition of this negative phenomenon, which he understands as behavior that is viewed as a deviation from the group norms and leads to the violator being isolated, treated, fixed, or punished (Smelser, 1988). The well-known Austrian psychologist Z. Freud argues that "an individual's behavior is also determined by another part of the psyche, the unconscious, i.e., by special psychic forces that lie outside of consciousness but govern human behavior" (Freud, 1916).

In the context of the development of national education in the Republic of South Ossetia, there is a need for well-grounded scientific and practical recommendations and proposals on improving and forming a new conception of children's psychological and mental health, on the development of preventive measures for adolescent deviant behavior and their legal and institutional support. This objective can be solved by forming and advancing the legal and psychological and pedagogical interaction in the educational space of the two states. The principles on which this interaction has to rely need to be:

1. Consideration of the positive experience in the development of relations of the countries;
2. an understanding of the current problem that needs to be addressed with consideration of the nature of the specific historical tasks faced by society;
3. analysis of the modern level of culture, the density of information, the rate of appearance of new information sources, the mastery of which calls for close interaction and active exchange.

The recognition of the independence of the Republic of South Ossetia marks a transition period in the development of social relations, which were objectively subjected to breakdown and transformation. The reformation of society was accompanied by broad criminalization of all spheres of social life, which naturally affected minors as the most sensitive part of the population particularly susceptible to negative influence during puberty.

The beginning of 2020 turned out to be overloaded with a series of socio-economic, ecological, biological, and geopolitical shocks, which affected the whole world, all states, including South Ossetia. Nowadays, amid the global pandemic, adolescents, lacking psychological stability in the face of negativity, may start to show deviant and addictive reactions due to the current social situation. The reasons for the development of such undesirable reactions can be hereditary factors, personality disorders, low self-esteem, pleasure deficit syndrome, limitation of the adolescent's "sovereignty" both within and outside the family.

South Ossetia was forced to introduce a series of measures to preserve the health of the population, including such a previously unknown measure as self-isolation. Legally, it is regarded as a set of restrictive measures presupposing that people must limit their contacts, not go outside without an acute need, and observe preventive measures.

There is no research exploring the effect of quarantine on the mental health of adolescents, however, the results of a scientific study published in *The Lancet* allow us to conclude on the long-term effects of quarantine, the

possibility of the development of post-traumatic stress syndrome in people, the high risk of the development or aggravation of chemical and non-chemical addictions, by that meaning primarily alcoholism, tobacco smoking, and many types of non-chemical addictions and deviations, especially in adolescents (Ardalina, 2014). According to the World Health Organization, the rates of alcoholism, tobacco smoking, and other non-chemical addictions have increased significantly (Pogozheva, 2010).

As a consequence of such drastic changes, adolescents feel anxious, angry, and irritable, since they are highly reactive to stress. It can be argued that after the self-isolation is lifted, adolescents will experience a spike in depressive disorders and the symptoms of “digital autism” – less trust in each other, thinking only about their own needs, etc. The transition to distance learning has reinforced children’s emotional connection to various gadgets. If an adolescent was showing some form of technological, informational, or Internet addiction, they will intensify. Many parents have been taking various measures to control their children’s use of smartphones, computers, and other technology, yet nowadays, their use has become a “rightful” part of their lives and, consequently, increasingly falls out of parents’ control. Many parents note that their children have an obsessive desire to use the phone, not for educational purposes but to check on social media, to be there a significant amount of time for entertainment; furthermore, children’s financial spendings on the Internet on games and various applications are rising daily (Pogozheva, 2006).

Previously conducted studies on the prevention of deviant behavior and addiction in adolescents in the Republic of South Ossetia conclude that the main reasons for the rise in delinquency among minors in the Republic are the weakening of educational work in the family and educational institutions, the reduction of the educational potential of children’s and youth public organizations, the negative influence of the media, primarily television, propaganda of all kinds of violence and a sharp decline in living standards.

A sociological survey conducted in the Republic of South Ossetia indicates that the reasons behind adolescent delinquency include drug and alcohol use, poor upbringing and lack of culture, “getting quick financial success,” “disorganized leisure time,” “herd instinct,” imitation of friends and “authorities” of the criminal world, craving for thrills, and lack of attention to adolescents on the part of the state.

According to the statistics of juvenile crimes and delinquencies from 2010 to 2014, juvenile delinquency

increased by 3 times and amounted to 3.5% of the total number of crimes. In 2010, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of South Ossetia detained more than 110 juvenile citizens for theft, hooliganism, drinking alcohol, and vagrancy (Information Agency Alania Inform, 2021). Only 2011-2012, there were 20 suicide attempts, 5 of which were fatal. In 2014, there were 170 crimes committed by minors, in 2015 – 90 crimes. From 2015 to 2020, the number of registered crimes committed by adolescents has been decreasing in the Republic. This information was given at the meeting of the Republican interdepartmental commission under the Government on juvenile affairs and the protection of the rights and interests of minors.

Based on the analysis of the given statistical data concerning child and juvenile delinquency in South Ossetia, we can note a positive trend – juvenile delinquency is declining over the years, which, of course, is good news. This success is firstly due to the active work of law enforcement and other specialized agencies in working with juveniles, and secondly – to the effective system of regulations in this area (Bezhentsev, 2009).

The legal framework in the Republic of South Ossetia is represented by the following legislation:

1. Constitution of the Republic of South Ossetia of April 8, 2001;
2. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On the fundamentals of recreation, health improvement, and occupation of children in the Republic of South Ossetia”;
3. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On administrative liability for certain types of offenses”;
4. Agreement between the Russian Federation and the Republic of South Ossetia on the procedure for the formation and operation of the Joint Information and Coordination Center of Internal Affairs Bodies of July 4, 2016;
5. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On Basic Guarantees of the Rights of the Child”;
6. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia 36 of October 14, 2015 “On Protecting Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development”;
7. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On Measures to Protect Morality and Health of Children in the Republic of South Ossetia”;
8. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia 8 of May 30, 2001 “On the State System of Prevention of Child Neglect and Juvenile Delinquency and Protection of their Rights in the Republic of South Ossetia”;

9. Law of the Republic of South Ossetia 101 “On Education” adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of South Ossetia on January 30, 2017;
10. Decree “On Approval of the Regulations on the Commissioner for Children’s Rights under the President of the Republic of South Ossetia” of December 4, 2018;
11. Decree “On Approval of the Regulations on the Commissioner for Children’s Rights under the President of the Republic of South Ossetia” of December 4, 2018.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Ossetia is the core of the country’s legal system, it contains the main provisions defining the activities of authorities and officials. Article 15 specifies that “The Republic of South Ossetia pursues an active youth policy aimed at providing young people with the conditions for a comprehensive upbringing and education, as well as jobs in accordance with their vocation, abilities, and skill level”; paragraph 2 of Article 34 states that “Caring for, raising, and supporting children is an equal right and responsibility of parents” (Constitution of the Republic of South Ossetia, 2001).

The Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On the fundamentals of recreation, health improvement, and occupation of children in the Republic of South Ossetia” establishes that the rights of children and their parents (and other legal representatives) in the field of recreation, health improvement, and occupation of children, as well as the system of the organization of children’s recreation, health improvement, and occupation is the main task of the state.

The Law of the Republic of South Ossetia 8 of May 30, 2001 “On the State System of Prevention of Child Neglect and Juvenile Delinquency and the Protection of their Rights in the Republic of South Ossetia” sets out the main tasks of bodies and organizations of the state system of prevention of child neglect and juvenile delinquency and the protection of their rights. This law also presents the institutional state system for the prevention of child neglect and juvenile delinquency and the protection of their rights:

- a) Juvenile Affairs Commissions;
- b) the executive authorities of the Republic of South Ossetia, as well as their subordinate organizations, the authority of which extends to health care, education, social protection, public order, youth policy, culture, physical culture, and sports.

Coordination of the activities of the bodies and organizations of the state system of prevention of child neglect and juvenile delinquency and the protection of children’s rights is entrusted to the Commission on Juvenile Affairs

under the Government of the Republic of South Ossetia at the republican level, and at the city and district level – to the Commissions on Juvenile Affairs under the city and district administrations. Guarantees are provided to protect the rights of minors in need of social prevention and rehabilitation.

The Law of the Republic of South Ossetia 36 of October 14, 2015 “On Protecting Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development” regulates the relations concerning the protection of children from information harmful to their health and (or) development, including such information contained in information products. This law is gaining special relevance at the present as adolescents spend all their free time on the Internet, where they can get a lot of unneeded information that is not intended for minors.

The Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On Basic Guarantees of the Rights of the Child” provides basic guarantees for the rights and legitimate interests of the child as stipulated in the Constitution of the Republic of South Ossetia for the purpose of creating the legal, social, and economic conditions for the realization of the rights and legitimate interests of the child. The state recognizes childhood as an important stage in human life and proceeds from the principles of the priority of preparing children for a full life in society, developing their socially significant and creative activity, and fostering in them high moral qualities, patriotism, and citizenship.

The normative legal act contains measures for the prevention and prevention of deviant behavior by adolescents, namely the Law of the Republic of South Ossetia “On Measures to Protect Morality and Health of Children in the Republic of South Ossetia” also deserves special attention. This law incorporates legal and educational measures aimed at creating and ensuring the necessary conditions for the development of the health and physical, intellectual, moral, and mental safety of children in the Republic of South Ossetia. Of importance in this normative-legal act is that it also specifies norms for the distribution of products not intended for minors (i.e. under the age of 18). These norms are developed to protect the rights and legitimate interests of children, form a legal basis for guaranteeing the rights of the child, as well as assisting them in their physical, psychological, and moral development, which together provides the necessary level of realization of the child’s personality in accordance with the traditions of the Republic of South Ossetia and the achievements of world culture that do not contradict the legislation and Constitution of the Republic of South Ossetia. Examination of this law shows that it contains standards for the distribution of products that are not intended for minors in

the Republic of South Ossetia. In particular, products (regardless of their type: printed, video, etc.) that promote violence, cruelty, pornography, drug addiction, substance abuse, antisocial behavior are prohibited. To minimize the risks of various addictions and deviations among adolescents, this law also states that such products must not be displayed in certain places (and must instead be displayed in specially designated places). Finally, with regard to the legal measures aimed at the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents, as well as the prevention of harm to their health and physical, spiritual, and psychological development, several restrictions for minors are specified. As an example, minors are prohibited to be out of the house at night (from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.) unaccompanied by parents (persons in loco parentis) or persons conducting events with the participation of children in public places. Thus, this law is aimed at preventing juvenile crime and delinquency and regulates the activities of the state for the prevention and prophylactics of various forms of deviance among minors.

To draw a summary of the above, the legislation of the Republic of South Ossetia is represented by a wide range of normative and legal acts that determine the rights and obligations of subjects in securing the legal rights and interests of the child.

Regarding the legal basis present in the Russian Federation, it is formed by normative and legal acts of various legal force, which prescribe the state measures for the prevention and prophylactics of adolescents' deviant behavior, their defense, and securing the rights and interests of children:

- Constitution of the Russian Federation of December 12, 1993 (with amendments approved by a nationwide vote (July 1, 2020);
- Family Code of the Russian Federation;
- Criminal Code of the Russian Federation;
- Federal Law 273-FZ of December 29, 2012 "On Education in the Russian Federation";
- Federal Law "On Basic Guarantees of the Rights of the Child in the Russian Federation";
- Federal Law 120-FZ "On the Fundamentals of the System of Child Neglect and Juvenile Delinquency Prevention";
- - Federal Law 436-FZ of December 29, 2010 "On Protecting Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development".

Regarding the regional aspect, for instance, Stavropol Krai also has a system of legislation in this area based on constitutional norms and federal legislation:

1. Law of Stavropol Krai 20-kz of April 10, 2008 "On administrative offenses in Stavropol Krai";
2. Law of Stavropol Krai 52-kz of July 29, 2009 "On Some Measures to Protect the Rights and Legitimate Interests of Minors";
3. Law of Stavropol Krai of July 30, 2013, 72-kz "On Education";
4. Government Decree of November 17, 2004, 474-rp "On implementation of the Federal Law 'Based on the system of prevention of child neglect and juvenile delinquency' in Stavropol Krai";
5. Law of Stavropol Krai of December 25, 2014, 126-kz "On the Ombudsman for Children's Rights in Stavropol Krai";
6. Law of Stavropol Krai "On Additional Guarantees of Protection of the Rights of Minors Recognized as Victims in Criminal Proceedings";
7. Order of the Ministry of Education of Stavropol Krai 1304-pr of December 28, 2011 "On approval of the action plan to prevent suicidal behavior among students of educational institutions";
8. Joint Order of the Ministry of Health of Stavropol Krai, the Ministry of Education of Stavropol Krai, the Ministry of Social Protection of Stavropol Krai of October 22, 2012, 01-05/768/983-pr/428 "On the annual voluntary testing of students, students of educational institutions of Stavropol Krai, pupils, and students of social service institutions for the early detection of non-medical use of drugs and psychotropic substances".

Comparative analysis of South Ossetian norms for the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents leads us to conclude that the legislation needs to be improved:

- First, the number of agencies involved in the suppression of such behavior is reduced to a minimum: such a role is assigned mainly to the Commission on Minors, juvenile inspectors, in some cases the police. There are no regulations on the work of psychologists, social educators, and other actors involved in the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents.
- Second, the process of interaction and cooperation of actors in this area is not regulated.
- Third, a comprehensive set of measures for monitoring and assessment of the bodies and organizations that provide social and other services to children is lacking.
- Fourth, South Ossetia devotes little attention to the rehabilitation of difficult adolescents. Not enough targeted and comprehensive programs are developed. Due attention is not paid to the creation of additional measures not only for the prevention and suppression

of adolescent deviant behavior but for its prevention in the future. To address this problem, it is possible to consider the experience of Stavropol Krai in the development of the Targeted National Program of Measures to Curb, Prevent, and Forfeend Juvenile Delinquency, the Days of Legal Assistance and Rehabilitation for Children, and the creation of support centers for difficult children.

Thus, a well-built system of preventive activity will play a considerable role in the formation of an adolescent's personality. The implementation of preventive measures eliminates the negative factors provoking the manifestation and spread of deviant behavior, which allows timely identification of adolescents who are prone to various forms of deviations and need qualified assistance.

As is apparent from the list of the main normative and legal acts of the Russian Federation, the country is having problems in the legal regulation of such legal relations. Russia lacks constitutional and federal norms that would protect children morally, as is the case in the Republic of South Ossetia. Nevertheless, constituent entities of the Russian Federation strive to improve their legislation and expand and supplement the federal legislation, not only imperatively, but also conceptually, creating on this basis state and social institutions aimed at continuous work on the prevention and prophylactics of adolescent deviant behavior.

CONCLUSIONS

Theoretical and practice-oriented analysis of normative legal acts and scientific and educational and methodical literature reveals the lack of a comprehensive study of legal, psychological and pedagogical, and social foundations on deviant behavior of adolescents in the aspect of the implementation of the convergence approach in solving the problem of national importance – the prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents in the national law.

Analysis of the legal regulation of measures for the prevention and prophylactics of adolescent deviant behavior in Russia and the Republic of South Ossetia allows concluding on the need to establish comprehensive legal and psychological and pedagogical interaction on the development of methods and means of prevention and prophylactics of deviant behavior in adolescents, as well as regulations that will provide an opportunity to use the methods and means that would guarantee children their rights to mental, psychological, and physical health. In this regard, of critical relevance is the development of legal and psychological and pedagogical foundations for the formation and development of semantic unity in solving the global

problems based on the convergence approach, which involves the national component preserving the cultural traditions, over which a new level of interconnection is built, not just maintaining a unified legal educational space, but also allowing all its participants to actively assimilate the modern achievements of mankind and reflect them in normative and institutional standards.

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