DETERMINING THE FACTORS CAUSING THE PRISONERS IN PRISON FOR CRIME AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL SERVICES (T.R.N.C SAMPLE)

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Abstract: The general aim of this study is to identify the factors causing prisoners to crime and determine the psycho-social support services in prisons, to fulfil the knowledge gap about topic and to contribute to the field area within the frame of theory and application. By using quantitative data gathering technique, in this study the data was obtained by open ended, semi-structured questions, and a personal information forms which are developed by the researcher.

The study group of the research includes; a social services expert and 50 sentenced prisoner in Nicosia Central Prison in 2014-2015 who are determined by convenience method. According to data; it was observed that the socio-demographic conditions of prisoners and their previous experiences before the prison are the effective factors to turn into crime. It has been observed that; the social service needs for the prisoners when they firstly sentenced to the prison, or during their stay there, during pre-evacuation and post-evacuation period can be changed.

Key words: Crime, factors affecting crime behaviour, prison, prisoners, psycho-social support services

INTRODUCTION

It is obvious that there is a serious increase in the number of crime and variety of the crimes recently in Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (T.R.N.C). In terms of increase in the variety, while most of them are classic crimes as theft, robbery and violence crimes, some of them are narcotic and cybercrime which are defined as new crimes. (Kibris gazetesi, 2013).

Crime behaviour has been described in different disciplines but generally it is defined as the behaviour which infringes the law and causes problems in normatively accepted social system (İçli, 2004: 4). It has been stated that; the crime behaviour defined as the behaviour causing the problems in normatively accepted social order or system has many reasons. There are theories stating many reasons of crime behaviour such as; biological theories explaining the factors with genetics, hormones, head trauma (Dugdale, 1985; Leon-Carrion and Ramos 2003), social learning theories explaining the factors with modelling the crime and learning (Bandura, 1978), sociological theories (Baron, 2008; Smangs, 2010) and psychological theories (Adler, 1976; İçli , 2004). So that, these theories has brought different perspectives about crime reasons. However; it has not been possible to explain crime behaviour just within these theories which bring different perspectives about crime reasons. That is why, body literature claims that the crime behaviour which cannot be explained by one factor occurs with the combination of multi factors and interaction of those factors generally (Biles, 1979; Brit, 1997).

The researchers who claim the same idea say that; unemployment, economic problems, family problems, friendships, education, living conditions, environmental factors, having crime history in his/her life, psychological problems, having sexual abuse past in their lives are among the reasons of crime behaviour. (Biles, 1979; Smangs,2010). Those factors stress the importance of psycho-social services applications in prisons for the criminals or people who tend to crime not to have problems related to social life after evacuation and regeneration while staying away from behaviours related to crime. (Biles, 1979; Smangs, 2010). With regards to this; the characterization of what kind of psycho-social services can be given and the characterization of the factors of crime

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after they talk about life experiences in pre and after prison are very important. This study aims trying to evaluate what kind of psycho-social services provided in prison and to characterize which factors they mention about their crime behaviour. By concerning Nicosia Central Prison sample this study aims to understand the factors for crime behaviour of prisoners. With regards to this aim the following questions are tried to be answered:

1.2.1. What are the reasons of criminals in prison to crime?

1.2.2. What are the psycho-social services provided for the prisoners in prison?

METHOD

Research Model

In the study; among quantitative research patterns, sample situation analysis pattern which is convenience to the nature of the study was used. Sample situation models are scanning regulations which aim to reach a judgement of a unit (human, family, school, hospital, etc...) of the world by determining its depth, width, itself and its relations with its surrounding (Karasar, 2005 :86).

Research Group

In this study where convenience method technique is used, a social service expert and 50 prisoners in Nicosia Central Prison in 2014-2015 form the study group. Convenient sampling method is the convenient method as a result of an accident or which can be found. Convenient sampling method is a very common sampling technique especially in the studies about helping humans. It is preferred due to it is economic and practical (Monette, Sulhvan ve Dejong, 1990).

Data Gathering Tools

Within basing on theoretical frame, as data gathering tool an interview form was used which was semistructured by the researcher of the prisoners.

.The interview is an interaction process which is carried out verbally according to different aims and mostly it is used as a tool for quantitative researches (Karasar, 1984: 176). While creating the semi-structured interview form which is used as data gathering tool the factors were considered such as to understand questions easily, to answer easily, to ask in an order from general to the specific. So, the prisoners are provided with more economic thinking process. In addition to this; in order to characterize the prisoners' view about the reasons of crime and also their view about psycho-social support services provided to them; an expert's view was asked by determining variable items. As a result of expert's analysis, the questions on the interview form were reordered, some questions were excluded and some questions were added. As a result of pre-application done with 5 prisoners, it was found out that; the language in the interview form should be simplified and there was no need for other changes. As a result of editing statements last version of the interview was completed.

For the social service expert, another semi-structured interview form was prepared as data gathering tool in the research. Composed of six questions, this interview form was prepared within the aim of evaluating the implementations in the prison regarding psycho-social support services. Due to the questions on form bring about intensive arguments; the application duration has reached to 30-40 minutes.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Questions Related to Prisoners' Demographic Characteristics

- 1- Age?
- 2- Gender?
- 3- Place of Birth?
- 4- Education?
- 5- Marital Status?
- 6- Occupation?
- 7- Any brothers or sisters? Which child in order are you?
- 8- Education of your parents?
- 9- Are your parents together? Or separated?
- 10- What kind of crime is it that you sentenced for?
- 11- What is your total sentence duration? How long have you been in prison?
- 12- How many times have you been to prison? How old were you when you did crime?

- 13- Did you have a job before entering the prison?
- 14- Did you have any addiction to any substance before you entered to the prison?

Questions Related to the Reasons of Prisoners and Psycho-social Support Services provided to the Prisoners

- 15- In your opinion what is the reason why you are here?
- 16- Is there anyone in your family or around you that tend to crime?
- 17- Do you know what does a social service expert do in the prison? If yes, what are they?
- 18- What kind of works does a social service expert in the prison do about your problems' solutions and meeting your needs? (If so, do you think if s/he is sufficient enough for your problems and needs?) (If there is no help, what kind of support or help are you expecting?)
- 19- Did you check with the prison psychologist for the solution of your problems? (If yes, what did s/he change in you? Did it help?) (If not, why? What do you do in order to cope with these problems?)
- 20- Do you attend to vocational or skills course in the prison? (If yes, how much benefit could you get? If not, why?)
- 21- What kind of social activities are there in the prison? If yes, what kind of benefit did you have from these activities?

(Interview Form prepared for Social Service Expert)

1- What are the psycho-social service needs of prisoners when they go into prison? What do you do regarding to those service needs?

2- During imprisonment what do you do regarding to psycho-social support service needs?

3- During the prisoners' stay period, what do you do in order to encourage the prisoners to support their respectful and corrective behaviours?

4- What kind of training/s are given to the prisoners during their stay in the prison?

5-What do you do in order to reintroduce the prisoners to the society?

6-Do you follow the prisoners after evacuation? If so how?

Data Analysis

During the interview with prisoners and social service expert; the information they gave was recorded with their permission via sound recorder. The recordings were transferred to the computer as audio file and listened by the researcher. And then, the complete of the interviews with the participants were written as Word file in the computer media. Codings were done by transferred data, by compiling them, constructing the main parts of the study findings and by conceiving the themes (categories) content analysis was done. The main aim in content analysis is to reach to the relations and concepts for describing gathered data (Yıldırım&Şimşek, 2013). With regards to this, in the content analysis of data gathered from the interview; direct quotes were used in order to reflect the participants' opinions conspicuously by considering the questions in the interview form.

Validity and Reliability

Validity and reliability which are accepted the most important criterion of scientific research; are two most important criteria used commonly in researches. External validity is related to the transferability of the obtained results to the similar groups or media. While accessing the research results internal validity is related to sufficiency in trying to conceive the reality of process to be carried out (Yıldırım ve Şimşek, 2006:255). External validity in the research was tried to be carried out via using detailed description of data provided by the researchers. However; internal validity was tried to be provided by extending the duration of interviews, by participants' confirmation and expert's examination. In the study; the internal reliability was provided with validity and external reliability was provided via confirmation examination of two experts. For the themes and categories determined by the researchers, the necessary editions related to the topic as "agreement" and "disagreement". For the reliability calculation of the research, Miles and Huberman's (1994) reliability formula was used which proposes as; Reliability= Agreement / (agreement + disagreement) X 100. According to the calculations; the consent between coders for the pre-interview is %80 and for last interviews is %94. With the coming up of reliability calculation of findings during their presentation; coding for the prisoners were done such as K1, K2, K3, etc....

Findings and Remark

Remark and Findings Related to Demographic Characteristics of the Prisoners

Age

Looking at the age distribution of study group, it is seen that; the most congestion is 20-25 (15) and 30-35 (14) age group and 40-45 (3) age group follows it. The interviewed prisoners are between 17 (1) and 50 (1). The general age average of prisoners in the study is 29.4 (young people). By looking at the literature; it is stated that, substantial proportion of all crimes are done by young people. In this study carried out in TRNC Prison it is stated that the proportion of people who are at the age of 26-35 is % 42,8 (Karakaş, 2012: 106). The general age average of the prisoners in the study is composed of young people. As it seems; it can be stated that the data obtained with this research overlap with the research findings above.

Gender

50 of the 50 prisoners who participate to the research are male. Gender is the most prominent determinant that affects crime committing averages. When analysing the researches held; in every kind of crime it can be seen that males commit crime more than females. For instance; in a research held in TRNC, %93,1 of the prisoners are male while females are only 55,8 (Karakaş, 2012: 109). There are total 216 prisoners in Nicosia Central Prison. 11 of those prisoners are female. The remaining 205 prisoners are males. Generally evaluating; male population shows intensity. The data obtained from the research can be said that they are parallel to the information above.

Place of Birth

When looking at the distribution according to the prisoner's place of birth 27 of prisoners were born in TRNC and 23 of them were born in Turkey.

Education

The majority of study group is high school graduate (18) and then secondary school (14) and primary graduates (14). University (3) and post graduates (1) are also in the study group. According to this study's findings, the number of post graduate learner is very low among the prisoners. The most of them are high school, secondary school and primary school graduates.

When researches were analyzed, major proportion of the prisoners are in primary education level and most of them had to give up their education lives. For instance; according to the statistics of TUIK in 2010, while the % 29,5 primary school, % 28,7 primary education, % 22,1 high school or same level vocational school, % 9,5 secondary or same level vocational school and % 4,9 higher education graduates; % 4,9 of them are literates (TÜİK, 2010: 24).

With this study; it is stated that most of the prisoners were educated in high school, primary and secondary school. It can be stated that, the information above supports the findings obtained with each other.

Marital Status

32 of the prisoners participating in the study are single, 11 married, 4 divorced, 2 widows and 1 prisoner is married for the third time. As can be seen, the single prisoners commit more crime than the married ones and then married people, divorced and widows consequently. The studies in the field of criminology show that; the married people commit crime less than single people (Kızmaz, 2010: 579). In terms of criminality proportion, the widows and single come after the married people (Demirbaş; 2012: 218). As can be seen also in this research, the single prisoners commit crimes more than married prisoners and then widowed and divorced prisoners follow this proportion consequently. It can be said that; data obtained from the research is in similar direction with the findings above.

Jobs and the Working Conditions of Prisoners before Sentencing to the Prison

According to research data; before being sentenced to the prison the prisoners (interviewed prisoners)' proportion of working is high when considering their work life situations. Total 40 of the prisoners worked before the prison, 5 of them didn't have any job and that is why they didn't work, 5 of them did not work due to they were students. By looking at the study group's jobs that they had, the whole prisoners have mentioned total 24 different jobs. Firstly, working in construction sector (6), self-employed (4), cook (3) driver (2), business sector (2), barman (2), mechanic (2), marketing (2), waiter (2), tourism sector (1), welder (1), official (1), farmer (1), shipman (1), cabinet maker (1), plumber (1), taxi driver (1), electrician (1), accountant (1), locksmith (1), house painter (1), operator (1), taxi driver (1) and municipal police officer (1). There are 5 unemployed and 5 students also in the research group.

As it is observed, most of the interviewed prisoners profess which does not need a specific education level. For example; in a project which was prepared to show crime profile of Turkey, 2778 prisoners of 27 open and closed prisons were interviewed and they profess as labour, farming, craft, craftsman ship which did not need a specific education level in order to work (lçli, 2007: 16, 29). The interviewed prisoners in this study can be said that, they profess where they did not need a specific education level in order to work. The obtained data can be stated that they support the information above.

<u>Condition of Prisoners' Brother or Sister Number and How Manyth Child is She or He</u> <u>in the Family</u>

Looking at the distribution according to the prisoners' brother/sister number and how manyth is s/he in the family ; 3 prisoners is only one child, 4 prisoners are second child and s/he has one brother/sister, 7 prisoners are the first child who has one sister/brother, 5 prisoners are the first child of 3 brothers/sisters, 4 prisoners are the second child of 3 brothers or sisters, 3 prisoners are the third child of 3 brothers or sisters, 2 prisoners are the second child of 4 brothers/sisters, 2 prisoners are the fourth child of 4 brothers/sisters, 2 prisoners are the fourth child of 4 brothers/sisters, 2 prisoners are the fourth child of 4 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the first child of 5 brothers/sisters, 4 prisoners are the fourth child of 5 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the third child of 5 brothers/sisters, 2 prisoners are the sixth child of 6 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the fifth child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 7 brothers/sisters, 1 prisoner is the second child of 21 sisters/brothers.

When analysing the number of prisoners' brothers or sisters according to this research's data; most of them come from a big family. Most of the prisoners have more than 2 brothers/sisters. In addition to this; 15 prisoners come from a family with 4 or more children. The average of number of the prisoners' sister/brother is 2,26. Within this data; most of the interviewed prisoners have a large family.

Ankara Security Directorate's Custody of Children Department of Security General Directorate Research and Planning Council (A.P.K.) has done a research in Elazığ Juvenile Detention Centre about "Child, Crime and Criminality with Police' Eye" in 1995.. And according to the results of this research, in two-child family the proportion for committing crime is very low and the criminal children are mostly from the 4 or more child family (Yavuzer, 2001: s.158). According to data obtained in this research; most of the interviewed prisoners have large family. Research findings can also be described as supportive to this information.

The Distribution of Education Level of Prisoners' Parents

Looking at the distribution of the distribution of education level of the interviewed prisoners' parents; 20 prisoners' parents are primary school graduate, 3 prisoners' mothers are primary graduates, 1 prisoner's father is primary graduate , 5 prisoners' parents are high-school graduates, 5 prisoners' mothers are only high school graduates, 9 prisoners' fathers are high-school graduates, 5 prisoners' only fathers are secondary graduates, 4 prisoners' only mothers are secondary graduates, 7 prisoners' parents are secondary graduates, 3 prisoners' fathers are university graduates, 1 prisoner's mother is university graduate, 5 prisoners' mothers have no educational level and 2 prisoners' nothers' level of education is unknown.

According to data obtained from this study; the prisoners come from low-level educated families. The level of education of prisoners' fathers is relatively higher than their mothers' education level. However; the education level of parents is low.

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In the study of Haluk Yavuzer, 76,6 % of criminal children's mothers and %40,7 of their fathers are illiterate. According to Yavuzer; the education level of criminal subjects' parents is below the country's standards (Yavuzer, 2001: s. 150). The findings of the research are supportive to this information.

Parents of Prisoners Living Together or Not

The distribution according to parents of prisoners living together or not is; 33 prisoners' parents live together, 3 prisoners' parents live separately, 3 prisoners' parents are dead, 5 prisoners' one of the parents is alive and 1 prisoners mother or father is in prison. According to data obtained from this study, the number of prisoners grown up in a non-separated family is relatively less than the prisoners grown up in separated families. Moreover; there are some prisoners who have parental-deprivation.

In a study; "fragmented/separated family" was described as when mother or father is not in the family due to destruction of family integrity because of reasons such as, death, divorce, separation or abandonment, etc... (Uluğtekin,1991: s.37-38).

Fragmentation of family did not mean that having step mother or father only because of divorce. Even they continue their marriage the families which fragmented emotionally are also in this group (Taner, 1985: s.31). Since the experience of fragmented family stops the child's socialization, it paves causes mistaken and incomplete socialization. According to the literature; the results of mistaken and incomplete socialization is crime behaviour (Uluğtekin,1991: s.38).

Data obtained from this research which was held with limited number of prisoners, are found to be not supportive to other research findings.

Crime Types of Prisoners

Crime types of prisoners are respectively; drug (13), sex crimes (11), murder (8), traffic (3), fraud (2), injury (1) and other crimes 12 (robbery, sabotage, battery, house breaking, shop lifting, sneaking illegal products into prison, shooting, border violation, armed robbery, being driver for bank robbery, counterfeiting, housebreaking).

The most crime type is drug in the interviewed prisoners. The least crime is injury and robbery consecutively. In addition to this; when classifying the prisoners' crimes, "other" category type is much more than other categories. This is because being not able to evaluate some crimes of prisoners under any category. Thanks to this information; it can said that the crimes of prisoners are affected by economic and social conditions that they are in and these crimes are shaped by those conditions. During the interview the prisoners talked frequently about their negative life conditions before the prison.

In a study for examining the factors which affect the crime types, due to economic reasons crime related to property is more (Aytaç, Aytaç ve Bayram, 2007: 6). As well as this; the fraud crimes are thought not to be interrelated with the economic conditions of the people (İçli, 2007: 75). Thanks to this information, it can be mentioned that the crimes of prisoners are affected from economic problems and social conditions of them and those conditions shape the crimes. The findings of this research have similar sides of other research findings.

The Distribution Accoridng to Prisoners' Detention Period

Another topic analyzed in the study is; the period of staying of prisoners in the prison. As known before; according to penal system there are differences between the detention sentenced and staying duration in the prison. This difference occurs because the prisoners stay in the prison as 2/3 of sentenced detention according to penal system. By looking at the sentence detention durations of 50 prisoners who participated in the research, 30 people 1-5 years, 4 people 5-10 years, 2 people 10-15 years, 1 person 15-20 years, 5 people 20-25 years, 1 person 35-40 years, 4 people 1-5 months and 3 people 5-10 months. There are no prisoners in 25-30 and 30-35 years sentenced to detention. The minimum detention duration of the participant prisoners is 1 month and maximum is 40 years. Among the participant prisoners, the minimum duration of remaining for evacuation is 1 month whereas maximum duration remaining is life imprisonment. A prisoner in prison for 15 years, for 9 years and a prisoner who still hopes to be evacuated have different psychological situations and expectations. Moreover, it can be said that the length of their stay in prison causes more problems in the prison for them and it also increases the need for social service. II (1990: 152) says the importance of life plans after evacuation when the remaining time is 3 years.

<u>Distribution According to the Age When the Prisoners Committed Crime and Whether</u> <u>They Had Committed Crime Before</u>

As in every study, the age in Criminological Study is an important variant to be analyzed. An important variant about criminalness is "person's first crime age". The distribution according to prisoners' age is maximum is 20-28 (25) then 28-36 (12) , 12-20 (9) and 44-52 (4) age group. According to the findings in this study; the density of age group is 20-28 (25). 29 of the interviewed prisoners who are still there have committed to crime for the first time. 21 of them had committed crime before and 1 of them had unlimited crime and 20 of them had committed crime at least 2 times.

In a study by Uludağ University and Bursa Security Directorate; %72 of participant criminals had been taken into custody, % 66 of them had the same reason of being taken into custody, %41 of them had imprisonment before (Aytaç, Aytaç ve Bayram, 2007: 4). Findings obtained from this research do not match the previous studies done before about this area.

The Addiction Situation of Prisoners Before Imprisonment

Looking at the addiction situation of prisoners before imprisonment, 20 of the prisoners are addicted, 30 of them had no addiction. As well as this; the addicted some prisoners started using drugs by friend effect and obtained the first drug from his/her friend.

Addiction causes many problems for countries in many terms. Among these are health, economic, judiciary, etc... Drug addiction occurs generally from surrounding factors especially friendships and most addicts started using drugs by friend effect and they obtained it from their friends which is stressed (Altuner and his colleagues, 2009). The findings of study carried out by limited number of prisoners do not match with other research findings.

Findings and Discussion Related to the Prisoners' Reasons of Committing Crime

What kind of factors push the 50 participant prisoner to commit crime, is emphasized. Since there is not a conceptual structure to guide the obtained data, the data obtained were analyzed inductively. As a result of prisoners' expressions; the factors such as family, economic and friendship are the reasons of crime behaviour. Those mentioned factors, frequency and percent frequency distributions are shown on Table 1.

Question	Categories	Sub Themes	f	%f
	FAMILY	Fragmented family	23	46,0%
		Family Deprivation		
		Family Violence		
		Inter parental Conflict		
What are the Reasons		Bad Inter parental Relations		
that Push the Prisoners		Love and Care Deprivation		40,0 %
Commit Crime?		1.Degree relative death or lost		
			20	
		Negative Friends		6,0%
		Negative Friendships		
			3	
		Financial Problems		8,0%
	FRIENDS	Unemployment	4	
		Defamation		
	ECONOMIC REASONS	Unfair Judgement		
		Illiteracy		
	OTHER REASONS	Social Political Inadequacy		
				1

Table 1: Distribution of Category, Sub Themes, Frequency(*f*), Percent Frequency (%*f*) Related to Prisoners' Crime Reasons

As a result of data analysis, for the question of "What are the Reasons that Push the Prisoners Commit Crime?", "family Reasons" is the first main theme of the prisoners' answers. (f = 23, %f = 46,0) There are seven sub themes such as; Fragmented family, Family Deprivation, Inter parental Violence, Inter parental Conflict, Bad Family Relations in the Family, Love and Care Deprivation and 1.Degree relative death or lost. Some views stressed by participant according to sub themes are as follows:

K8 states the effect of family deprivation on crime behaviour as: 'My family did not protect me. Because of this I chose this place in order not to go through bad situation. If my family had protected me, everything would have been more different.'

K17 states the effect of fragmented family's effect on crime behaviour as: 'I was born in a family with 5 children. I grew up in a fragmented family. I tried to be careful not to mistake. I came from Turkey and for 30 years I tried to stay away from mistake. However; if there is a problem in family integrity structure, you can fall into a mistake when you are empty.'

It has been observed that; not to complete family responsibilities, no family controls and not having audit are effective on crime behaviour.K19 states this situation as follows: 'Because of my parents' divorce I came here. They got divorced when I was very small. I always lived with revenge feeling. And I wanted to go to the peak and a kind of fight them. I still have this feeling because when I was very little my mother left me to the mosque yard and my brother to a hairdressers and left to Turkey. Later on; mosque imam and my grandmother brought me up until this age. Then my mother came back. She provoked me against my brother and my father. I tried to stab my father and my brother. There are actually many reasons'

K26 states the effect of losing 1. Degree relative in family on crime behaviour as: 'continuously I lived without my family. I lived alone in South Cyprus since I was very small. My father's murder case affected me very badly.

K44 states the pressure by her family on her and its effect on crime behaviour as: 'My family used to do pressure on me in terms of school because I used to escape from schools. I was studying at the Greek Side. As you know Bonsai is very common in Greek Side. With the effect of friends I found myself in this world like indeliberate as my psychological situation was not well. Then I was caught'

Family factor is very important in crime behaviour. Assimilation of negative attitudes is a risk factor for a child's crime behaviour. Especially if there is crime behaviour in the family the risk of a member's committing crime increases (VanDe Ract ve diğ, 2009; Warr, 1993).

Also; if the family stops supporting the member or disinherit them; it is easier to tend to crime. Criminology science emphasizes the importance of family in a child's or adult's criminalness. It is stated that; the families are strong models for teaching members the behaviours of violence, antisocial and belligerence. Again also; the absence of one or both parents causes risk for the person's crime behaviour (Hansom and others., 1984; Wright and Wright, 1994).

Second main theme is 'Friends'. (f=20, % f=40, 0) under this second main theme there 3 themes composed by mistakes in youth, negative friendships and friends. While the prisoners in the study state their crime behaviours' reasons, they stressed mistakes in youth and negative friendships. Especially they described the reasons of crime behaviours with friends.

Regarding to this; the prisoners who show the friends as effective on crime, state as:

K1 sentenced due to drug states how effective friends directed her to commit crime as:

'My some friends ripped off because of their drug cases. They put their fingers on and police came and arrested me. I started this Bonsai due to my friends. My friends had the same crime before and police told them that they would help them in the court and that is why my friends told my name as well.'

K5 sentenced due to drug crime, also says the same statements as: 'My friends used drugs and I had a proper job before I was in this business. Because of curiosity and wannabe I started to use'

K21: 'during military service I had a group of friends. They used drug. I also started. When I first had it, I didn't understand what happened. I fainted. Later on whenever I was upset I always sought for drug. I could not have enough money. Then I started to sell. I was caught. I was imprisoned for 4 years and then I was evacuated.'

In Öntaş's and Akşit's study on children's tending to crime; the importance of friendships in criminalness was emphasized. Under the 'economic reasons' (f=3, %f=6, 0) category the financial problems and unemployment are the pushing factor of prisoners for crime. According to these sub themes; prisoners stated the effect of economic problems they had which pushed them to crime as:

K18 sentenced due to being driver for bank robbery and he states the effect of economical problems he had on his crime behaviour as:

'I was a taxi driver at nights. I tried to study at school during the days. I tried to keep the balance. But this was so hard so I came even here. My family works in normal places. Naturally the universities here are very expensive and I had to pay on my own. And that was really hard for me. That's why I made mistakes and I took

wrong road. And I am here.'

K6 states how unemployment because of being ex-con and drug trader pushed him or her for crime as: 'Our financial condition was really bad. Actually to the some point I had to do this. I don't have any other job to survive. In 2010 I was sentenced for 6 months due to drug. They decided for imprisonment instead of fine even there was fine at that time. After the evacuation, I worked in 2-3 places. They learned that I was ex-con and fired me. I could not survive in a work and then again I had to take this road.'

K47 sentenced due to drug trade states how the economic reasons push him or her to crime as: 'For a better life ambition'

The studies show there is a meaningful relation among unemployment, economic problems and crime behaviour (Baron, 2008; Britt, 1997; Farrington and others., 1986). As in the other studies; this study's findings are parallel with the literature generally. Except the factors mentioned in this study under the category of 'Other reasons' f=4, % f=8,0); calumny, unfair judgement, illiteracy and social politics inadequacy are determined as sub-themes. These sub-themes; are found to be the reasons of crime behaviours by some prisoners. According to these sub categories; prisoners say that:

K2: 'I thought the captain in my workplace made plot to me. I argued with him one week ago before this event. After one week this event happened, because all the proofs were saying it happened at 3 o'clock. I was passing by at 5 o'clock near event place. The only proof was the only scenery that I just walked. After two hours. My only blame is passing by that road. I doubt about the captain. The event happened on the 3rd of November, two days later they called me from wok and they said we will take you to the central command headquarters to the military quarter. We will take your testimony. I said what happened? What is the matter? I went to workplace. They showed me a photo. They asked is that you in the photo? Yes it is me I said. They showed me event place and asked if I passed by from here. The photo is my photo while I was walking on the road. I said it is me but the place is uncertain. They said Ziya Gökalp Avenue. You went toa market on that street to buy cigarette. You took your gun and got the money. I said no. We have camera scenes and we will show you them. I said ok how me. But in the scenes it was 400 metres far from the market that I go everyday to work on that avenue. No other scene.'

K15: 'they tried to rape my father's wife and started to gossip about my wife. I could not stand it anymore. We went to the police and made a complaint by telling the story. The police looked at the computer and this man has 3 cases of raping and he is outside how come? I said ask this question to yourself. It means our government protects the ones who are strong in terms of politics. If it wasn't like this man wouldn't dare to do these things. I wasn't going to do something at that night. I tried to calm myself down. Then they sent me news of 'If he is a real man let him approach us'. I got my gun and went there because these men are dangerous. When my family wondered about me, my father and my brother came to find me. They of course guessed where would I be. Since I walked there and they came by car, they went there earlier so that I could not be able to do something. Just I went there, they stabbed my grandfather. They stabbed my brother. I had to do something and I shot them I couldn't say come and shoot me.''

K28: 'the promises that government didn't make them real and they isolated me'

K37: 'completely the illiteracy youth gave me. We killed my darling's husband together. Before 25th of January it was my darling's husband's birthday. That is why they went out and she gave too much alcohol to him. She left the door open and I went in by hiding at the back of sofa. Her husband went to bedroom since he was drunk. I benefitted from this situation and I hit his head with game wood material and tried to strangle him with a wire. Then while we were bringing him to Alev Kayası we realized that he was alive. This time I got tyre jack from the back and hit his head. Then strangled him with charger's cable. And later by pouring the flammable material on him we tried to burn him. We tried to make the murder look like an accident but we were caught'.

<u>The Situation Whether There are People Tending to Commit Crime in their Family or</u> <u>Close Surrounding or Not</u>

12 prisoners' family of total interviewed 50 prisoners or surroundings have people who tend to crime. Other 38 prisoners whereas do not have. The ones who say yes there is someone, these people are parents, brothers/sisters or cousins. Their statements are as follows: K13: 'In my family my brother is the one who tend to crime'

K15: 'My brother/sister is in prison due to attempted murder. s/he wasn't guilty and he was sentenced to 15 years. S/he was only 17. My grandfather and brother were stabbed. However for those guilts there was no case in the court. What is the reason? Backing them.'

K26: 'My father is in prison due to murder. I haven't seen him since I was 14. My older brother died because of murder because he was dealing with drug.'

K32: 'Nearly all of my family'

K33: 'My cousins'

K34: 'My uncles are in prison in Turkey...'

K35: 'My older brother is in prison'

In the findings from this research, of 12 prisoners 1st and 2nd degree relatives tend to crime. If a member is criminal this leads the imitation of criminal behaviour easier. If father or brother/sister is criminal, this paves the way for criminal to be common. In many studies held with children and youngsters, there are imprisoned people in their families (Öntaş, 2004; Çifçi, 2008).

Çifçi (2008: 119) claims that; especially in puberty of children, the children grown up with crime stories where the crime behaviour is legitimate can be under the effect of those groups.

When imprisoned youngsters' family structure is analyzed; most of their family relations are negative, the family members have severe conflict and the youngsters come from fragmented families (Çifçi, 2008: 116).

In the findings obtained from this study the prisoners told that they have family members or people around them who tended to crime. And they were generally; parents, brother/sister and cousins. The findings obtained from the research are supportive for the findings of Öntaş, 2004 and Çiftci 2008' research.

Findings and Discussion Related to Psycho-Social Support Services Provided to Prisoners

In this section; a question of 'Do you know what SSE's do?' was asked to the prisoners and it was observed that most of them were having difficulty in answering this question. Most of the interviewed prisoners within the research define SSE working in prison as psychologist. Even at the first step the Social Service Expert concept is foreign to them, during the interview, it was explained that the SSE did not do the same job as psychologist and s/he had different job title from the psychologist. After this explanation; it has been found out that, 45 prisoners did not have any knowledge about an SSE was working at the prison and 5 prisoners said the reverse as they had the knowledge.

For the question of 'Do you know what SSE's do at a prison?' 5 prisoners' answers are as following;

K28: 'To rehab a person and try to reintroduce someone to society'

K37: 'Coming to the prisoners below 23 and trying to lower their detention duration'

K39: 'There is no SSE in the prison, but as far as I know, s/he comes when you have familiar problem or child problem of sorts'

K45: 'As far as I know, s/he comes for conditional release. Protects the information about the person's curriculum vitae.'

K46: 'To support the people under18 financially and morally'

As a result of the interviews with prisoners, generally they do not know what does a Social Service Expert do in a prison. Also; most of the prisoners are unaware of SSE in prison. As well as this, some prisoners said that even when they wanted to see SSE they could not though they wrote petitions and also they did not get any feedback for their petitions. Social worker informs the researcher about the necessary help was done and they go when there is a request. However; when generally analyzing the answers of prisoners, the information of SSE can be doubtful.

In İl (1990: 139)'s study during their enforcement female prisoners share their problems with enforcement officials, manager and then SS workers consequently and the reason of this is the rareness of SSE. And also, they have the difficulty in official process for meeting with him/her. The official process to be followed for meeting with SSE in prison prevents them to request for SSE service. The findings of this research alike the findings of other research.

The question of 'What kind of work does SSE in prison do in order to meet your needs and solutions for your problems?(If s/he does do you think those works are sufficient for the solutions of your problems or meeting your needs?) (If there is no help, what kind of help would you expect?) was asked to the prisoners.48 prisoners, who participated in research stated that SSE haven't done any working to solve the problems and to fulfil the needs, also it is come out that 18 prisoners do not expect any help about solving the problems and fulfilling the needs. Other remaining 31 prisoners specified the expectations from SSE as two main themes which are 'economic expectations' and 'psychological expectations'. These specified main themes are shown in Table 2 as frequency and percentage frequencies.

Table 2: Category, Subthemes, Frequency (f) and Percentage Frequency (%f) Distributions that are emerged according to the prisoners' expectations from SHU

Question	Categories	Subthemes	F	%f
What would you expect from SSE about solving your problems and fulfilling your needs?	Economic Expectations	Job Expectation	9	18,0%
	Psychological Expectations			
		Psychological Support Expectation	22	44,0%

As you can see in Table 2, expectations from social service specialist are shown as two main categories that are 'economic expectations' (f=9, % f=44, 0) and 'psychological expectations' (f=22, % f=44). Under the main category title of 'Economic'; 'job expectation' is specified as subtheme. The remarks of participants according to the subtheme are stated below as:

K1, sentenced for the narcotic crime is stated his expectations as: 'I would expect not to lose my job by being thought that I was young and could do such mistakes; thus my family system wouldn't be destroy. I also ruined my family because of this reason. Beside I put them to shame; I have no job now. I'm living on their financial possibilities. Beside of my mistakes, I harm my family too much. Both financial and emotional. I have been in prison for 4 months. My father has pharmacy warehouse and he is sick. I have been telling this many times to help me. My father was taken to the hospital three times when I am in prison and no help was done, in addition I lost my job.'

K6, prisoned for the narcotics traffic and is waiting a work relief from SSE expressed that: 'I would expect him to care about and to help me what else can I do when I go out. Firstly, I was punished for 6 months. Then, because of being criminal, I automatically become unemployed. If he had cared about and helped me, I wouldn't be like that at that moment. Neither I wouldn't be unemployed nor being out of pocket and I wouldn't be forced to go towards the drug again.'

Psychological support expectation is seen as a subtheme under another main theme category 'Psychological expectations'. The remarks of participants according to the specified subtheme are stated below as:

K4, who is on trial for the rape crime stated that: 'I demanded special service specialist to come, but he didn't come. I am at outside after 2 years and I don't know what else are waiting for me at my outside life compared to the prison, I am afraid. I am waiting to be protected and guided. I want to be given one more chance to the penitent.'

K28's, prisoned for the crime of fraud and consistently pushed into crime; expectations are like that: 'I would expect him to search the reasons why I have been pushed into crime and care about my familial problems.'

K46, prisoned for the narcotic crime, expressed his expectations as: 'Social service specialist came only once. They prepared a social study report. I would expect him to help me with this social study report during the judicial process and relieve me psychologically.'

Beside of these, 2 prisoners who participated in research stated that SSE's helps about fulfilling the needs and solving the problems are enough and expressed this as:

K32: I had had a treatment around 1 year before I came to the prison and they put me on a salary as well. It is enough.

K45: They fulfilled my needs. They gave me pocket money when it is required. They brought me clothes. They brought me to the doctor. Yes, these helps are enough.

As a result of meetings with prisoners, it is understood that most of them have lack of information for which problems and in which situations they should apply to the social service specialist who works in prison thus, because of their lack of information; they did not answer the questions about their expectations healthily. Moreover, prisoners' one of the biggest anxiety after being evacuated is getting a job that will provide them to

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move on. After being evacuated, some factors such as being tagged by the public and treated prejudicedly by the employers are make it harder to get a job. According to these findings, after being evacuated, prisoners are worried about getting a job and earning money and it can be said that mostly, they need help about this subject. It is stated that they went to prison according to the urgent needs during execution process of prisoners, they prepared social study report about prisoners and also during the prison process and after; they eliminated the problems to a large extend that has occurred about the prisoners. In addition, according to the prisoners' answers, it is expressed clearly that the service of SSE is inadequate and the applications of social service stuff are restricted by filling the files which contains general information of prisoners.

It is asked to prisoners if they applied to prison psychologist for their problems (If they applied, what did it change? Did it come in useful?) (If they didn't apply, why? And what do they do to cope with these problems?) and 18 of prisoners who participated in meeting, stated that they had applied to the prison psychologist for the solutions of their problems however it did not change anything and it was not helpful for them. 6 prisoners who participated in meeting, said that they applied to prison psychologist for solving their problem.7 prisoners who participated in meeting, said that they applied to prison psychologist for solving their problems. Some statements of the prisoners who had some changes about themselves are like that:

K1: 'I was cracking up. At first, when I came here, I went into depression; I was crying everyday for 2 months because of the fine I received. He was always with me and told me that there was nothing to do. He behaved realistically. He said it will go on. But I knew that it couldn't be like that anymore, because here is T.R.N.C.'

K2: 'Talking did good. It was helpful. We talked and this relieved me a bit. I demanded medicine but he said to me there was no need for medicine.'

K6: 'It relieved me psychologically. I treated my family badly. My thoughts changed thataway. It didn't provide me any benefit except this. 'The 18 other interviewed prisoners indicated that they do not contact the psychologist in the prison to solve their problems and when you look at the method they use to cope with their problems, it was observed that they tried to deal "by themselves" and with "social support of friends". Coping mechanisms prisoners use to solve the problems and their frequency and percentage frequency distributions are as shown in Table 3;

Table 3 Coping Mechanisms Prisoners Use to Solve the Problems and Their Frequency(f) and Percentage Frequency(f) Distributions

As shown in Table 3, 18 prisoners tried to cope with their own problems by themselves and with social support of their friends. Statements of some prisoners who use their own methods to deal with their problems are as follows: K5 who is convicted because of narcotic crime has expressed that he had been coping with his problems by himself: *"I try to handle my problems by myself. For example; they give out pills here, and they make us addicted to drugs. I did not take them. Except these, I get up and go to bed early. I go to work and that's all."*

K10 who is convicted because of sexual assault offenses has expressed that he had been coping with his problems by himself: "I tried to handle my problems by thinking and finding my own faults."

K12 who is convicted because of murder tried to cope with his problems with social support of his friends and expressed that, "I usually try to be patient or talk with other inmates to cope with my problems."

K29 who is convicted because of narcotic crime has expressed that he had been coping with his problems by himself: "*I try to cope by reading self-improvement books.*"

According to research findings; it can be said that prisoners have inadequate psychological support services in prison, workers and prisoners are trying to resolve their problems by themselves and they are deprived of professional support. The prisoners were asked if they join the vocational and art courses (If yes, how much benefit do they provide? If no, why don't you participate?) and their participation ranges were included. According to the survey, 17 prisoners stated that they participated in these vocational and art courses and that they provided much benefit. Other 7 prisoners stated that they participated in these courses but they did not provide much benefit. Other surveyed 16 prisoners stated that they do not want to participate these courses because they do not believe that they are beneficial. And other 2 prisoners said that they could not participate in these courses

because they haven't heard about them. K19, one of the surveyed prisoners stated that he attended the courses but he was expelled and;

K19: I was participating but I got expelled. Because I was carrying drugs and mobile phone. Other surveyed 7 prisoners stated that they wanted to join the courses but couldn't because of the reasons like "unanswered request" and "being under custody". Their remarks are as follows;

K15: I wanted to join engineering course but they didn't allow me because of the term of my imprisonment which is 20 years. There are people whose terms are 30-40 years and they work outside. I was restrained by the others who had contacts.

K23: I have sent a request to join. Waiting for the answer.

K25: I couldn't join because of my offenses.

K26: I cannot join because I am embargued. I tried to carry drugs and that is why I am under custody.

Vocational and art courses can be a very important opportunity for prisoners to move on after discharge. One of the prisoners who have stated that he has participated all vocational courses and indicated the importance of the courses; *"I didn't know anything about welding but now I have learned it. I have learned carpentry and I have got driving course certificate."* The welding, carpentry, driving and etc. Courses in prison are helping the prisoners to move on and get by after discharge. However some prisoners, (K15, K26..) have stated that the same people are chosen for the courses over and over again. So it can be concluded that good conduct is considered while choosing prisoners for the courses.

The prisoners were asked **"What kind of social activities are there in the prison? How did they provide benefit?** and their ideas about the activities were included. According to the survey, 3 prisoners stated that there aren't any social activities in the prison. Other prisoner stated that he doesn't know what kind of activities are there. K23, one of the surveyed prisoners stated that he wants to attend these activities but he can't and explained the reason;

K23: There is cinema and library. I didn't go, I've only heard of it. They do not come to us and ask if we want to go anyway. Guardians choose people.

Other 13 surveyed prisoners stated that there are only cinema and theatre. They also said that they do not provide much benefit;

K3: They staged plays two times but it was not beneficial.

K6: We only have a cinema and nothing else. Actually I do not find it beneficial because they do not show the movies we want or new ones. They make us watch 2-3-5 year old movies. We do not watch any up-to-date movies. Surveyed 24 prisoners mentioned about the activities like cinema, sports, library, football, volleyball and etc. And it was observed that they provided much benefit. Other surveyed 6 prisoners stated that the only activity is the cinema but they do not attend it.

Surveyed prisoner K1, talked about the social activities in prison and their benefits: "There is only a cinema and nothing else. We watch different movies once a week. We get to watch something on the big screen. At least we spend 3 hours for something fun, which is the only benefit."

K5: "There is a cinema, a library and a fitness centre. I find them highly beneficial. For example, on Thursdays I go to cinema and I go to fitness center for sports time. I go to library and read."

K29 who used to be a drug addict and stopped using after joining social activities in the prison stated that;

"There is a cinema and a fitness center. I go to fitness center and it provided much benefit. I used to take pills for psychiatric disease and now I don't have to use them thanks to sports."

24 of the surveyed prisoners stated that the activities help them to get rid of negative thoughts. However other 26 prisoner stated that these activities are scarcely provided. Based on these findings, the safety measures can be effective in carrying out these activities and for these activities prisoners are selected according to a specific criteria. In line with the answers of the prisoners, it can be concluded that participation in social events of all prisoners could not be achieved.

RESULTS

Surveyed prisoners are generally consist of 20-25, 30-35 years old young adults.

More than 50% of the prisoners are men.

27 of the surveyed prisoners were born in TRNC and other 23 were born in TR. Majority of the prisoners are high school, secondary and primary school graduates and there is not many higher education graduates.

In relation to this, it can be concluded that among convicts, high school, middle school and elementary school graduates are constitute the largest segment.

According to the study, unmarried prisoners committed more crimes than married ones and divorced and widowed prisoners follow the married prisoners respectively. It is seen that the majority of prisoners do not require a certain level education to profess their profession. It is observed that the majority of the convicts came from a large family.

Convicts, come from families with low education level. Less than half of the inmates came from broken homes. It was observed that the most common crime is narcotic crimes and the least common is the injury and theft.

Also when the crimes of the prisoners are categorized, it was remarkable that "other" categories of crimes are redundant. When the term of imprisonment is considered the least is one month and the most is 40 years. The prisoner who has the minimum remaining time to evacuate will be released a month later while some were punished with lifetime imprisonment. In terms of relapsing, it can be seen that less than half of them had committed crime before.

Given the situation if the prisoners had worked before entering the prison, it can be said that there is a high rate of participation in working life. More than half of the prisoners are seen as being not addicted to any drugs before entering prison.

According to the results of the prisoners' remarks, factors like family, economic and environmental issues are the reasons of criminal behaviours. It can be said that less than half of the prisoners have family members of friends who has had a tentation. It was observed that the prisoners do not know the prison worker SHU and that most of them do not know his job. It was also observed that prisoners have vocational and psychologically supportive expectations from SHU.

It can be indicated that the prisoners are left alone to handle their problems. It was observed that prisoners' participation to prison programs are not as expected. It was observed that the vocational courses are not enough for prisoners to find a job after discharge. It was seen that the prisoners have hope to find a job after discharge and also the ones who were convicted before are disappointed of being unemployed. The Professional help provided to the prisoners during the imprisonment and after discharge are observed to be minimum.

Recommendations

Recommendations to Researchers

- 1- In this study, the answers were sought to the questions; what are the underlying causes of prison inmates who committed crime, what are the psycho-social support services for prisoners. To make generalizations about these issues, this study can be performed with deeper questions, a wider period of time and a larger study group.
- 2- In this study, the reasons that push the young adult and adult criminal prisoners in prisons to commit crime and the Psycho-Social Support Services which provided are focused. The next research can be prepared for children and adolescents showing criminal behaviour.
- 3- Those who are convicted of drug addiction is seen to have been in prison before. In connection with this Alcohol Dependence Treatment Program is applicable.
- 4- In this research, the reasons that push prisoners to commit crime and the psycho- social support services provided are focused. Programs and studies which include rehabilitation for prisoners can be added.
- 5- According to the contemporary counselling concept, while considering the preventive feature of psychological counselling and guidance, psycho education services can be planned and added to primary schools, secondary schools programs and also can be provided to families in order to prevent crimes and criminal behaviour.

Recommendations to Social Service Experts

 The social service expert stated that he prepared social examination report only for the prisoners under 25 years old when they first convicted and presented the report on the court as anevidence. According to the remarks of the social service worker, when convicts are first imprisoned their fear and panic are disregarded. In relation to this, prison adjustment programs can be developed to ease their fear and panic.

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- 2. The Social worker stated that teachers used to be brought to the prison for student prisoners. In. Relation to this and considering education as an important way of rehabilitation, education can be provided to imprisoned students again.
- 3. The social worker stated that he only interviewed with the prisoners under 25 years old upon their request. With this information it can be concluded that all prisoners can be interviewed with the help of a certain schedule.
- 4. One of the approaches on reducing the crime rate is to focus on rehabilitation in prisons. Researches who indicate the importance of rehabilitation programs claim that the prisons are not only for captivate. (Simon, 1998) In relation to this, the social service worker can provide rehabilitation for the prisoners during their sentence.
- 5. Some prisoners stated that since it is hard for them to find a job after discharge, they had to commit crime and get back to prison. Improvements on the vocation of the ex-convicts can be done with considering their problems on finding a job to prevent going back to prison.
- 6. The social service worker stated that the vocational courses are not beneficial enough to help prisoners to find a job after discharge. These courses can be improved to be more helpful.
- 7. The social worker stated that specific studies are held with the prisoners during discharge only upon request. In relation to this, these studies can be done with each prisoner during discharge to help them prepare for the social life.

Recommendations to Psychological Counsellor

- 1. Psychologists can work with the biblio therapy method which includes using novels and stories on the sessions with prisoners as individuals and groups to help them cope with their behavioural and sentimental issues.
- 2. Self respect increasing studies can be held to help prisoners adjust and be prepared for social problemes after discharge.
- 3. Social events and education programs for prison workers and families can be held in order to prevent crimes.
- 4. It was observed that the applicable studies are short term and limited with academic studies. Considering the continuity principle of counselling, long term and extensive studies about criminal behaviour can be held.
- 5. Upon the needs of prisoners, anger management, communication programs and other informing programs on drugs and alcohol can be provided.
- 6. An educational process can be followed according to the properties of prisoners. With the help of this process, prisoners would be ready for the discharge process and after discharge and stay away from committing crime.

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