

VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSIVENESS WITHIN THE FAMILY. (INTRA)FAMILY VIOLENCE FROM A SOCIOLOGICAL AND CRIMINOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

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The (intra)family violence is perceived now as a main and acute social problem. The study approaches this problem by defining the notion of violence and aggressiveness within the family and by revealing its multiple aspects, such as: the types of violence and categories of aggressors or victims within the family; the (intra)family violence and life cycle; the conceptions regarding the masculine aggressiveness within the family etc

Family violence as social problem. 'Legitimate' and 'illegitimate' violence

The evaluations made by sociologists about the contemporary family are relatively contradictory among themselves. Thus, on the one hand, they admit that the family has a special capacity of communion and social solidarity as long as it is a refuge, a privileged place of manifesting affectivity, while on the other they appreciate that the family undergoes a crisis given the decline of its traditional functions, its islandhood within society, its isolation from the large network of relatives, the increase of its instability tendencies.

One of the most acute aspects of this crisis which has been little explored by the sociologist which researches the family is the increase of violence among family members, phenomenon which is present in most of the contemporary societies.

As we know the family violence of (intra)family violence has manifested for a long time, but its perception as a social problem started only four decades ago. Thus, during the 60's and 70's child-abuse and spouses-aggression have become for the first time topics of public debates in several countries attracting the interest of the large public as, of course, of the specialists.

The main reason for which the family violence as social problem was perceived so late and became a distinct preoccupation of specialists constituted, at least in the Western world the specificity of the family