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History and development of victimology essay Assignment

CJA 333 01 Victimology

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Why is the work of Hans von Hentig important in the study of victimology? In this essay I will be talking about what victimology is, how did it come about, what the factors of it are. As well as how Hans von Hentig is important to victimology. But to start off I would have to tell you who he is and why his name is so important in victimology.

What is victimology? it is the study of crime victims. it is often in equivalence with criminology and that's the study of criminals. They both go hand and hand because with no crime there are no victims and if there's no victims there's no crimes. When they study criminals, they study of what they do, why they do it and how the system deals with it . victimology helps assist the victims, as well as how the factors of society play a role. In 1947 Benjamin Mendelsohn used victimology to explain the study of crime victims. Victimology came around in the mid 1900's but of course there were people being victimized way before victimology came about. Back then it wasn't up to the system for figuring out what to do it was up to the victims and their families. That's when they came up with restitution. Restitution is restoring a stolen item to the actual owner of it . Then came along code of Hammurabi

this made returning whatever the person stole very stressed upon. When the law- shifted happened it benefitted the state a lot, it collected fines. Victims were blamed for their own victimization. This is called victim precipitation they would blame the victim and see no wrong in the criminal they would look at the victim as if they caused it to happen. This then goes into victim this thing called victim facilitation which is when the victim makes it easy for the offender . An example of this would be a person left their car unlocked with keys in it or valuables which makes it easier for the criminal to steal the car or valuable items or take both. They compare victim facilitation with victim provocation which is when a victims behavior causes a criminal to commit the crime against them.

Who is Hans von Hentig ? he was a german psychologist who study victim - offender interactions. His works in victimology is important because it investigated the factors of why people are victims, and look into the the factors of criminality. He found that the same attributes for what made the crime occur causes the victimization. Hentig identified 13 qualities that showed risk of being victimized (1) young ,(2) female, (3) old, (4) immigrants, (5)

depressed, (6) mentally deranged, (7) the acquisitive, (8) dull normals, (9) minorities, (10) wonton, (11) lonesome . (12) tormentors and (13) fighting. And because of these he believes that all victims contribute to their victimization. Benjamin mendelsohn is the “ father of victimology “. He learned that victims often know who their offender was. He created a classification of victims .

1. Innocent victim: holds no responsibility for being victimized
2. Victim with guilt : victim places themselves in harms way
3. Victim is as guilty as criminal : holds responsibility just as much as the criminal
4. Victim is guilty more than offender: provokes victimization
5. Most guilty victim : victimized while committing crime as a result of doing it
6. Stimulating victim : lies about being victimized

Mendelsohn classification shows that not all victims are responsible for their victimization, and some victims causes their victimization with their actions and behaviors .

References

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<https://us.sagepub.com/sites/default/files/upm-binaries/>

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