


Muhammad 'Ata Aslid Sidihammad: The Hudud. The hudud are the seven specific crimes in islamic criminal law and their mandatory punishments. ISBN 983-9303-00-7. Petaling Jaya 1995. 433 s.


SUMMARIES IN ENGLISH


The purpose of the present study is to examine the frequency of violence in Iceland. The main emphasis is on the frequency, explanations and consequences of domestic violence against women. Data from a nationwide telephone survey on violence carried out in 1996 among a stratified random sample of all Icelanders, men and women, 18-65 years old, are analyzed. The response rate was 74%. In the 12 months prior to the survey, 9.4% of men and 2.8% of women had been victims of violence. The prevalence for domestic violence in the past year was 0.8% for men and 1.3% for women. The survey data show that domestic violence is to be found in all sociodemographic groups in Iceland. Alcohol consumption and coercive control theories gain support as explanatory factors of domestic violence against women whereas poverty, unemployment and stress factors seem to be of less importance. The results indicate that the female victims of domestic violence experi-
enced multiple consequences. Extreme caution, panic attacks, and problems in establishing relationships were the most commonly mentioned consequences followed by anger, low self-esteem, and sleep disturbances. Furthermore, results show that a majority of the women who had been victims of domestic violence sought support from friends and family, as well as from the public welfare system and the police.


Historically speaking, the social separation of the mad into special institutions should not be considered as a result of medical reform, but rather as the outcome of a long social process of attempts to exclude the mentally deviant from existing houses of correction where they were put away for domestication. In Norway, the first reform movement appeared in the last half of the 18th century with the establishing of dollhus (madhouses, from German: toll). Pressure form the management of the correction houses along with new Enlightenment ideas in the elite is seen as a basis for this madhouse movement. Doctors did not appear as reformers and historial actors in this field until by the end of the 1820’s, culminating with the Lunacy Act of 1848, which gave medicine the full control of madness.


With Norwegian Criminology as its focal point, the article asks if Criminology might share some similarities with the Cyclops from Greek mythology. Cyclops were feared because of their strength, but they were also vulnerable With only one eye on their forehead. As for Criminology, though tolerance is highly valued, one might ask if the discipline is theoretically, methodologically and politically one dimensional.

The article points out that Norwegian Criminology often suffers from an unhealthy mix of methodological ideals. Qualitative (hermeutic) research is done while the researcher thinks in quantitative (positivistic) terms. These researchers, the author coins “closet-positivists”. There also seems to be a lack of methodological ingenuity. The research ideal, “how-to do it”, seems to be the use of in-depth interviewing and participant observations. Document and semiotic analysis of texts and ethnemethological studies are rarely done. The results is that many fields, such as the study of white-collar crime, are considered to be methodologically “closed” for criminological research.

The author asks if criminology has a central foundation or if it is a cross-breed between many different disciplines. The answer (inspired by Kuhn) seems to be that a common ground and identity does exist, but that this fundament is rather “light”. But is this unfortunate? The lightness might, in fact, be an advantage in the rapidly changing world of academics.

Dorthe Borggaard Kristoffersen: The Concept of Trust and Economic Loss [In Danish: Betroelsesbegrebet og kravet om materiel formueforskydning]. Pp. 57-64.

The article concludes that it must be assumed that economic loss as a condition in the penal code sections (278) and (280) is stipulated in the light of the authorithy and the business interests of the person causing the loss and in the light of the control of the person.