

Specific of the social construction of crime by the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

Smolij Oksana¹, Larisa Klymanska²

1. Lviv Polytechnic National University, UKRAINE, Lviv, S. Bandery street 12, E-mail: oksana_smolij@mail.ru

2. Lviv Polytechnic National University, UKRAINE, Lviv, S. Bandery street 12, E-mail: larysa_kl@ukr.net

Abstract – work is the first scientific work in Ukraine, which describes participation of the representatives of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the construction of the crime through the texts posted on the official website of the UGCC.

Keywords: crime, construct, strategy design, agents design, target audience.

I. Introduction

At the present stage of development of science of sociology, in particular in constructionists approach the crime is considered not only as a social phenomenon but also as a social construct. Crime as a social construct is a part of constructed reality, the creation of which involves different social institutions - media, public opinion, government, and in particular representatives of various religious denominations of Ukraine. The scale of construction of crime increases when combined activity of several institutions, such as the interaction of the church and the media, are accompanied by an increase in channels of information, which in turn increases the interest of researchers in studying of the phenomenon of construction of crime. The results of content analysis of documents (121 allusions and 53 messages) located on the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, have shown that members of the Church are involved in the process that one can call as designing crime.

II. Page Setup

Construction of crime is recorded in 38 allusions and 101 letters, representing 21.84% and 5.75% of all documents in general.

The results show that the level of constructing of crime in the texts posted on the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, is below the average level. This may indicate that members of the UGCC take care about crime in the country and the world, but the dissemination of information about unlawful behavior or making recommendations for the prevention of crime does not take a prominent place in communicative activities carried out by the Church.

The results show that the top five among most reconstructed are four types of crimes that are classified as those "against society" - armed conflict (war), massacre (famine, genocide), electoral fraud and corruption (bribery). The list is closed by the crime that is

classified as "anti-human" - the killing of unborn children as a result of abortion. Least constructed crimes are financial fraud, theft of another's property, murder of children, offenses against the Church and crime in general.

This may be due to the need to disseminate information about the most widespread crimes in order to influence a wide audience, because crimes "against society" refer to each and everyone in general.

Specific strategy of constructing crime is used to construct each of the offenses. For most constructed crimes they use predominantly the strategy of the design of "terrible" consequences, representation of crime as a "sin", as "offense against God" and design at the appropriate time (for election fraud).

In the construction process some agents are involved, like Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Galician Supreme Archdiocese Church, Member of Ukrainian Conference «Abortion: denial of the right to life," Pope John Paul II, Traditional Ukrainian Church and the Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations. The results of the content analysis indicate that the main agents of constructing the most common offenses in the texts of the official Church website are the group of people rather than individuals.

It is also worth to mention the target audience of the construction of major crimes. The main consumers of that message addressed to the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, are all people and directly UGCC faithful of all the fixed potential of the target audience.

To construct the crime the strategy design of "terrible" consequences and the representation of crime as a "sin", the "crime against God" are mostly used. These results show the impact of the faith of Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the formulation of communicative messages about various social problems, including crime.

There are certain trends that reflect the relationship between strategies and specific crimes, that they construct in a greater extent than other deviation.

The results show that the strategy of design at the appropriate time used to a greater extent than other crimes for the construction of election fraud (during election campaigns for presidential or parliamentary elections). Constructing crime as widespread conditions used for many crimes, but to a greater extent for corruption (bribery). For some crimes are equally used strategy of design of "terrible" consequences and the representation of crime as a "sin", the "crime against God". The situation is similar for the strategy and design of specific causes of the problem, but the predominant application of this strategy is for the armed conflict (war). The personalization of the problem is used only for the construction of crimes within the Church organization, the design of specific within the familiar - only for killing people by using of euthanasia (euthanasia is murder in its content, but with a different name).

Thus the results demonstrate the link between specific strategies and the nature of the crimes that they construct.

In the process of content analysis, there were recorded 14 representatives of the agents of construction of crime in the texts posted on the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, which include representatives of both Church and URKTS and secular people.

The results show that agents that are often involved in the design of crime are the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Galician High Church Archdiocese and Archbishop Lubomyr (Husar) among the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. However, the five agents of construction of crime also includes Pope Benedict XVI, All-Ukrainian Council of Churches, religious organizations and traditional churches of Ukraine.

Each agent has its own "favorite" crime in the construction of which they are the mostly involved, compared to other forms of deviant behavior. Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Galician High Church Archdiocese constructs many crimes, but there prevails electoral fraud and crime within the organization UGCC. For Archbishop Lubomyr (Husar) there is no prevailing construction of a single crime. He as an agent of designing crimes is involved in the design of crime in general, massacres (famine, genocide), armed conflict (war), misuse of natural resources with causing damage and environmental pollution, violation of constitutional rights and the killing of people by the use of euthanasia. Pope Benedict XVI to the greatest extent constructs armed conflict (war) and terrorism, the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and religious organizations - corruption (bribery) and mass murder (famine, genocide) as opposed to other crimes, traditional churches of Ukraine - electoral fraud and mass murder (famine, genocide).

Thus the basic agents of design are involved in the creation of social constructs of such crimes, most of which are directed against the general population and have destructive consequences not only for individuals but for society as a whole.

Communication messages posted on the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, which considered during the content analysis have the target audience for which they are directed.

The results show that the main audience of constructing crime are all people and, in particular, the faithful of the UGCC. For those members of the target audience, there are certain specific design features.

So the construction is relatively uniform for all people of the vast majority of crimes, but to a greater extent for this audience are constructed armed conflict (war) and falsification of the elections for the faithful of all crimes (construction of which is directed at this audience) - and armed conflict (war). Accordingly, to the target audience that consumes a lot of information massive crimes are constructed.

The results show that the design of crime in the appeals and messages posted on the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, is carried out in two models. The first of them, titled the "Model of narrow construction of crime" is to construct crimes that do not apply to the whole society, and constructed entirely by the Church to the faithful of this religious group using the strategy of personalization of carriers of the criminal behavior. This model is used for the construction of crimes within the Church, which used specific names (V. Kavatsiv Feyye B., R. Williamson and others) to identify people who behave improperly, according to the canon laws of behavior. The second - "wide-model of construction of Crime" - used to create social constructs of crime relative to other recorded evidence of inappropriate behavior. It is to create various combinations of the types of crime, strategy design and its agents, representatives of the target audience: for the same offense they can use multiple strategies, multiple agents (which may or may not belong to the representatives of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church) and the audience, members of which may vary from one person to the total population.

Conclusion

The results of content analysis of texts posted on the official website of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, suggests that members of the Church are actively involved in designing crimes in electronic resources in Ukraine, although the level design is below average. The trend of constructing crime as "sin" and active usage of metaphors, hyperbole and comparisons is recorded. In designing crime are involved representatives of other religions and individuals. Among the crimes that are constructed mostly are armed conflict (war), mass murder (famine, genocide), electoral fraud, corruption and murder unborn children as a result of abortion.