

DEVIANT LEISURE: WHY LEISURE IS IMPORTANT FOR CRIMINOLOGY (CONCEPTUAL STATEMENT)

LAZER DESVIANTE: POR QUE O LAZER É IMPORTANTE PARA A CRIMINOLOGIA (DECLARAÇÃO CONCEITUAL)*

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Abstract: The aim of this study is to try to define the overlapping and non-overlapping relationships between the concepts of leisure and deviant leisure. Classification of deviant leisure time will inform individuals about what they should pay attention to in their leisure habits. The relations between apparently leisure and deviant leisure may differ from culture to culture or from individual to individual. Leisure behaviors that can be considered in the context of crime are seen as determinants in moral norms (tolerable and intolerable) in characterizing leisure time as normal or deviant. The descriptive case study model, one of the qualitative research methods, was used in the study. The case study reveals the limited situations in any field and presents systematic research in order to create the infrastructure that will enable their development. It seems that deviant leisure time is conceptualized as behaviors that violate criminal and non-criminal moral norms. In addition the sensitive point between leisure time and deviant leisure time is violations of moral norms and laws. Leisure activities, which are characterized by social well-being, have now begun to be associated with criminal behavior. The form of leisure activity that occurs with the violation of laws and moral norms is accepted as deviant leisure. It is important in order to create an ideal society determine to factors that affect the transition from leisure to deviant leisure time that leisure scientists, criminologists and social scientists.

Keywords: Leisure. Deviant Leisure. Crime.

Resumo: O objetivo deste estudo é tentar definir as relações sobrepostas e não sobrepostas entre os conceitos de lazer e de lazer desviante. A classificação do tempo de lazer desviante informará os indivíduos sobre aquilo a que eles devem prestar atenção em seus hábitos de lazer. As relações entre o lazer aparente e o lazer desviante podem diferir de cultura para cultura ou de indivíduo para indivíduo. Os comportamentos de lazer que podem ser considerados no contexto do crime são vistos como determinantes nas normas morais (tolerável e intolerável) na caracterização do tempo

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de lazer como normal ou desviante. O modelo de estudo de caso descritivo, um dos métodos de pesquisa qualitativa, foi utilizado no estudo. O estudo de caso revela as situações limitadas em qualquer campo e apresenta uma pesquisa sistemática a fim de criar a infra-estrutura que permitirá seu desenvolvimento. Parece que o tempo de lazer desviante é conceituado como comportamentos que violam as normas morais criminais e não criminais. Além disso, o ponto sensível entre o tempo livre e o tempo livre desviante é a violação das normas e leis morais. As atividades de lazer, que são caracterizadas pelo bem-estar social, começaram agora a ser associadas ao comportamento criminoso. A forma de atividade de lazer que ocorre com a violação de leis e normas morais é aceita como lazer desviante. É importante, a fim de criar uma sociedade ideal para os fatores que afetam a transição do lazer para o tempo de lazer desviante, que os cientistas do lazer, criminologistas e cientistas sociais determinem.

Palavras-chave: Lazer. Lazer desviante. Crime.

1. INTRODUCTION

All over the world, leisure research is particularly focused on aging (Liechty & Fortune, 2021), rehabilitation (Eriksson & Saukkonen, 2021), stress (Bedir, 2021), culture (Rojek, C. 1999), crime (Nichols, 1997), attitude and perception of boredom (Önal, 2017). In this growing discipline, parts that are generally described as normal leisure time and defined as casual and serious (Veal, 2021) leisure time are seen to be discussed more in the literature (Stebbins, 2017). As a matter of fact, another concept that constitutes a third component that needs to be emphasized as much as the terms casual leisure and serious leisure is the concept of deviant leisure. It emerges as a concept that needs to be emphasized in the provision of both society and individual morality in order to prevent crime (Williams, Walker & Streat, 2005).

The primary aim of this study is to explore the relationships between "leisure" and "deviant leisure" and to reveal the many possible interrelationships between these constructs. Careful consideration of the conceptualization of these concepts in relation to each other will help us better understand the similarities or differences between leisure time and deviant leisure behavior. Before revealing the relationships we are talking about, we need to think carefully about the positioning of these terms, in this respect, it is necessary to define the terms in a conceptual sense. Leisure, which is seen as an integral part of a good life, needs to be developed both with academic studies and from individual perspectives, and to be better understood while developing (Raymen & Smith, 2019). Especially today, the concept of leisure, which is frequently used with the concepts of well-being (Yu et al., 2021) has priority. If leisure is considered with a pragmatic approach; "The good is that which brings the most utility and is defined by pleasure, satisfaction, or a list of objective values". According to these definitions, whatever the action of the person is, if it

gives pleasure to the individual, it can be qualified as good. This point of view will lead to the development and acceptance of the concept of deviant leisure in the literature. Then we need to understand what the so-called leisure actually is. There is controversy over how leisure is defined. However, there is general consensus that there are three basic ways to define leisure: leisure as time, leisure as activity, and leisure as a state of mind (Human Kinetics, 2022).

Leisure time can be expressed as the period of time when individuals can participate in activities such as resting, having fun, improving their knowledge and skills, and willingly participating in social life, after fulfilling the duties necessary for their work, family, social duties and to maintain their lives (Bedir, 2020). Leisure can also be seen as activities that people engage in in their free time. This definition does not care how the person feels while doing the activity; only certain activities are considered to be considered as leisure time, because the activities are expressed as entertaining, relaxing activities that can take place at times away from work and obligations (Human Kinetics, 2022).

Perceived freedom refers to the ability to choose the activity or experience in which the individual is free from other obligations and has the freedom to act without the control of others. Perceived freedom also includes the absence of external restrictions on participation (Jackson, 1988).

The second requirement of leisure as a state of mind is intrinsic motivation, which means moving from within to participate. The person is unaffected by external factors (people or reward), and the experience results in feelings of personal satisfaction, pleasure, and satisfaction. Positive emotion, the last key component of leisure as a state of mind, refers to a person's sense of choice, or the emotion that people have when they have some control over the process associated with the experience. Positive influence means pleasure, and it comes from a sense of choice. Leisure experience for one person may not be for another; Whether an experience is leisure time depends on many factors. Enjoyment, motivation and choice are three of the most important of factors. Therefore, when different individuals engage in the same activity, their state of mind can differ greatly (Human Kinetics, 2022).

Robert Stebbins has classified leisure under two general headings, and it is stated that Casual Leisure and Serious Leisure are comprehensive to include all classifications such as activity type, participation type, etc. (Akyıldız, 2013). Stebbins (1997) defined serious leisure time as follows as a result of her ethnographic studies; “It is the period of time spent systematically participating in and following the chosen activity in order to

pursue a career related to amateur, hobby or volunteer activities that are very important, interesting and satisfying, requiring special knowledge, skills and experience” (Stebbins, 2007; Gould, et al. 2011; Akyıldız, 2013). Also, in a different definition, serious leisure time; It is defined as amateur, hobby or volunteer activities that require unique knowledge, skills and experience, which are quite interesting and satisfying in order to achieve a career” (Stebbins, 2007; Gould, et al. 2011; Kim et al., 2011). In this context, serious leisure participants exhibit the following characteristics in their leisure time activities;

- Persistence (perseverance) in the activity performed in leisure time,
 - Personal and significant effort,
 - Achieve a leisure career,
 - Providing tangible and continuous benefits,
 - Creating a social world of unique norms, beliefs or value systems and becoming a member of that social community.
- Create a strong bond with the chosen activity (Stebbins, 2007; Gould, et al., 2011).

Like the concept of serious leisure, the concept of casual leisure is a concept introduced by Stebbins (1997). To express in general; all activities other than serious leisure activities are considered casual leisure activities. And Stebbins defined casual leisure activities as activities that are short-term, have incentives in their essence, do not require any special education, and are based on basic entertainment and hedonism. According to Hutchinson and Kleiber (2005), the functions of casual leisure activities are enjoyable and ordinary daily leisure activities in stressful life conditions. On the other hand, Csikszentmihalyi (2000) stated that casual leisure activities motivate people in daily activities; They are small, heartfelt and natural activities. According to Shinew and Parry (2005), some harmful activities among young people can be counted as casual leisure activities because they have a hedonistic value and provide relaxation.

Leisure, since it was taken up scientifically, was mostly influenced by early theorists; It has been studied from a positive-oriented leisure perspective (Dumazedier, 1967; Kaplan, 1975). In terms of the characteristics of leisure time, the view that all social and human criteria of society are fully compatible has been defined and generally accepted (Kaplan, 1960). However, countless people around the world consume as deviant their leisure with activities gambling, strip clubs, and drugs. Thus, they may engage in morally questionable or completely illegal activities. Also, most crime is committed in leisure and physical space (Rojek, 2000), and many people may develop careers by engaging in deviant

behavior as a form of leisure (Gunn & Caissie, 2006). While Stebbins (1996), Williams and Walker (2006) define deviant leisure as a behavior that violates criminal and non-criminal moral norms, Rojek (2000) defines abnormal leisure as an experience that pushes boundaries and threatens oneself or others. Stebbins (1996) classified deviant leisure as "tolerable", in which the welfare of the community was preserved, and "intolerable", in which the community agreed on its injustice and accompanied by harsh community backlash. Intolerable deviance includes criminal and non-criminal acts such as theft, rape, and assault. This intolerable, murderous and indiscriminate deviation is valued in deviant leisure. Rojek (1999a) noted that "overlooked are both the 'real' deviant leisure activities as a whole and the huge cultural industries that revolve around packaging for consumers in 'fun' and 'entertaining' ways". Seventeen years later, Williams' (2016a) review of existing studies on deviant leisure showed that it still remains an underdeveloped area of research. At the same time, abundant research in the field of criminology shows that every year many young people are directed to criminal acts to meet their needs for fun, excitement, adventure, peer unity, recognition, or simply to pass the time when there are other leisure opportunities (Perrier, Smith & Latimer-Cheung, 2013). In particular, the literature suggests that involvement in gangs can provide young people with a context for engaging in leisure activities that may be considered deviant (Rojek, 1999a). However, in recent years, research on deviant leisure has begun to examine the subject in the context of crime, although not so much (Williams & Walker, 2006; Williams, 2009; Smith & Raymen, 2018). The proposition that leisure behavior is at times contrary to the moral structure of society has been increasingly accepted and investigated in recent years (Nichols, 2010). Stebbins (1996) examined deviance in Canadian society according to whether it is motivated by a desire for a particular type of leisure or work, or by the need for personal adjustment to difficult circumstances. He later observed that most deviant leisure takes the form of everyday leisure, even though deviant belief systems in science, religion, and politics are so complex that they mean serious leisure for those who try to learn and practice them. Finally, in Cantwell's (2003) short article on the subject in an encyclopedia, the acceptance of deviant leisure time as an appropriate concern for the field of leisure studies has already been noted. If we consider deviating from moral norms, there is still much room for uncertainty and disagreement because, unlike absolutism, ethical and moral relativism is a primary approach used to begin evaluating the appropriateness of decisions and behavior. However, given the difficulties in defining leisure and the relativity of morality, it is essential to consider cultural/subcultural and social positioning factors when trying to

separate deviant leisure from leisure (Szaflarski & Sirven, 2017). In this context, the line between leisure and deviant leisure is seen as violations of moral norms and laws. Many studies in the field of criminology show that deviant leisure behavior is directed to criminal activities to meet the needs of entertainment, excitement, adventure, peer unity, recognition, and spending time when other leisure activities are unattractive (Perrier, Smith & Latimer-Cheung, 2013).

Tolerable deviation is expressed as social welfare is still preserved despite the deviation (Stebbins, 1996). In a later article, Stebbins (1997) states that deviant leisure can also be categorized according to whether it is "casual" or "serious". This categorization reveals that deviant leisure activities have casual or serious leisure characteristics. Although tolerable deviant behavior has a hedonic point of view, it can be considered as behaviors related to the essence of the individual so that it does not harm social welfare and moral norms.

Intolerable deviation can generally be thought of as a social reaction, violation of moral norms, and behaviors that are manifested in violation of legal regulations. In this context; Considerable agreement about the unfairness of the behavior, a harsh community reaction, and a judgment that it is particularly harmful appear as intolerable deviance (Stebbins, 2012). Both tolerable and intolerable leisure categorizations need to be addressed in terms of legislation and social norms. In this context, considering which activity is tolerable and which is unacceptable reveals that it should be considered in the context of the social norms and laws in which the activity is carried out. Let's take a look at the "Deviant Leisure Topology" based on the work of Williams & Walker, (2006).

Table1. Deviant Leisure Typology

Tolerance	Criminality	Leisure Class	Example/s
Tolerable	Legitimate	Casual	Erotic literature
Tolerable	Legitimate	Serious	Religious cult (e.g., Scientology)
Tolerable	Non-criminal	Casual	Social nudism
Tolerable	Non-criminal	Serious	Being a "Trekkie"
Tolerable	Criminal	Casual	Marijuana use, dashing, publicSEZ
Tolerable	Criminal	Serious	Street-racing
Intol	Legit	Casua	Flag-burning

erale	imate	l	
Intol	Legit	Serio	Religious cult (e.g., Satanism)
erale	imate	us	
Intol	Non	Casua	Hiring a lap dancer or prostitute
erale	-criminal	l	
Intol	Non	Serio	Motorcycle gang
erale	-criminal	us	
Intol	Crim	Casua	Shoplifting, vandalism, nudity, indecent exposure, child and violent pornography, murder
erale	inal	l	
Intol	Crim	Serio	Computer hacking, serial murder
erale	inal	us	

(Williams & Walker, 2006)

2. METHODOLOGY

The descriptive case study model, one of the qualitative research methods, was used in the study. The case study reveals the limited situations in any field and presents a systematic research in order to create the infrastructure that will enable their development (Chmiliar, 2010).

3. RESULTS

Deviant leisure appears as behavior that requires sanctions and violates moral norms. In the leisure literature, it is known that the main features of normal leisure activities are physical, mental and social gains. However, it seems that deviant leisure activities are pure entertainment and pleasure-oriented activities for individuals. Considering that criminal behavior is mostly carried out in leisure and leisure places, it turns out that these activities are not as innocent as it is thought. It seems important to be acquire the right leisure behaviors in an early age in order to minimize the habits associated with criminal behavior in the future.

4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Despite its wide appeal among users, it seems that much more research is needed on "deviant" leisure. Determining the deviant leisure tendencies of individuals in the leisure literature may contribute to the explanation of the deviant behavior. Knowing the factors that affect the transition from a beneficial activity to an activity that may cause harm should be considered as an interesting subject for leisure researchers. Leisure activities, which are

characterized by social well-being, have now begun to be associated with criminal behavior. The form of leisure activity that occurs with the violation of laws and moral norms is accepted as deviant leisure. It is important in order to create an ideal society determine to factors that affect the transition from leisure to deviant leisure time that leisure scientists, criminologists and social scientists.

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