Crime and offence prevention model in public institutions

Sayed Mahmoud Mirkhalili 1, Mohammad Mahmoodi 2

1 Faculty of Law, Qom College, University of Tehran, Iran
2 P.H.D student, Criminal Law and Criminology, Islamic Azad University, Qom Branch.

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Abstract

Prevention is the best and most effective way to combat crimes and other social disorders to which all criminologists concur while there is no agreement on its practice, difference and even contrary attitudes are expressed in this regard. To the same reason, proper raised theories and ideas have not been able to be emerged ideally. One of the main reasons is lack of attention to modeling in this area as call knowledge architecture. Concerning the importance of government prestige in public opinion as well as the importance of manpower and negative outcomes of crimes and offences by government and civil servants in different segments of the society and even in international era, a model to prevent crimes and offences in public institutions is provided in present paper.

Keywords: prevention, model, status room, think room, future study room, targets

Introduction

Prevention means to repress, stop and control a disease (Moeen, 2005). According to Crime Prevention Act, crime prevention is “to forecast, identify and assess the risk of crime incidence and to take necessary measures and initiatives to eliminate or mitigate it.” During centuries, taking such measures and initiatives to protect the individual and social rights and to establish security of all people has been paid attention by politicians and connoisseurs in different scientific fields. Actions to functionalize criminological achievements in offence and crime prevention, designing a think room to measure criminal capacities in public agencies, providing reforming executive guidelines proportionate to crimes and offences, pathology, clarifying the grounds, identifying the opportunities of crime commission as well as drawing the criminal map and determining crime geography in different departments at governmental and public ministries, agencies and organizations and, as a result, decreasing the crimes and offences in different level of public sector make it necessary to devise model for offence and crime prevention.

Offence and crime prevention as well as its necessity is too obvious. A short glance to current structures in public sector and several pillars related to offence and crime prevention including management, inspection, protection and cultural fields that their existence philosophy is to justify it, a question raised that despite of current structure and the incidence of offences and crimes in different governmental entities, what is the fundamental guideline for a right, real, proper and measurable policymaking in offence and crime prevention in public and administrative agencies and organizations?

It seems that there is the possibility of criminal behavior incidence and, in contrary, protecting people from such behaviors is existing among all people and concerning the complexity of criminal phenomenon in general and the conditions of public organizations in particular, one can achieve ideal results through a scientific model.

In present paper and after elucidating research model and the necessity of modeling, proposed model as well as its keywords is explained and, finally, the research is concluded.

The Model definition

In model definition, paramout materials are provided which can be divided in two main categories. In the first definition, model means a sample or similarity and modeling means simulating such as modeling in architecture. In the second category especially in human science eras such as epistemology and sociology, model means a think device and modeling is to build such device to think or a type of thinking. In other words and in its simplest meaning, model is a device which shows the process of interaction among phenomena, concepts, implications and topics. By such approach, one can call modeling as knowledge architecture (Noghrehkar, 2010: 138). An architect designs a luxury and strong building by heterogeneous and different materials as same as what modeling does by different concepts, implications and topics). By using such device, one can criticize the components or whole entity or give other contents to it and receive relevant deliverable. It is similar to computerized software which provides us with an output proportionate to inputs. Model may be physical, non-physical, abstract, human, mathematical, and functional as so on. Modeling is the process of model designing and the process of filling its content is called data processing.

The advantages of modeling

Through modeling, one can create, test, study and analyze special conditions and positions virtually. Finally, one can decide, plan and act in accordance to the transparency of the issue. It is highly easier and more efficient than analyzing real conditions. The cost of testing a virtual model is highly lower than executing it in real conditions. Model facilitates simulation and compressing the time. The operations of several years can be simulated in a few seconds. Model execution through affecting variables is easier than real execution of the system. Therefore, one can easily conduct different tests by using this.
model. Today environment of organization is accompanied with a remarkable uncertainty. The model makes it possible for managers to test uncertainty through questions like “what happens if…” and they can be informed of the results and risks.

Explaining proposed model
This model consists of three rooms (status, think and future study) controlled and run by ad hoc committees. These committees are supervised by prevention management. Prevention management is assigned by the top authority of the agency. All reports and analyses are delivered to managers and policymakers for a proper policymaking and policymakers can modify their units by considering fundamental approaches.

Below, we explain main keywords as well as the functions of different segments after representation the proposed model.

Status room
Status room can be defined as a place which provides us with precise statistics on past and present situation of the organization. This part of the model is highly important and crimes and offences should be registered and recorded carefully and special software should be devised by using state-of-the-art technologies which can submit necessary reports in addition to recoding different items. These items include the tile of committed crime or offence, criminals or suspects, date, month and year of crime or offence incidence, age, gender, claimant or reporter, employment (official, contractual, daily worker, …), the location of crime/offence, date of employment, job records, criminal records in order to acquire a scientific pathology through an analysis and the factors of crime incidence which can be categorized in two internal and external factors. Noteworthy, through such pathology, one can found the targets exposed by such factors.

Committees or intellectual arms of prevention
Due to broadness of the tasks of public ministries and departments, different crimes and offences are proposed in present model to be investigated specifically and scientifically in relevant committees.

Committees are divided into four groups: political and security; financial and economic; structural – managerial; and ethical and cultural. Proportionate to crimes and offences, the findings are submitted to committees by the heads of three abovementioned rooms (think, status and future study) and then they are provided to administrative hierarchy in a fully specialized manner.

As mentioned, prevention management is responsible to coordinate committees for their administrative affairs, supports, monitoring on their performance and their heads. Noteworthy, due to geographical broadness of public organizations, status room is met even in the lowest levels of public organizations (i.e. in towns) under the supervision of secretariat represented by prevention management while think and future study rooms are only met in the capital of each province. The statistics of status room is submitted to committees monthly along with a copy to the heads of think and future study rooms.
Main approaches in this model are on dividing practices, facilities and resources before, during and after crime incidence. It means that 70% of practices, facilities and resources are spent in crime prevention, 20% during crime incidence and 10% after it so that noncriminal prevention should be dominated over criminal one. If crime is considered as a crisis from zero to 100, 70% is belonged to before crime incidence, 20% is on crisis management and 10% is belonged to post crime incidence. Regrettfully, during crisis and before crisis management is replaced (Mahmoudi, 2009: p. 60).

Reforming and renovating top managers’ opinions should be in all levels and segments such structure and formation, manpower, process, work methods, laws/regulations and technological development which would result in constant modification and renovation, building a healthy administrative system, crime reduction, increasing administrative health, reducing administrative corruptions and building a proper servicing ambience. Committees are obliged to get feedbacks on such policies and decision and report to higher hierarchies.

Think rooms
One of the serious damages in managerial area is decision makers’ involvement in current or administrative affairs. By participating in numerous meetings and responding to correspondences and daily affairs, they do not have enough time to think and, in the best conditions, there is no guarantee for success through their single decisions. Therefore, the necessity to pass such challenge is to build a think room as foundation to generate new thoughts and ideas. One of justifying definitions is that if managers ran organizations only by relying upon their knowledge and limited advisors, today they can reduce their performance mistakes to the minimum level in addition to identifying SWOTs by using a collective thinking. In such space, participants acquire plausible innovation, creativity and concurrence since power relations play no role in such ambience. Although think room or think forum is new in the practices of our country, it has a long history in our traditions. The witness for such claim is this narration: “one hour thinking is better than one year of praying” (Majlesi, Baharolanvar, vol. 6, p. 133).

Undoubtedly, holism, enrichment, innovation, quality, velocity and productivity all owe to thoughts shaped in think rooms. It is a necessary tool for problem solving and creativity development in any organization. It is a location to think about a problem with the factors which prevent free thinking. In advanced countries, it is experienced for several years and it is maybe one of the main pillars of their advancement and development. Although their prescriptions involve macro areas of organizations, it cannot act as a barrier to deprive smaller units. It is a terminal to enter opinions. In other words, it is an entry point for thoughts and decision making system in different educational, research, cultural and administrative fields and brainstorming.

The necessity of building a think room is meaningful in three aspects. Think room is necessary due to lack of managerial depth and lack of educational, research and administrative plans. Due to some reasons, it pursues a general position to change to an agreed position. It happens when rational – social basis is increased in rational think and practice. Managers and designers are all involved in intellectual imitation and there is no room for creativity in their minds. Think room criticizes status quo and looks for a way of thinking. Thus, the most fundamental concern of think room is to create the motivation of thinking and intellectual building for educational, research and decision making entities. Its necessity is found in below items:

- Intellectual building base
- Renovating and amending the thoughts
- Data bank and receiving the thoughts

Formation of think room and their modus operandi
By building ad hoc committees and weekly meetings, think rooms emphasize that it is impossible to achieve predetermined goals. By prioritizing organizational plans in crime prevention, think room studies organizational problems, receives the information of elites through their interactions and reserve such information in data bank. Such data bank allows think tank to confront realities openly and build thoughts through this reservation. The existence of relationship between organizations and universities and utilizing academic applied researches in crime prevent are, inter alia, the necessities of think room establishment. Finally, personal and organizational needs and requirements are determined in these think rooms and by using acquired statistics in think room. Aims and preventive guidelines are determined and submitted to relevant committees.

Future study room
The first future study was conducted by a group of researchers headed by William F. Ogburn between 1930 through 1933 through a scientific probe. It was conducted based on sociology as a new science in the United States. For the first time, the group conducted a study on US social trends by using scientific methodologies such as extrapolation. By publishing the first catalogue on the trends in the United States, the group could provide important predictions including the increase in migration and divorce rates. Immediately after World War II and followed by analyses on utilized technologies in German and Japan. modern techniques for future study were shaped and. As a result, important technological achievement in 1950s and 1960s included radars, intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and air transportation were forecasted earlier (Richard, 2012, p. 42).

Changes are so rapidly that one cannot accompany them with traditional methods. “You’ll be crushed under huge wheels of changes if you do not accompany them.” Is there any location to be aware of future? Obviously, there is no certainty on future and this is a preliminary principle of futurology. There is another principle by which human can impact on his/her fate. In this vein, a kind of knowledge is generated which tries to control changes and to prepare the society for such changes by forecasting affecting factors on future changes. Future study is beyond forecasting and it is does not claim any forecast. Future study is the art of shaping the future as we like. Those who possess such knowledge would shape the future as they which. One can observe countries and societies that were not able to adapt transformations and, as a result, scattered. They did not
recognize the nature of change rightly. In such terms, futurology is the recognize changes. Recognizing the future is, inter alia, the most vital needed knowledge for all human. Since in prevention, one of the most important factors is to forecast, it is also highly important to pay attention future study in this field. In present model, the authorities of future study should study transformation in organizational status quo, to monitor organizational changes and to provide committees with their documented recommendations.

**Conclusions**

In the case that this mode is executed in public entities:

1. Existing segments in public structures can get close to crime prevention goals.
2. Subjective and real climates in public structures will become consistent.
3. The glance and approach by macro policymakers on other segments in public structures at lower level (provinces and cities) will be adapted.
4. Policymaking on crime prevention will be enjoyed a scientific and theoretical backup in public structures and personal approaches will be reduced.
5. Prevention will be respected by authorities independently as a fundamental and radical issue.
6. One can measure the outcome of initiatives in prevention.
7. There will be no up and down in changing those managers and authorities who are responsible for crime and offence prevention in public structures.
8. It seems that retributive treatments are highlighted and dominated on policymakers which will find its proper status by implementing a noncriminal approach.
9. In different parts of public sector, dispersed actions will be replaced by integration in crime prevention practices.

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