
Introduction to a Special Issue on the YouPrev Project: Expanding Self-reports to Include Adolescents' Views on Prevention of Youth Deviance

Internationally, self-report studies represent a key tool in research on delinquency among adolescents (see e.g. Enzmann et al., 2010; Junger-Tas, Marshall, & Ribeaud, 2003; Junger-Tas et al., 2010). The papers in this volume are connected by their common origin in a European study on youth crime and its prevention.¹ While this study stands in the tradition of self-reported delinquency studies, it goes beyond student survey data on rule-breaking and victimization regarding topics covered as well as methods employed. Being able to make use of the freshly developed ISRD-3 instrument, it supplemented self-reports on delinquency and victimization with questions on students' experiences with and views on preventive actors and approaches. Under the acronym *YouPrev*, the study also included qualitative approaches, such as interviews with experts and practitioners from a multitude of fields relevant for youth crime and its prevention. The consortium comprised partners from Western Europe (Belgium, Germany), Southern Europe (Portugal, Spain) and from Central and Eastern Europe (Hungary, Slovenia).

The paper by Ann Evenepoel and Jenneke Christiaens is titled: "*Giving voice to 'youth of today': Young people's views and perspectives on youth crime and its prevention in Belgium*". The authors point to the fact that the respondents reached in the Belgian school-based survey have relatively limited experience both with crime and with its prevention. While this may suggest a closer research focus on groups of juveniles with a higher involvement in delinquency, it also raises questions with regard to the appropriateness of approaching low-level delinquency youth with activities running under the heading of "crime prevention".

Based on a survey among more than 2000 German youngsters, Anabel Taefi, Thomas Görgen and Benjamin Kraus draw a picture of widespread, although mostly not very severe, involvement in delinquency and deviant behaviour. In their paper "*Adolescents as delinquent actors and as targets of preventive measures*",

1 The research reported in this issue was funded by a European Commission grant (grant number: JUST/2009/DAP3/AG/1360 – 30-CE-0389559/00-57). It was conducted under the title "*YouPrev: Youth deviance and youth violence: A European multi-agency perspective on best practices in prevention and control*". The study was funded from the European Commission's DAPHNE III programme ("to prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk").

they show connections between involvement by young people in delinquency and the way in which prevention is perceived. While both delinquent and non-delinquent adolescents ascribe more preventive potential to parents and peers than to formal agents of social control, skeptical attitudes towards potential preventive impact increase with involvement in delinquency; the authors also point at possible unintended effects of prevention measures on highly delinquent youths.

Reporting on the basis of the Hungarian *YouPrev* study, Fruzsina Albert and Olga Tóth in *"Youth drug and crime prevention practices in Hungary as reflected in the opinions of students and professionals"*, compare the perspectives of those who conceptualize preventive approaches and put them into action and of those who are targeted by them. They show that while prevention of substance abuse is broadly implemented in Hungary, the prevalence of intoxication, especially with alcohol, is high among young people. While professionals consider teachers as important and potentially influential actors in substance abuse prevention, youngsters' views on this are much more reluctant.

In their paper *"Self-control and morality in Slovenian primary and secondary school sample: The results of YouPrev study"*, Eva Bertok and Gorazd Meško use the data from the Slovenian school survey to test the concept of crime propensity as suggested by Situational Action Theory (see e.g. Wikström, 2009; Wikström & Svensson, 2010; Wikström & Treiber, 2009). Measuring crime propensity as a variable composed of low self-control and weak moral values, they found that it explains a substantial amount of self-reported delinquency.

While most of the research from the *YouPrev* project presented in this issue has its main focus on quantitative data from school surveys, María José Bernuz Beneitez and Daniel Jiménez Franco in *"Juvenile violence prevention: The gap between ideals and practices"* draw mostly upon expert interviews and group discussions. The authors point to conceptual limitations to prevention and intervention in the Spanish context and discuss the impact of the economic crisis on current and future perspectives.

Writing from the perspective of another Southern European country hit hard by the current economic crisis, Ana Cardoso, Heloísa Perista, Paula Carrilho and Mário Jorge Silva in *"Juvenile delinquency, school failure and dropout in Portugal: Drafting a picture in different voices"* display and discuss connections between high level involvement in violent offending and the circumstances in which the most delinquent adolescents live their daily life. They point to the key role of the school and the importance of measures addressing school dropout and school failure.

In *"Prevention of juvenile crime and deviance: Adolescents' and experts' views in an international perspective"*, combining data from different countries, Thomas Görgen, Ann Evenepoel, Benjamin Kraus and Anabel Taefi put a special focus on findings on prevention. Across countries, students have more often been targeted by drug abuse prevention measures than by approaches addressing violence. Internationally, they regard peers and parents as more influential in prevention than professional agents such as teachers, social workers, or police. Experts point to the significance of socioeconomic factors and of social policies.

The focus both on delinquency and on its prevention constitutes a key characteristic and a distinct feature of the *YouPrev* study. While young people's

views on prevention cannot be regarded as matter-of-fact knowledge but should be considered as lay theories (Furnham, 1988), they are instructive both regarding involvement in delinquency and young persons' accessibility for prevention measures.

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Guest Editors

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Uvod v tematsko številko revije o projektu YouPrev: Uporaba samonaznanitve adolescentov za razširjanje znanja o preprečevanju odklonskosti mladih

V mednarodnem okolju so samonaznanitvene študije glavno orodje pri raziskovanju mladoletniškega prestopništva (glej Enzmann et al., 2010; Junger-Tas, Marshall in Ribeaud, 2003; Junger-Tas et al., 2010). Prispevki v tej tematski številki revije Varstvoslovje so pripravljeni na osnovi evropskega projekta *YouPrev* o mladoletniškem prestopništvu in njegovem preprečevanju.¹ Raziskava v okviru projekta je temeljila na tradiciji samonaznanitvenih študij prestopništva, vendar je z uporabo novorazvitega instrumenta ISRD-3 vsebinsko in metodološko presešla okvire zbiranja podatkov o kršenju pravil in viktimizaciji mladih. Vprašalnik ISRD-3 poleg vprašanj o samonaznanitvi delinkventnosti in viktimizacije mladih vključuje tudi vprašanja o njihovih izkušnjah in pogledih na preventivne ukrepe in pristope. V raziskavi *YouPrev* so bili med drugim uporabljeni tudi kvalitativni pristopi, kot so intervjuji s strokovnjaki in praktiki, ki se ukvarjajo z mladoletniško kriminaliteto in njenim preprečevanjem. V raziskavi *YouPrev* so sodelovali partnerji iz zahodne Evrope (Belgija, Nemčija), južne Evrope (Portugalska, Španija) ter srednje in vzhodne Evrope (Slovenija, Madžarska).

Ann Evenepoel in Jenneke Christiaens v svojem prispevku "*Prisluhni glas 'današnje mladine': pogledi in mnenja mladih na kriminaliteto mladih in njeno preprečevanje v Belgiji*" ugotavljata, da imajo izpraševanci v belgijski raziskavi relativno malo izkušenj s kriminaliteto in njenim preprečevanjem. Ta ugotovitev odpira možnosti ponovne raziskave, ki bi zajela mladostnike z več izkušnjami z delinkventnimi dejanji. Hkrati pa odpira vprašanje o primernosti vključevanja mladih z malo delinkventnimi izkušnjami v preventivne programe preprečevanja kriminalitete.

Anabel Taefi, Thomas Görgen in Benjamin Kraus predstavljajo izsledke raziskave, ki je zajela več kot 2.000 nemških mladostnikov, ter ugotavljajo, da sta delinkventnost in deviantno vedenje med njimi precej razširjena, vendar večinoma

1 Izvedbo projekta z naslovom "*YouPrev: Youth deviance and youth violence: A European multi-agency perspective on best practices in prevention and control*" je financirala Evropska komisija v okviru programa DAPHNE III (številka projekta: JUST/2009/DAP3/AG/1360 – 30-CE-0389559/00-57).

v blažjih oblikah. V svojem prispevku z naslovom *“Mladostniki kot prestopniki in kot ciljne skupine preventivnih ukrepov”* predstavljajo povezavo med vpletenostjo mladih v delinkventna dejanja in načinom izvajanja preventivnih ukrepov. Mladostniki pripisujejo večji pomen preventivnim dejanjem staršev in vrstnikov kot tistim, ki jih izvajajo formalni družbeni nadzorovalci. Vendar skeptičnost do vpliva preventivnih ukrepov raste z bolj pogosto vpletenostjo mladostnikov v delinkventna dejanja. Avtorji opozarjajo tudi na morebitne nepredvidene vplive preventivnih ukrepov na zelo delinkventne mladostnike.

Fruzsina Albert in Olga Tóth v prispevku z naslovom *“Pristopi preprečevanja kriminalitete in zlorabe drog na Madžarskem skozi pogled dijakov in strokovnjakov”* predstavljata izsledke madžarske raziskave, pri čemer primerjata stališča tistih, ki pripravljajo in izvajajo preventivne ukrepe, in tistih, ki so ciljna skupina le teh. Kljub razširjenosti preventivnih ukrepov v zvezi z uživanjem različnih substanc, je razširjenost zastrupitev (predvsem z alkoholom) na Madžarskem med mladimi zelo pogosta. Medtem ko strokovnjaki med najpomembnejše dejavnike preprečevanja uživanja različnih substanc uvrščajo učitelje, je pogled mladostnikov ravno nasproten.

V prispevku *“Samonadzor in moralnost mladih v slovenskem osnovnošolskem in srednješolskem vzorcu: ugotovitve raziskave YouPrev”* Eva Bertok in Gorazd Meško na podlagi podatkov slovenske raziskave preverita zanesljivosti enega najbolj ključnih konceptov situacijskoakcijske teorije, in sicer koncepta nagnjenosti h kriminaliteti (glej Wikström, 2009; Wikström in Svensson, 2010; Wikström in Treiber, 2009). Pri merjenju nagnjenosti h kriminaliteti, ki jo sestavljata šibek samonadzor in šibke moralne vrednote, sta avtorja ugotovila, da le-ta pojasni znatno količino samonaznanjenih prestopniških dejanj.

María José Bernuz Beneitez in Daniel Jiménez Franco sta za pripravo svojega prispevka *“Preprečevanje mladoletniškega nasilja: razkorak med ideali in praksami”*, v nasprotju z večino ostalih v tej številki predstavljenih raziskav v okviru projekta *YouPrev*, ki so temeljile na kvantitativnih podatkih, uporabila predvsem intervjuje s strokovnjaki ter skupinske razprave. Avtorja izpostavita konceptualne omejitve pri prevenciji in intervenciji v španskem okolju ter razpravljata o trenutnih in bodočih možnostih le-tega glede na vplive ekonomske krize.

Ana Cardoso, Heloísa Perista, Paula Carrilho in Mário Jorge Silva v prispevku *“Mladoletniško prestopništvo, neuspeh v šoli in opustitev šolanja na Portugalskem: skiciranje slike iz različnih mnenj”*, z vidika še ene južnoevropske države v ekonomski krizi, predstavljajo in razpravljajo o povezavi med visoko stopnjo nasilja in okoliščinami v vsakdanjem življenju večine mladoletnih prestopnikov. Pri tem poudarjajo ključno vlogo šole in pomen ukrepov za zmanjšanje opuščanja šolanja ter šolskega neuspeha.

V prispevku *“Preprečevanje mladoletniške kriminalitete in deviantnosti: pogledi mladostnikov in strokovnjakov z mednarodne perspektive”* Thomas Görgen, Ann Evenepoel, Benjamin Kraus in Anabel Taefi združijo podatke različnih držav in se osredotočijo na ugotovitve, povezane s preventivnimi ukrepi. Učenci in dijaki so v različnih državah pogostejše deležni preventivnih ukrepov v zvezi z zlorabo drog kot pa tistih v zvezi s preprečevanjem nasilja. V mednarodnem okviru imajo vrstniki

in starši večji preventivni vpliv kot učitelji, socialni delavci in policisti. Poudariti pa je treba velik pomen socialnoekonomskih faktorjev in socialne politike.

Glavna značilnost projekta *YouPrev* je osredotočenost na prestopništvo in njegovo preprečevanje. Medtem ko poglede mladih na preventivne ukrepe ni mogoče šteti za na dejstvih temelječe znanje, temveč jih je treba obravnavati kot poglede laikov (Furnham, 1988), so vseeno poučni, tako glede udeležbe mladih pri prestopništvu kot tudi glede njihove dovzetnosti za preventivne ukrepe.

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Gostujoča urednika

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