

## Abstract

Research objective: Social maladjustment is a complex and multifactorial phenomenon. In the prevention of the risk of social maladjustment and in diagnostic, educational and social rehabilitation work, there is a need to describe development paths or patterns of behavior of young people experiencing difficulties in basic fields of functioning, which would allow to understand its specificity and develop appropriate countermeasures. Relationships between factors affecting maladjustment may be the basis for understanding the mechanisms responsible for a specific picture of the individual's malfunctioning. The aim of this study was to identify the profiles of personality and socio-moral development among socially maladjusted youth and to assess the risk of antisocial behavior and experiencing violence in people classified into each of the identified profiles. In addition, the factors influencing the emergence of emotional or behavioral problems in adolescents in institutional care were analyzed, along with the regulatory role of the guilt mechanism and techniques of its neutralization. The analysis of the risk of anti-social behavior or the experience of violence was based on selected socio-demographic data and belonging to a specific profile. Method: The study included a group of adolescents (N=584) residing in educational and social rehabilitation centers and in youth psychiatric wards. The Personal Development Questionnaire (KOM), the Guilt Questionnaire (PW), the Neutralization Techniques Questionnaire (TN) and the analysis of socio-demographic data, the intensity of anti-social behavior and the experience of violence were used. Results: The analysis of the data obtained in the study allowed for the identification of four separate profiles of the functioning of young people in institutional care. In addition, the risk of maladjustment and experiencing violence was identified. As a result of the study, the potential use of a specific set of variables in prevention, diagnostics and educational, social rehabilitation and therapeutic work was indicated. Key words: social maladjustment, personality development, guilt, neutralization techniques, risk factors