

is highly likely to be) bodily injury, death, psychological trauma, developmental disabilities or all kinds of adverse effects.

Over the last few years, serious steps have been taken to combat violence. In particular: improvement of national legislation, adoption of national programs and strategies, conduction of large-scale studies on the situation of violence, different models of violence prevention and response to cases, methodological manuals, information materials, training of pedagogical staff have been developed and implemented in educational institutions.

*Language adviser H. S. Babak*

UDC 343.9:343.226

**ANASTASIIA VASYLIVNA SHCHOKALO**  
*Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs*

### **CHILD ABUSE AS A GLOBAL PROBLEM**

Violence against children is one of the biggest problems affecting families and societies all around the world; too often it happens in the family.

Violence against children has many faces and forms: physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, emotional abuse, and more.

Violence statistics in the world is awful: according to The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children every five minutes a child dies from violence; according to WHO one billion children – over half of all children aged 2 to 17 have experienced emotional, physical and/or sexual violence; UNICEF says that one in 10 girls – 120 million – under the age of 20 has been subjected to forced sexual acts and nearly one in 10 children – 250 mln worldwide – lives in a country affected by conflict.

Child abuse has multiple causes. Parents who physically abuse their spouses are more likely than others abuse their children. Most acts of physical violence against children are undertaken with the intent to punish.

In the USA interviews with parents reveal that two thirds of documented instances of physical abuse begin as acts of corporal punishment to correct child's behaviour.

Canadian study says that three quarters of substantiated cases of physical abuse of children have occurred within the context of physical punishment.

Factors involved in the escalation of ordinary physical punishment by parents into child abuse may be parent's inability to control their anger or judge their own strength, and the parent being unaware of the child's physical vulnerabilities.

Preventing child abuse begins in the family by parents' trying to understand children, keeping children healthy, getting help with alcohol or drug problems (if any), watching words when communicating, getting control of themselves before disciplining a child, taking a time-out, making their home a violence-free zone, etc.

*Language adviser L. I. Rusanova*

UDC 343.614

**MAKSYM MYKOLAIOVYCH SHESHENIA**  
*Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs, Sumy Branch*

### **THE ROLE OF U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN PREVENTING SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE**

Self-directed violence (SDV) is an action directed at oneself that intentionally results in injury or the potential injury. SDV includes suicide and suicide attempt. According to the latest data of the WHO about 50,000 people aged 15-64 years committed suicide in 2019 in the U.S. For every one suicide, there are 30 attempts. Suicides and suicide attempts cost the U.S. almost \$70 billion annually in lifetime medical and work-loss costs alone. The role of law enforcement officers is to prevent SDV among the people they serve. A person, who is attempting suicide especially with a gun or other lethal weapon, could provoke a call to 911. The first responsibility of the officers in this case is to ensure that a person and the officers themselves are not in imminent danger in order to avoid "police-assisted suicide". All officers have special training in de-escalating such situations. Police departments also have some officers trained in negotiation. There is a big possibility of suicide during the arrest as far as the offenders have greater risk factors for suicide attempts (e.g. alcohol or drug abuse, behavioral disorders). Individuals thought to be at severe risk factors of any type of SDV should be closely monitored. Objects they can use to hurt themselves should be removed. If a situation occurs in which a person has died by suicide, the police officer must demonstrate patience and delicacy communicating with the victim's family and friends. Police officer should stay with them until the emotional situation appears stabilized in order to avoid negative consequences.

*Language adviser O. V. Shkurat*