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PSYCHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF ORGANIZING AND CONDUCTING FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

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Annotation. This article will focus on the specifics of the organization and conduct of forensic psychological examination.

Key words: psychological examination, forensic psychological examination, expert assessments, expert opinions, selection of experts.

Psychological knowledge is knowledge in the field of psychology, whereas in this situation, specialized knowledge in the field of science is being considered. Professional knowledge of psychological methodology and theory, practical skills, and the ability to conduct psychological research can only be possessed by a psychologist with a higher education in psychology and working in their field of specialization. However, psychology as a science encompasses a large number of narrow specialties, and in this situation, a natural question arises: can someone without specialized training in forensic psychology and experience in expert work provide a psychological expert opinion?

For those ordering the expert examination, this circumstance is extremely important, as regulatory documents regarding the conduct of expert examinations do not clearly define competence standards. In modern science and legal practice, a clear definition of this issue has emerged as follows. Human mental activity reflects objective existence. However, for several reasons (age, health), this process may be accompanied by various deviations. It is important to understand the extent and nature of such deviations in order to understand reality. Because the testimony of individuals with such disabilities is used as evidence in criminal proceedings, it is necessary to critically evaluate the testimony and determine its credibility.

The current state of development of psychological science demonstrates the vast potential of forensic psychological examination. Of course, this does not mean that the possibilities are limitless. Many unsolved problems remain. For example, it is impossible to say that it is possible to determine the exact psychological cause, but determining the hierarchy and content of the main causal pathways of personality is a real-world case. It should be noted that, for the needs of legal practice, its application has been primarily used to develop methods for establishing the credibility of testimony of participants in criminal proceedings. Based on the subject's free narrative and answers to questions posed by the expert, a conclusion is drawn about the presence (or absence) of signs of deception, objectively determined by a particular personality type.

It is assumed that a cold-blooded, sullen subject is ready to tell a premeditated lie. Therefore, the instructions they give are of no value. A person's statements that contain an unfulfilled set of desires may also not be recognized as fully valid, but for different reasons: the subject fulfills their desires in an interesting way to gain a position in the eyes of others. This type of examination is considered effective with juvenile witnesses. In this regard, it is worth noting that at that time, reliable, scientifically validated methods for personality assessment had not been developed, making it impossible to objectively resolve the expert's task. Psychological examinations were empowered to identify legal circumstances, not only to verify the credibility of testimony, but also to prove it, verifying its authenticity as a means of establishing the guilt of the person who committed the offense.

Despite the lack of grounds for this, some uncertainty remains. On the contrary, in the context of the growing demands of improving legal practice in legal proceedings, it is appropriate not to adequately assess the capabilities of modern psychological science.

An examination is advisable in the following cases: when an objective opinion from a specialist disinterested in the decision or action is needed; in a conflict situation in management, the exercise of authority, or in the presence of a dispute on the same issue, when the opinion of a disinterested specialist is needed; when it is necessary to resolve problems arising in various fields of science and technology; when the scope of the problem extends beyond the boundaries of existing knowledge; when a law or regulation prescribes it.

The issue of conducting a forensic psychological examination received legal recognition after the adoption of the Criminal Procedure Code and other codes. As a rule, when specialized knowledge in science, technology, art, and craft is required, an expert possessing this knowledge can be engaged, and a psychologist and a forensic psychological examination are simultaneously appointed. Psychological knowledge, being specialized, is objectively based on scientific data on the patterns of functioning and development of the psyche, and can be applied to ensure legislation, protect personal rights and property relations of citizens, among other purposes. A forensic psychological examination is a study conducted by an expert using specialized knowledge in psychology to obtain an opinion on circumstances essential for the proper resolution of a case. Thus, an examination is a study conducted by a psychologist authorized to provide an opinion in the prescribed form, either at the request of an investigator or based on materials presented by the court that are relevant to the case, with the goal of identifying information of particular significance. The study is conducted based on specialized knowledge in the field of psychology.

A forensic psychologist is a person or body possessing specific knowledge in the field of psychology sufficient to provide an opinion. The law accords the expert opinion the force of evidence, based on which the presence or absence of certain evidence can be established.

The preparation, assignment, and conduct of a forensic psychological examination are carried out in accordance with special legal regulations, which, along with defining the examination process, define the rights and obligations of the participants in the process. Finally, an expert opinion is issued, obtained by evaluating the results of the psychological examination.

Thus, the use of specialized psychological knowledge and summing up are two interrelated factors that distinguish examination from other methods of determining factual data.

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