

Romas and Aliens

– English summary –

The study of the author, as historian and criminologist, placed in the first part of this book, introduces destiny of the Romas in Middle-Europe, circumstantially handles their historical, sociological and criminological character, their debarred situation. He presents the Hungarian Romas' historical path, social position, present, political and integration efforts based on constitutionally guaranteed self-government, as well as the integration-hindering factors and prejudices related to them. He critically analyses some of the extreme and harmful phenomena as of the major society, as the Roma lobby politics and points to the necessity of continuous, objective communication. In the criminology chapters, he states that the disadvantageous minorities suggest several questions to the criminology and critical science as well. In the case of the Romas, beside the problematic of the crime offenders, the questions of becoming victim, crime prevention and the deficiency of political correctness also are to be handled.

The book's largest chapter presents the results of an empirical research, based on the author's generations-comparative investigations. He sorts the scanned imprisoned population into three ethnic groups, the Hungarians, the Romas and the assimilants. He states, that the imprisoned Romas and the Roma identity abnegating assimilants belong to the Roma stratum, which went through the uttermost modernisation change, showed vehement geographic mobility and momentarily bettered its substantial position in the last decades. Latter groups are running through a powerful lifestyle- and environmental changes yet today, which changes began in their parents' generation. Considering the childhood's familiar and environmental microstructures and the manpower-market situation, there is a receding pointer from the Hungarian group towards the Roma group. The indicators of the assimilants are slightly poorer than the Hungarians, the Romas follow them with a bigger lag. The Roma offenders' educational level is far fail to its other social indicators and to the two other ethnic groups' - otherwise low - standards, too. The income-producing capability of these families is however much bigger, than that the educational levels would justify. The legal and illegal employment, the social allotments have significant role among their sources. A remarkable number of the assimilants and Romas consider the property crime as an important source of incomes and live with it purposefully. The health condition of the prisoners is poor in general: it falls off going from the Hungarians toward the Romas. The assimilants and Romas are oppressed by serious psychic burdens, they are susceptible to extremely solve the conflicts and sorely suffer from the social adoption related stresses.

In the case of the people of Roma origin, the offender career often begins in childhood, the criminal surrounding, government nursing and juvenile penitentiary stones the road, on which end they become professional criminals. The gang crime is typical, still one can not talk about real organised crime, but there is the risk, that Roma offender groups would become the employees of it. The significant percentage of the Roma originating prisoners are recidivists, they rate 80% - double of the value found in the Hungarian groups. Their criminal career is signed by heavier actions, as of the Hungarians. An increased aggressiveness manifests in any field of their crime activity. During the detention under remand, the Roma originating offenders are remarkably more often discriminated, injured, than Hungarians are. The violent,

under-pressure interrogatories, hindrances of contacts with the lawyer are frequent. The barristers appointed by the court treat the clients and their case negligently. On the other side, the juridical work and the penitentiary institutes do not show predilections. The convicts hardly wait the moment of release, but their visions of the future are unreal. The ethnical identity of the Romas is characterised by immense inner strain, they hate themselves and feel scorn for their own ethnic. They have vehement desire of integration, however on the other side, a reclusion against the major society labour in them. One must count upon that - because of the difficulties of the Romas' integration and modernisation - the Roma offenders will stay over-represented in crime for a long time.

The last chapter of the book elaborates the matters of the Hungarian immigration, most especially the illegal immigration and refugee-questions. After the review of historical relations, the author circumstantially treats the 90's decade legal regulations, the integration opportunities of immigrants and refugees based on a voluminous statistical material. The final sections of the study touch the deficiencies, critiques and the recent refugee-related law dispositions.