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# SOME ISSUES OF POPULATION VICTIMIZATION

The protection of the rights and legitimate interests of victims of criminal offenses and victims of crimes is considered as one of the priority areas for observing law and order in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Part 2 of Article 13 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan states: "Everyone has the right to judicial protection of his rights and freedoms." In this regard, the relevance of ensuring the rights of a person who has received moral, material or physical harm from a crime is very high. As stated in Part 3 of Article 12 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Kazakhstan, "The State provides everyone with access to justice and compensation for damage caused in cases and procedure established by law." In this regard, it is known that victimology develops scientific provisions and practical recommendations for the protection of the rights and interests of victims of crimes.

To develop scientific provisions and practical recommendations, it is necessary to study the state of crime, the amount of harm caused to crime, or the level of victimization of the population to determine the assessment of crime. In this aspect, it is very important to develop measures to organize victimological prevention, identify shortcomings in prevention measures, and increase the effectiveness of preventive measures.

Key words: victimization; criminalization; crime, latency, victim, injured, criminological case.

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#### Халықтың виктимизациялануының кейбір сұрақтары

Қазақстан Республикасында заңдылық пен құқықтық тәртіпті сақтаудың басым бағыттарының бірі ретінде қылмыстық құқық бұзушылықтардан жапа шеккендердің немесе қылмыс құрбандарының құқықтары мен заңды мүдделерін қорғау қарастырылады. Қазақстан Республикасының Конституциясының 13 бабының 2 бөлігінде: «Әркімнің өз құқықтары мен бостандықтарының сот арқылы қорғалуына құқығы бар», – деп көрсетілген. Осы тұрғыдан алып қарағанда, қылмыстың жәбірленушісінің, яғни қылмыстан моральдық, материалдық немесе физикалық зиян шеккен тұлғаның құқықтарын қамтамасыз етудің өзектілігі жоғары. ҚР ҚПК 12 бабының 3 бөлігінде: «Мемлекет заңда белгіленген жағдайларда және тәртіппен әркімнің сот төрелігіне қол жеткізуін және оған келтірілген залалдың өтелуін қамтамасыз етеді», – деп көрсетілген. Осыған байланысты, қылмыс құрбандарының құқықтары мен мүдделерін қорғауға байланысты ғылыми ережелер мен тәжірибелік ұсыныстарды виктимология әзірлейтіні баршамызға мәлім.

Ғылыми ережелер мен тәжірибелік ұсыныстарды әзірлеу үшін қылмыстылықтың жай-күйін, қылмыстылықпен келтірілген зиянның мөлшерін немесе қылмыстылықтың бағасын анықтау үшін халықтың виктимизациялану деңгейін зерделеу қажет. Осыған байланысты, виктимологиялық алдын алуды ұйымдастыру, алдын алу қызметіндегі кемшіліктерді айқындау, алдын алу шараларының тиімділігін арттыруға байланысты шараларды әзірлеу аса маңызды болып табылады.

**Түйін сөздер:** виктимизация, криминализация, қылмыстылық, латенттік, құрбан, жәбірленуші, криминологиялық жағдай.

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#### Некоторые вопросы виктимизации населения

В качестве одного из приоритетных направлений соблюдения законности и правопорядка в Республике Казахстан рассматривается защита прав и законных интересов пострадавших от уголовных правонарушений и жертв преступлений. В части 2 статьи 13 Конституции Республики Казахстан указано: «Каждый имеет право на судебную защиту своих прав и свобод». В этой связи очень высока актуальность обеспечения прав личности, получившей моральный, материальный или физический вред от преступления. Как гласит часть 3 статьи 12 УПК РК: «Государство обеспечивает каждому доступ к правосудию и компенсацию причиненного ущерба в случаях и порядке, установленных законом». В связи с этим, известно, что виктимология разрабатывает научные положения и практические рекомендации по защите прав и интересов жертв преступлений.

Для разработки научных положений и практических рекомендаций необходимо изучить состояние преступности, объем причиненного преступностью вреда или уровень виктимизации населения для определения оценки преступности. В данном аспекте очень важно разработать меры по организации виктимологической профилактики, выявлению недостатков в мерах профилактики, повышению эффективности профилактических мер.

Ключевые слова: виктимизация, криминализация, преступность, латентность, жертва, пострадавший, криминологический случай.

### Introduction

The effectiveness of victimological crime prevention in many respects depends on advanced scientific research of issues like the study of the process with the aid of reasons and conditions that contribute the crimes, as well as the study of the identity of the victim, the study of crime mechanism.

Victimogenic factors are the circumstances that create the victim of the crime and contribute to their victimization. Therefore, many researchers note an important role of the study of the victimization process and the factors that form victimity, which determine passing from "victimal potential" to "victimal determinism".

Victimization is a central victimological concept. It has a dual meaning. Firstly, it means the transformation process of a potential victim into real victim, and secondly, the final and cumulative result of damage caused in its different types (Rivman 1975:47).

Victimization – the process of transformation of potential victim in real one and final cumulative result of damage caused in its different types. It is not only the process of transformation of certain person into a victim of crime, but also of a certain community of people (Kuri 1993:47-54).

Said another way, the term "victimity" is linked with the high ability ("disposition") of a person to became a victim in a certain circumstances, and the terms "victimization" stands for determination of process of such transformation, the final and cumulative result of that process on a single and mass levels.

As the results of crimes committed in the specific place, victimology analyzes data on he types of crimes, on injured persons, on place and time, on crime method and other features of victimization process. In the large scale, such approach gives opportunity to calculate victimization coefficients and indices (damage from crime), that show quantitative and qualitative characteristics of the persons affected and factors that contribute to their victimization.

### Literature review

Victimological issues, generally, including the problems of protection of crime victims, have always caused interest and attracted the attention of domestic scientists in the field of criminal law and criminology, criminal process. It gave an opportunity to consider different applied aspects of victims' problems from this perspective accordingly, to build domestic doctrine of crime prevention, to form gradually approaches to solving problems that are linked to victims' problematic (latent crome, the problem of victim's guilt, crime prevention, punishment purposes, compensation of harm, etc.). In this context, it is hard to overestimate scientific researches publications and of S.B. Alimov, A.D. Boykov, P.S. Dagel, V.P. Konovalov, N.F. Kuznetsova, V.S. Minskaya, D.V.Rivman, V.Ya. Rybalskaya, S.P. Sherba, L.V.Frank, R.E. Djansarayeva, that contributed to the development of named problems.

## Methodology

The research methodology based on the harmonization of the requirements of general scientific and private scientific methodologies. The general scientific methodology considers onjective and subjective factors of social development, causeand-effect relations, their institutionalization and subordimation. Private scientific methods includes formal-legal, structural-systematic analysis, methods of comparative legal, logical, social analysis and synthesis.

# Main part

Victimization plays a role of integral part of crime that has its own specific parameters and qualitative features, with the help of which these categories are not coinciding. Victimization differs from crime in that it shows the complex of processe of becoming victims (Konovalov 1982: 22). The reasons of crime and victimity often come across. The scientists – representatives of different directions interpret them in various way.

Criminologists of biological direction try to explain the reasons of crime by the special genetic disposition of not only the criminal, but also the victim of his criminal actions, by biological nature of the relationships between affected person and offender.

Another direction considers the victim's behavior as one of the conditions that has impact on occurrence and implementation of criminal intent, which no way linked with genetic code. Of course, heredity has an effect on the characteristics of human nervous system, his temperament and other psychological features of the person, but substantial side of individual's actions cannot be inherited, it can form during the social life of society and environment where he lives, works and express himself as a social being. In addition, if specific people become victims of any type of crime more often than others do, this can be explained not by some biological disposition but by particular features of expression of their inherent properties and personal qualities in a certain situation of life.

In the last few years, together with criminalization, society has been victimized: people

in the society are socially badly protected from the offenders.

Revolutionary social changes that happened related to transition to a market economy caused a feeling of insecurity in most people.

Conditions of a market economy postpone the interests of civil society and crime victims to the last place, and ignore guarantees that ensure public interests, this situation significantly reduces the effectiveness of the fight against crime. Higher view of crime as a factor of social destabilization makes it possible to highlight what eventually unites all or almost all varieties of crime: these are the consequences of criminal infrigements in the form of crime victims. There are millions of crime victims, and taking into account the latency and low efficiency of the criminal justice bodies - there are hundreds of thousands who need protection and do not get it. The feeling of their own unprotectedness undermines citizens' confidence in state power, does not contribute to the use of public potential in the establishment of law and order.

In the face of the population poverty, an increase in unemployment, homelessness and other deprivation, poor protection of citizens from crime, corruption most of people does not trust law enforcement bodies and the state.

It stands to mention that the processes of selforganization of population part flows on an illegal, including criminal basis. There are increased number of facts of reprisals with criminals by the victims: either personally, or through acquaintances, close people, or even on the basis of paid services of an appropriate nature.

In the modern era, there are an avalanche-like increase in the conflict situation along with an increase in the instability of our statehood, which is generated by the economic crisis, by the inefficiency of the legislative mechanism regulating the fight against crime, by the unclarity of the political situation in the country. The crimes (victims) become the method of resolving such conflict situation. Increasingly, people use ways of resolving conflicts that are fully contrary to the law.

The escalation of criminal violence is connected with the weakening of the state control mechanism, single option elimination of the social control system (people's troops, prevention councils, law enforcement control stations, community courts, public control posts) and the active participation of public forces in the prevention of crimes.

There are some factors affecting the decision of the victim not to contact law enforcement bodies:

1) dissatisfaction of people with the response in law enforcement bodies to their statements and measures taken (or not taken) in connection with this;

2) reasons related to the nature of the incident itself (seriousness of the crime, lack of evidence, limited competence of the police);

3) the ability to solve the problem without the participation of law enforcement bodies (independently);

4) a negative attitude towards law enforcement bodies (they cannot do anything, they do not want to do anything). The police are often not interested in or are not able to meet the needs and expectations of the victim (most likely, the victim himself is not so protected from encroachment by organized crime). The ability to deal with the problem individually (with the help of family, friends and alternative organizations) becomes an alternative to official response measures.

In the result of the study, S.G. Voitenko concluded: "In recent years, there has been a sudden increase in cases of reprisals against persons who are called "family debauchers". Here we can talk about the formation of social phenomenon that was not observed before – the prevention of criminal behavior by criminal means within the framework of small social groups of the population: this is criminal self-regulation of the social body, an attempt to improve internal life, interpersonal communication with the help of criminal violence "(Voitenko 2009:41).

According to the results of the study, only 37% of the harmed persons reported to law enforcement bodies about the fact of crime. The rest part did not consider it necessary to inform law enforcement bodies about the criminal infirgements that had occurred under different excuses. They explained the motives for such act as follows: "we will figure it out" – 22%, "insignificant harm" – 19%, fear of revenge – 12%, other motives – 7%, uncertainty about the ability of law enforcement bodies to provide appropriate help.

To the question of the questionnaire: "How many chances out of 100 does a citizen have that his statement to the police about the theft will receive a legal move?" the most optimistic answer was given by 4%, an extremely pessimistic answer – 19% of those surveyed.

The problem of victim latency is inseparably connetced with the current procedural order for recognizing a person as a victim. The solution to this issue depends entirely on the discretion of the investigator. If he admits that there is no crime, then there are no victims either. We are in an mistery spot – until a person is recognized as a victim in the case, he cannot exercise his rights and, the first thing, present evidence that he became a victim. Until he will prove this, he will not be recognized as a victim.

If the criminal case is dismissed, for example, due to the lack of corpus delicti, the victim, basically, will not even receive those insignificant rights that he/she seems to have under the law, although the fact of the crime has been established. The simplest example is car theft: until the person who committed this antisocial act is found, the investigating boodies do not recognize the owner as a victim. A similar situation for other categories of crimes, when the guilty was not found. In short, there is a "de facto" victim, but he/she is not recognized as a victim in a criminal case. There are thousands of such cases.

In the conditions of a continuous increase in crime, it becomes obvious that in the republic, in particular, there is a process of victimization of the population, which is developing in connection with the criminalization of society. Victimization and criminalization are processes of social interaction.

The transition to a new system of public relations was quite difficult. In this respect, the destroying of the legal education system and legal education of the population also became harmful. Low awareness of the procedures and rules for making transactions and other business operations has caused a significant increase in the victimity of the population in relation to economic crimes and offenses, and a decrease in the level of protection of property of citizens.

One of the significant reasons for victimization is the conflict in the family and the increasing tension in the relationship between its members (as a result of the deterioration of the financial situation), which often takes aggravated and extremely ugly forms.

At all times the family has been and remains a center that radiates warmth and calmness. In modern conditions, when many moral values collapse and the main dangers to a person come from the "big world", he seeks protection and salvation in the "small world" of his immediate environment and, first of all, in the family.

Undoubtedly, children need care and attention the most. Unfortunately, children are currently one of the most socially vulnerable segments of the population. Many are practically not protected from the abuse of adults, from the harmful influence of the criminogenic environment, forced to live in families leading an immoral lifestyle. Meanwhile, increased victimity often develop in the family as a result of the negative effect of adults on their psyche, which ultimately leads to the victimization of children. There is a tendency of an increase in the number of disadvantaged families, victimized families, in which the aggressive nature of relationships is due to psychological incompatibility (Nadtoka, 1999:12). In such families, there is a gross disregard for the basic needs of the child, abuse – his obvious rejection, with insults, the non-manifestation of basic care for him. The child is constantly humiliated, beaten, not fed and even reproached with a piece of bread, thrown out of the house. Often, children are admitted to medical institutions with injuries sustained as a result of illegal actions of their parents. Escaping from abuse and violence, children and adolescents commit suicide, try to get rid of their offenders.

Thus, in adult crimes, the number of victims-relatives in murder cases is twice as low as in juvenile crimes.

Так, в преступлениях взрослых количество жертв-родственников по делам об убийстве в два раза ниже, чем в преступлениях несовершеннолетних.

In every fourth family, these persons (victims) systematically terrorized a minor and other loved ones, drunken and provoked a crime themselves.

These families established immorality, a cult of violence in interpersonal relationships as a way of communication. As a result, mutual disrespect, rudeness, cruelty, outright cynicism have become the norm of behavior and children. This phenomenon is largely due to the fact that many children come to this world unwanted. Their uselessness is often programmed even before the birth of everyday instability, illness and failure of parents, unsure of themselves and in their future, and therefore experiencing acute anxiety and anxiety.

"Unplanned" children are born to underage mothers, and in recent years it is not uncommon for young mothers.

There is a tendency for the growth of single-parent families: in the overwhelming number of cases, these are the families of single mothers, divorced women. In such families, the mother often broadcasts her problems, loneliness to the child, unknowingly avenges him for her broken fate.

"Random" children for life may remain unloved, rejected, discarded. The bitterness in children against parents persists for life, they themselves are extremely hardened, become cynical, rude, aggressive, emotionally deaf, do not reckon with the interests and feelings of other people.

Aggravation of the situation in the family is often the result of actions not only of the future criminal, but also of the behavior of the potential victim. Because the behavior of the potential victim is the most important part of certain prerequisites that is needed for arising and realizations of actions of criminal. The situation in families in which crimes were committed was characterized by periodic or intensely growing conflicts, fights, short or long-term breaks in family ties, adultery, joint drunkenness or drunkenness of one of the spouses. Increased victimity of a teenager very often is formed in the family as a result of the negative effect of adults on his psyche, which, ultimately, leads to the development of an anti-social personality in a minor.

In some cases victims become criminals. There is an increased risk of deviant forms of sexual behaviour in sexually abused children. Seduced adolescents later often committed sexual acts with younger children themselves (Tsentrov 1971:82). There is a link between the victim's role in the past and his further unlawful behaviour: criminal-victim, victim-criminal.

There are an opposite process too – victimization of the criminal, which can be shown schematically as follows: victimity – crime (ability to crime); crime – victimity; victimization – criminalization; criminalization – victimization.

One of the reasons for victimization is the alcoholization of the microsocial environment (in the spheres of life, leisure, actual marriage relations, the use of alcohol as payment for work or service performed, etc.), some groups of the population, especially young people. It has a sustained criminogenic influence on the dynamics and structure of crime, as well as on the dynamics of victimity.

Alcoholism in the system of factors can be attributed not only to crime in general, but also to victimity of victims. The study of crimes committed with particular cruelty showed that at least 36-40% of them were associated with alcohol intoxication of victims (Statistics for 2020-2022 of the Committee on Legal Statistics and Special Accounts of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan). Criminological studies of the dynamics of crime have uncovered tendencies in its rejuvenation depending on alcohol consumption. It was noted that a significant proportion of crimes are committed against victims who were intoxicated.

All this indicates that the formation of the victim can occur not only suddenly, due to occasion, but also be a special victimization process. For example, children with an initially subordinate position towards adults, including their own parents, form a victimized group. As a result of which abuse of them in principle is only part of a broader victimological problem. In addition to socio-ethnic factors, the moral and psychological atmosphere in society plays a significant role both criminologically and victimologically.

In recent years, a gap has been planned between the growth of the material state and the spiritual maturity of man. Today it is clearly visible: many difficulties of the transitional period are born of a lack of culture and morality in its broadest sense.

The behavior of the victim may not only be wrong, but also immoral. The immorality of the victim is also key to the problem of the causes of crime and to understanding the mechanism of criminal behavior.

In addition to the immoral behavior of the victim, the presence in the structure of his personality of a special combination of various negative personal properties can be a conflictogenic factor. On this occasion, G.I. Chechel writes: "If in its mass the behavior of people is due to social reasons and that it finds its explanation only in them, then in the behavior of each individual person, his personal unique, only inherent qualities and features, including psychophysical, play a significant role. In order to more fully understand the reasons and conditions that entailed certain actions, the situation in which they are committed, the form of behavior of this person, it is necessary to find out all the features that characterize him: age, gender, marital status, education, labor, level of culture, previous criminal records, moral and psychological, psychophysical features, etc. " (Chechel 1985:184).

It is not a secret that recently the share of illiterate among victims has been growing (as, indeed, among convicts). However, the level of education itself (after all, among the victims who created the victimological situation, there are many who had higher, incomplete higher or secondary special education), taken in isolation, without taking into account the level of general culture, cannot significantly affect the choice of one or another behavior option, since there is no direct dependence between it and the form of human behavior. Therefore, the process of education involves the worldview, moral formation of the person.

Many victims have such features as touchiness, bitterness, aggressiveness, indecency, leading a parasitic lifestyle, abuse of alcohol, i.e. the same negative personal characteristics that are characteristic of convicts. Some of the victims in certain circumstances could have committed the crime themselves or were completely to blame for the encroachment committed on them. The reason is the nature of the relationship between the victim and the criminal. The relationship between the future criminal and the future victim can be very different in nature: from good or indifferent, neutral to hostile, openly hostile.

It is noteworthy that a significant number of crimes are committed against neighbors. Moreover, often these are persons of advanced age, who are characterized by a reckless, grumpy character. Often they are the initiators of a conflict (usually about loud music, incorrect, from their point of view, the exploitation of common areas, etc.). Living in the same apartment, where there are no normal living conditions, contributes to the creation of conflict situations not only with neighbors, but also with close relatives (brothers, sisters, parents, mother-in-law, father-in-law). Most of these families are characterized by a lack of mutual tolerance and courtesy in personal contacts, the habit of resolving controversial issues in an offensive form, and sometimes with the use of physical or psychological abuse.

A significant characteristic reflecting the victimization process of the victim is its dynamics. The greatest information on the dynamics of victimization can be provided by an analysis of various variants of its structural-dynamic development, which, according to the main laws of dynamic characteristics, have been described earlier by many researchers. Specific sociological studies of the following categories of persons studied this process: a longterm interval survey of students of 3 and 4 courses of the Faculty of Law, a survey and questionnaire of pupils of special schools; a review and context analysis of the press materials was carried out, as well as materials obtained using the included observation.

The questionnaire structurally looks like this: introductory questions: family composition, age, financial situation, type of activity, attitude to crime (fear) and questions directly related to various types of crimes. The survey results indicate a noticeable increase in the level of victimity of the population in recent years. Moreover, this applies to almost all types of crimes (including violent).

If a survey of law students suggests that only half of them can become victims, then questionnaires among students in special schools indicate a 98% probability of becoming victims of various crimes (mainly violent). We were interested in whether they themselves or their family members, or close relatives, or friends, had become victims of crime over the past eight years; whether they contacted law enforcement bodies about this and what are the results of these appeals. For conducting mass surveys, students of the Faculty of Law specializing

in the Department of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and Criminalistics of Al-Farabi KazNU (45 students of 3 and 4 courses) were involved. All of them were previously instructed on the methodology and features of this study. They were each tasked with interviewing at least twenty individuals about whether they themselves or their close relatives, friends, had been victims of criminal trespass over the past eight years, and what their reaction to that was, in particular, whether they had gone to law enforcement on the matter. In total, 400 citizens were interviewed using this method. 297 questionnaires turned out to be suitable for study. 161 of them contained affirmative answers to the question posed. At the same time, the most common types of criminal manifestations were consumer deception -40% and theft from various objects (dwellings, summer cottages, cars; pickpocketing, etc.) - 41%; robberies amounted to 11%, hooligan manifestations - 8%, bodily harm of various degrees -15%, other crimes -14%. In 11% of cases, the same persons became victims of criminal encroachments three times, in 22% of cases - twice. In addition to the fact of the crime, the questions concerned the circumstances of its commission. Questions were asked about fear of crime, about attitudes towards the use of legal drugs. A significant part of the questions concerned demographic data.

36% of people of the total number of respondents answered to the question: whether you have become a victim of any crime over the past five years like that: they have became a victim at least one time within five years. In other words, the victimization rate is approximately 36%. Mental state is the reason for becoming a victim of crime. In most cases, fear, pain and moral, mental suffering caused by the encroachment are components of mental states. Therefore, an integral part of victimological research is to take into account such a factor as the fear of crime of the population.

Studies of foreign victimologists have shown, in particular, that even with a relatively different reaction of different groups of the population in different countries and regions to an increase in crime, the average indicator of the total number of people experiencing fear of victimization quite accurately reflects the level of crime in the region. In other words, the prevalence of fear in public psychology and in the mass consciousness is one of the important objective indicators of the criminological situation. The older the respondents, the greater their fear of crime. As for the place of residence, we can show that the larger the number of settlements, the higher the estimated level of insecurity of the territory of residence and a larger number of citizens avoid some streets and places at night, as they feel in danger. It also indicates that fear of crime increases in proportion to the size of the area of residence. The predominant part of the victims became victims of criminals at their place of residence.

When asked, "Do you feel confident on the street at night being alone there?" show that "very confident" and "quite confident" are predominantly those aged 21 to 29. Among 30-49-year-olds, the feeling of uncertainty decreases, and starting from the age of 50 and older, they again increase.

Victimogenic situations arise mainly in large cities. When a person walks along a city street in the late night hours, he finds himself in a victimogenic situation, that is, in a situation fraught with the risk of becoming a victim of a crime for her.

The standard of living is in a nonlinear dependence on victimity. The most victimized are those with low incomes and too wealthy. The middle class is the least victimized. In terms of studying the prospect of victimization, we analyzed the relationship between the possibility of becoming a victim of a crime and fear of crime in two aspects: on the one hand, we studied the type of victimization, and on the other, how much the respondent became a victim of crime. The study aimed to test the relationship between fear of crime and the extent of harm caused to the victim. Touching on the problem concerning the victimization hypothesis, we proceeded from the premise: the victim's fear of crime is higher than the harder harm caused to her.

The results of the studies confirm that in cities the fear of victims of crime increases depending on the type of crimes the victim became. For example, victims of property crimes have less fear of crime than victims of violent crimes.

Based on the results, we concluded that the very assumption of the possibility of becoming a victim of crime leads to fear of crime, which increases when the victim realizes his vulnerability from violent crime.

### Conclusion

Based on the obtained data on victimization, the following conclusions were made:

The atmosphere of fear is an essential element of the analysis of the criminological situation at the macro level of the phenomenon, and at the individual or group level – the assessment of a criminal or postcriminal situation, one way or another related to the commission of a specific crime, its consequences, including the possible threat of "secondary" victimization. Therefore, the problem of fear has always entered the orbit of victimological research and in this sense was considered as a category not only psychological, but also victimological, which is important for the organization of victimological prevention.

The fear of becoming a victim is growing in society. That conclusion is beyond doubt.

Fear of crime should also be considered against the background of the general standard of living, which is characterized by fear and a sense of uncertainty about the loss (absence) of work, the situation in the family, financial security.

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