ABSTRACT

SOCIAL, ECONOMICAL and PHYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS of VANDALISM in TURKEY

Vandalism is a serious issue with psycological, social and economical consequences. Vandalism is a term that is derived from the Eastern Germanic tribe, the Vandallar's who ravaged Western Europe in the Fourth and the Fifth Centuries burning and trashing where they went as well as raiding Rome in the year 455; it defines the assault intended act of individual or group to public property, or the property of unknown people. In 1794, the French writer Abbe Gregoire was the first person to draw attention to this phenomena at a meeting in Paris, using the word "vandalisme" when raising voice for the prevention of the destruction of historical works of art by the public during the French Revolution preceeding 1789.

Some of the reasons for vandalism can be the ignorance of propertyhood, population density, insufficient education and exhaustive use. The acts of vandalism can be described as cunnary, ideologic, expression of hate, malicious and ill-intent. It is an act related to violence, assault, personality problems and other social factors. Vandalism can effect city lifestyles in the attrition of public property, causing accidents, leading to other offences, creating visual pollution and costs. Vandalism is most common at regions of schools, means of transportation and communication, sporting facilities, parks and gardens, official and private buildings, libraries, historical works of art and architectures.

The costs of vandalism, for the nation, as in the rest of the world has reached concerning level of millions of dolars per year. The fundamental objective in this study is to draw attention to vandalism and the importance of this act, highlighting the true frame of resulting losses. The community and every responsible figure and institutions needs to show the necessary sensitivity on this issue. Vandalism is no longer a tolerable simple act.

Keywords: Vandalism, Vandal, Criminology, Offence, Violence, Aggression