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**"BAD TOUCH" (PEDOPHILIA) – THE STOLEN INNOCENCE OF A CHILD. THE ANALYSIS OF THE PHENOMENON AND THE FORMS OF AID OFFERED TO PEDOPHILES' VICTIMS IN POLAND**

*Pedophilia is a deviant form of hurting children which is growing worldwide and in Poland. From a social perspective, it is a kind of sexual deviation, as it destroys the child's dignity and innocence, leaving irrevocable psychological and physical damage in its wake. Victims of sexual abuse experience disgrace, shame and fear; they hide in the shadow of their tragedy and build a wall of silence, which separates them from normal functioning in a society. That is why pedophilia will never be socially approved, and each instance of child sexual abuse is stigmatized in mass media.*

*The aim of the article is to analyze subject literature devoted to pedophilia and the forms of support offered to its victims in Poland. Scientific considerations devoted to the etiopathogenesis of pedophilia, its traumatic consequences for the victim and preventive and correctional measures contribute both to a public discussion and to pedagogical practices.*

*Three areas are recommended: 1) an integrated system of preventive activities aimed at protection of children and teenagers against pedophiles' acts, 2) development and implementation of a national preventive programme in this area for students of primary, junior and high schools, and 3) systematic workshops for teachers and parents directed at preventive measures.*

**Key words:** *pedophilia; pedophile, victim of sexual abuse, etiopathogenesis of pedophilia.*

**Barbara Adameczyk<sup>1</sup> Introduction.** Pedophilia is a deviant form of hurting children which is growing worldwide and in Poland. From a social perspective, it is a kind of sexual deviation, as it destroys the child's dignity and innocence, leaving irrevocable psychological and physical damage in its wake. Victims of sexual abuse experience disgrace, shame and fear; they hide in the shadow of their tragedy and build a wall of silence, which separates them from normal functioning in a society. That is why pedophilia will never be socially approved, and each instance of child sexual abuse is stigmatized in mass media.

According to K. Pospiszyl [1], seeking contacts with children in order to obtain sexual gratification can be observed in two kinds of relations: the institutional relation, where pedophiles are people who stay in close contact with children due to their profession (e.g. teachers, priests, sports coaches), and the private relation, where abusers are usually friends of a family or individuals loitering near schools and other places frequented by children. They try to earn children's trust, preying on their gullibility and the lack of life experience, and then coax them into various kinds of sexual 'games'.

One more area of pedophiles' activity should be mentioned, namely the Internet. The most frequent forms of 'recruiting' children include presenting pornography to them, grooming them and cybersex.

Taking into consideration a social point of view, as M. Filar [2] emphasizes, the legal protection of sexual inviolability of those under age is motivated by two basic factors:

- too early sexual initiation can have a negative influence on children's psychological, physical and social development (may even result in pregnancy and parenthood);
- children's personality and psyche are not yet developed enough to perform rational and adequate assessment of moral and social norms, which is directly connected with the decisions regarding one's body.

Although pedophilia is no longer a taboo topic in Poland, it is a growing social problem in this country. A precise evaluation of the scale of the problem is not possible, since, as J. Gromska writes, it is "the most elusive and the least reported type of crime against children" [3: 191]. The main reason for this conspiracy of silence lies with the victims that are children. I. Pospiszyl [4] lists several reasons of their reluctance to report the instances of sexual abuse: 1) guilt experienced by a child if she/he was scared by the abuser; 2) the feelings of shame, dirt,

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and sin caused by violating the child's intimacy; 3) fear of losing the loved ones, especially if the abuser is a family member; 4) the lack of knowledge on the help available and where to look for it; 5) helplessness and disbelief that someone can help.

In the Polish Criminal Code [5] child sexual offenses are classified as offenses against sexual freedom and against decency. Article 200 of the Criminal Code of 6th June 1997 (with later amendments) reads:

& 1. A person who has sex with a child under 15 or performs other sexual activities with a child or forces a child to do or receive such activities will be imprisoned for between 2 and 12 years.

& 2. The same penalty will be used in case of a person who, in order to obtain sexual gratification, shows sexual activities to a child under 15.

The aim of the article is to analyze subject literature devoted to pedophilia and the forms of support offered to its victims in Poland. The article begins with the definitions of the terms: pedophilia, a pedophile and a sexually abused child. Next etiopathogenesis of pedophilia and the consequences of sexual abuse are discussed. The article ends with the presentation of three Polish institutions, whose activities aim at preventing pedophilia and supporting its victims: *Nobody's Children Foundation (Fundacja Dzieci Niczyje)*, *Praska Support Network for Children (Praska Sieć Pomocy Dziecku)* and *Centre for Child Protection (Centrum Ochrony Dziecka)*.

#### **Definitions: pedophilia, a pedophile and a sexually abused child**

Sexual crimes more and more frequently comprise activities in which abusers obtain sexual gratification with the use of children. Subject literature does not offer one clearly cut definition of this phenomenon, that is why this section will provide its several definitions on the basis of which the one used in this article will be developed.

B. Petrozolin-Skowrońska defined pedophilia in the following way: "undertaking sexual activities directed at children, most often before their puberty" [6: 1289]. K. Imieliński gives a similar general definition: pedophilia is "a sexual deviation in which a pedophile experiences the urge to have sexual activities with children" [7: 193].

Discussing pedophilia requires the diagnosis of pedophiles' motivation and the types of sexual activities they engage in. K. Klimasiński defines pedophilia as "a deviation in which sexual gratification is obtained through molestation – caressing, masturbating or a sexual act – with prepubescent children" [8: 53].

International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) (2000) diagnoses pedophilia as a disorder of sexual preferences of an adult. A pedophile is a person defined according to two criteria: 1) experiencing recurring strong sexual drive and images of sexual activities with children accompanied by pain that lasts for at least 6 months and 2) consolidated or dominating proclivity for sexual activity with a prepubescent child or children, the abuser is at least 16 and at least 5 years older than a victim.

The analysis of pedophilia also requires a definition of a sexually abused child. M. H. Kowalczyk admits that the fullest definition of this term is provided by the British *Standing Committee On Sexually Abused Children*: "any child below the age of consent may be deemed to have been sexually abused when a sexually matured person has engaged or permitted the engagement of that child in any activity of a sexual nature which is intended to lead to sexual gratification of the sexually mature" [9: 164].

Summing up what has been written above; the following definitions will be used in the article: pedophilia is a sexual deviation in which a pedophile, a sexually mature person, engages in sexual activities with a child under 15, which leads to obtaining sexual gratification. The victim of a pedophile will be called a sexually abused child.

#### **Etiopathogenesis of pedophilia**

If the analysis of etiopathogenesis of pedophilia is to be complete, it must be multidimensional due to a wide range of pedophiles' characteristics. M. H. Kowalczyk [9] claims that these various characteristics determine not only their modus operandi and the choice of a victim but also underlying causes of their deviant behavior. Let us have a closer look at selected pathological characteristics of a pedophile.

Some of them are connected with disorders in the area of the abuser's ability to fulfill psycho-sexual needs in relationships with adults, which results in the absence of a sexual partner or his/her unavailability (e.g. a chronic disease) or a wrong choice of a sexual partner. In this case, abusing children functions as a kind of compensation, and a child is perceived as a substitute for an adult partner [1]. Other characteristics of pedophilia are linked with disorders of gender identity. According to K. Imieliński, gender identification is "a psychological process in which an individual identifies with a model: most frequently a significant and emotionally accepted person" [10: 131]. It takes place in childhood and is a must if an individual is to come to terms with his/her biological sex and to further undertake and fulfill the roles connected with it. A model of reference is provided by a well-functioning family with clearly defined roles of a mother and a father. Disruptions happen as a result of the lack of differentiation between right and wrong features and the lack of models of both sexes. As far as pedophilia is concerned, it may lead to fear of mature sexual partners and 'replacing' them by children.

Another important aspect in etiopathogenesis of pedophilia refers to the longing to an idealized childhood. Some pedophiles perceive childhood as an ideal period of life, the embodiment of innocence, unconditional love and simplicity (R. C. Carson et al., 2003). They try to draw nearer to the world of children, are infantile and prefer the company of children with whom they want to stay in close relations. Such tendencies reveal the lack

of adaptive skills and progressive developmental regression, placing an individual at the level which provides the sense of satisfaction and gratification; even though it is inadequate to his/her age.

Disruptions in obtaining sexual gratification through contacts with mature partners trigger fear of such contacts, which leads to transferring sexual interests onto a child who is a defenseless and safe sexual object. It is also connected with the need to enforce submissiveness, to manifest pedophile's masculinity and dominance, and his/her fascination with the child's physical immaturity (Salter, 2000).

Fascination with the child's physical immaturity is another feature of a pedophile. It is connected with a scarcity of sexual experiences with mature partners, and a certain amount of childish behaviour. Such people are fascinated with the world of children, often choose children as companions and collect various children's gadgets. They carefully plan their sexual activities and rarely use violence, and they usually bribe or groom a child, which is caused by the fixation on an early stage of psychosocial development [1].

Sexual assault is also directly connected with the loss of volitional control, e.g. as a result of being drunk, being under the influence of other intoxicating substances, experiencing prolonged periods of frustration or huge stress.

Etiopathogenesis of pedophilia combines numerous various aspects. The above considerations reveal that pedophiles' preferences vary to a great extent, which makes it impossible to indicate one specific set of factors conducive to the development of this deviation.

### **Consequences of child sexual abuse**

As a result of sexual abuse, children suffer from numerous negative consequences. M. H. Kowalczyk observed that "in spite of diverse forms of sexual activity of male and female abusers and different levels of aggression and subjugation, it can be claimed that the range and scope of consequences experienced by their victims do not depend on the gender of the abuser." [9: 196].

Subject literature approaches the issue of the consequences of child in two different ways. Some researchers enumerate particular consequences and describe them, e.g. M. H. Kowalczyk analyses such symptoms as: traumatic sexualization of a child, stigmatization, betrayal, helplessness and identification [9]. Others analyze three areas: physical, psychological and social and consider negative consequences of sexual abuse in each of them. The article will follow the second approach.

Consequences connected with the physical area are observed immediately after the sexual act and include bleeding, soiling the underwear, pain in the genital area, bruises or abrasion of the thighs, potential pregnancy and venereal diseases [4].

Psychological consequences of sexual abuse are traumatic experiences, which the victims are unable to understand. A sexually abused child is marked with the stigma. The consequences from this group are the greater, the more a child is left alone with the problem and the sense of guilt. Fear and pain make victims believe that they are to blame for what happened.

I. Pospiszyl (2008) lists the following emotional symptoms experienced by a sexually abused child: 1) frequent or detailed references to sex in talk or play; 2) sexualization of interpersonal contacts; 3) encouraging younger children to untypical sexual activities, using an 'adult' language; 4) excessive avoidance of men; 5) excessive masturbation; 6) hinting that they have a secret; 7) running away from home; 8) suicidal attempts; 9) poor school performance or 10) depression.

Another psychological consequence is a post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). According to J. Wyżyńska, "children suffering from PTSD experience sudden flashbacks of the stressful situation in the form of compulsive images during the day or nightmares at night, as if they were experiencing the traumatic event again" [11: 131]. By re-enacting the abusive act, a child may suffer even more – it is a delayed or prolonged reaction, which – in case of some children - may last many years.

Another consequence is also an aversion towards one's own body. Victims perceive their bodies as dirty or repulsive, which is especially noticeable among older children. One victim described it in the following words: "The aversion to my own body never passed [...]. I was ashamed of my own femininity and did everything I could to hide it" (2009, p. 284).

Victims of pedophiles, instead of enjoying untroubled and carefree childhood and adolescence, experience great trauma after an adults does irrevocable harm to them. K. Komosińska (2001) enumerates the following social consequences of child sexual abuse: aggressive behaviour, academic failure, problems with concentration and memory, psycho-motor overarousal, low self-esteem, a sense of being different, loneliness and problems with contacts with peers.

I. Pospiszyl [4] describes the following social consequences: 1) the lack of trust, inability to communicate; 2) inability to make friends and maintain friendship; 3) inexplicable chronic fear of certain persons; 4) uncontrolled fits of anger; 5) learnt helplessness, inability to cope with everyday duties; 6) a diminished sense of agency; 7) irritability, noisiness in team games; 8) becoming addicted to the abuser; 9) gratuitous destruction of things and 10) seductive children.

Consequences of sexual abuse restrict children's social development and, in the long run, are vented in form of serious psychological disorders and behavioral deviations. Sexual abuse is always connected with enormous pain and drama, especially if it was committed by a loved one: a beloved dad, a favorite priest or a fantastic aunt.

#### **Help offered to victims of child sexual abuse in Poland**

Child sexual abuse is no longer a taboo topic in Poland, as it was twenty years ago. Mass media greatly contributed to this change not only by informing about all sorts of pedophiles but also (although it is still not enough) about help available to their victims. The reaction to these abominable practices violating children's innocence can be seen in the introduction of preventive and rehabilitative measures in Poland. Some of them are presented below.

##### **1. Nobody's Children Foundation (Fundacja Dzieci Niczyje (FDN))**

*Nobody's Children Foundation* (2009) was founded in 1991 in Warsaw by Alina Margolis-Edelman as part of the Polish mission of the organization *Doctors of the World (Médecins du Monde)*. Initially, the foundation was to deal with social orphans, but later the direction of its activities was set by the results of the first research programme diagnosing the scale and nature of the problem of harming children. Today the Foundation is the largest organization in Poland which is directed at protecting children and helping under age victims of violence and sexual abuse, their parents and guardians.

Complex preventive activities against child sexual abuse undertaken by the Foundation include specialist programmes and social campaigns. Some of them are presented below.

**\*Warsaw Support Network for Children (Warszawska Sieć Pomocy Dzieciom)** (<http://wspd.fdn.pl/o-warszawskiej-sieci-pomocy-dzieciom>) – it is a programme conducted by Centres for Psychological and Educational Counseling (Poradnia Psychologiczno-Pedagogiczna) in various districts in Warsaw. They provide support in the following areas: 1) the diagnosis and intervention in case of suspected child sexual abuse; 2) psychological help offered to sexually abused children; 3) support offered to families in which a child experienced sexual abuse and 4) help offered to parents and specialists when child sexual abuse is suspected.

In order to provide the most effective aid to potential victims of various forms of violence, a list of symptoms which may indicate sexual abuse was posted on the Foundation website. If parents or guardians notice some of them in their children, they can contact one of the Centres and learn how to proceed. The examples of suspicious behaviors include: 1) a child avoids staying alone with one family member; 2) a child displays unexpected fear of an adult or does not want to come into contact with him/her; 3) a child describes the behavior of an adult in a way which indicates that this person wants to groom the child in order to sexually abuse him/her; 4) a child seems dejected and withdrawn, complains of inexplicable physical pains; 5) a child displays symptoms indicating sexual abuse, e.g. pain in the genital area; 6) a child does not want to go to school or suddenly loses the ability to concentrate and begins to have learning difficulties at school or 7) a child displays untypical sexual behaviour, e.g. autoerotic behaviour in public, uses new phrases to name sexual activities and intimate body parts, or reveals advanced sexual awareness.

Since 2012 Centres for Psychological and Educational Counseling in cooperation with Warsaw Support Network for Children have been running **Warsaw Educational Campaign (Warszawska Kampania Edukacyjna)** aimed at kindergarten and primary school teachers in order to sensitize them to the problem of child sexual abuse.

In Poland the first informative and educational action devoted to child sexual abuse was the **Bad Touch Campaign** (September 2007) launched by TVN (a leading Polish TV station) in cooperation with Nobody's Children Foundation. The campaign had two objectives: firstly, to show the public that sexual child abuse happens more often than it might be expected and that it carries grave consequences to psychological development of its victims, and secondly, to educate parents in recognizing the symptoms of sexual abuse.

The campaign began in April 2002 and one of its elements was a TV talk show *Talks in Progress (Rozmowy w toku)*, which enjoyed great popularity. Interlocutors included people who experienced sexual abuse and kept it secret for a long time. Another element was a TV spot entitled 'Dolls', broadcast by several stations belonging to TVN, which showed terror experienced by abused children. TVN also distributed posters and leaflets. A special Internet web site was created ([www.zlydotyk.onet.pl](http://www.zlydotyk.onet.pl)), which – apart from publishing information on the campaign and the problem of sexual abuse - also offered a possibility to share views on the Internet forum. About 300 commentaries were posted, many from people who experienced sexual abuse as children.

Encouraged by the success of the first stage, the organizers of the campaign decided to continue their activities. During the second stage – apart from new episodes of *Talks in Progress* - the emphasis was placed on training people likely to encounter sexually abused children at work and those who already had some experience in therapy of such children. In cooperation with *Nobody's Children Foundation* and *Blue Line (Niebieska Linia)*, a special phone line), training programmes were run for the police, tutors in orphanages, doctors, nurses, school counselors and specialists from Local Centres of Crisis Intervention (Powiatowe Centrum Pomocy Kryzysowej). Workshop participants were taught how to recognize an abused child syndrome, how to react, how to talk about sexual abuse and (in case of specialists) how to initiate preventive measures.

The final effect of two stages of **Bad Touch Campaign** was a scientific conference *Child sexual abuse: they cry for help too quietly* at University of Social Sciences and Humanities (Szkola Wyższa Psychologii Społecznej) in Warsaw. One of its objectives was to arouse students' interest in the issue.

\* **A Child on the Net (Dziecko w Sieci)** (<http://dzieckowsieci.fdn.pl>) - a programme initiated by *Nobody's Children Foundation* in 2004, which launched a campaign "You never know who is on the other end" ("Nigdy nie wiadomo, kto jest po drugiej stronie"). It was the first social campaign in Poland addressing the issue of grooming children through the Internet. Since 2005 the project has been run as part of the EU programme 'Safer Internet'. Its other projects and actions include the following ones:

1) Educational project **Sieciaki.pl** is based on the adventures of Sieciaki, that is fictitious characters possessing special powers and using them to fight with the Internet threats. Sieciaki, that is Ajpi, Netka, Spociak and Kospel, know how to use the net in a safe way. To help them, Artificial Intelligence created a robot called NetRobi, which takes care of all of them and advises children how to avoid the Internet threats.

2) Educational action **Sieciaki on Holidays (Sieciaki na Wakacjach)**, devoted to using the net during holidays in a safe way, has been conducted every summer since 2006. So far over 40 000 children took part in educational picnics organized within this action. Young Internet users can play, solve quizzes and puzzles, take part in competitions and win prizes while learning how to use the Internet in a safe and effective way and how to recognize dangers connected with using the Internet.

3) Educational project **Necio.pl** is aimed at children between 4 and 6 and teaches them how to use the Internet safely. It is run by *Nobody's Children Foundation* in cooperation with Orange Foundation (Fundacja Orange), within the EU program 'Safer Internet'. The main character of the project is a friendly little robot Necio, which invites children to play with him on the Internet. A special Internet service was created with animations, games and song explaining to children safety rules of surfing the net. Through this service they can learn what the Internet is, how to surf the net, how to communicate with others safely, how to use e-mail, and how to choose safe web sites. Within **Necio.pl** project special lesson plans to be used by kindergarten and primary school teachers were developed: A. Piękoś, *Necio.pl-zabawa w Internet. Scenariusze zajęć dla dzieci w wieku 4-6 lat na temat bezpieczeństwa w sieci*, (Piękoś, 2012) and Ł. Wojtasik, *Mój przyjaciel Necio* (Wojtasik, 2012).

**b) Praska Support Network for Children (Praska Sieć Pomocy Dziecku)** (Kita, 2008) – is an organization of professionals working with children and families affected by various forms of violence. It operates within existing structures (i.e. educational institutions, welfare institutions, health services, police, prosecution, court, or non-governmental organizations). Due to its inter-institutional nature, it does not have separate premises, but uses the buildings of *Nobody's Children Foundation* and *the Social Help Center (Ośrodek Pomocy Społecznej)* in Praga Południe district in Warsaw.

The main goals of this network include: 1) developing basis and forms of cooperation between various institutions directed at helping children experiencing violence and coordinating interdisciplinary activities; 2) developing and implementing *Standard procedures in working with abused children*; 3) supporting professionals who encounter children experiencing violence at work; 4) undertaking informative, educational and publishing activities aimed at the prevention of violence against children; 5) providing counsel and initiating activities which provide support to abused children within the Addiction Preventive Programme (Programu Profilaktyki Uzależnień) in Praga Południe district.

**c) Centre of Child Protection** (<http://cod.ignatianum.edu.pl>) – is an interdepartmental unit of Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, launched by its Rector. A Jesuit, Adam Żak, is the Head of the unit, who is also the Child Youth Protection Coordinator at Polish Episcopal Conference. The Center is a tool for protecting children against sexual abuse, including pedophilia.

The center has many practical objectives; it was not created to focus on theoretical considerations, but on practical ones, such as developing preventive programmes, training volunteers and specialists who want to join the fight with child sexual abuse and contribute to the creation of safe environment for children and adolescents in all areas of pastoral, formative and educational work. Additionally, it aims at increasing the level of specialist help offered to victims.

**Instead of conclusions.** The analysis of subject literature devoted to 'bad touch', which is pedophilia, reveals that sexual abuse of children violates their dignity. The consequences of sexual abuse, regardless of who the pedophile is, are traumatic experiences, sometimes kept secret for many years.

Although the article also presents the analysis of etiopathogenesis of pedophilia in order to determine what factors determine the acts of sexual violence, the main area of interest is the victims. That is why we presented three Polish organizations which specialize in prevention of child sexual abuse and offer help to victims.

On the basis of the analyses of subject literature, several conclusions can be formulated:

1) The problem of child sexual abuse in Poland is such a serious social problem that all available preventive measures should be undertaken to protect children (even at kindergarten age) and adolescents.

2) The above calls for practical solutions that go beyond mere informing the public opinion about the problem, but focus on educating children and adolescents. A national governmental preventive programme

addressing this issue would be welcome; it should be implemented in all types of educational institutions and make children and teenagers fully aware of sexual abuse and how to prevent it.

3) Practical solutions we suggest cannot refer only to pupils and students but also to adults, both teachers and parents. That is why workshops and trainings for teachers and talks for parents at schools discussing the problem are advisable.

4) Activities undertaken by three organizations presented in the article are only examples of good practices in the area of support offered to sexually abused children. There are local government institutions and non-governmental institutions which offer help in this matter in each big city in Poland.

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### ***Адамчик Б. "Недобрий дотик" (педофілія) – украдена дитяча невинність. Аналіз явища та форми допомоги жертвам педофілії в Польщі.***

*Педофілія – один із злочинів щодо дітей, який дедалі поширюється у світі і в Польщі. У суспільному вимірі – це різновид сексуальної девіації, що вражає почуття гідності й невинність неповнолітнього, завдаючи йому непоправної фізичної і психічної травми. Жертва сексуальних домагань страждає від тягаря сорому і страху, ховається в тіні власної трагедії і відокремлюється від повноцінного життя в суспільстві муrom мовчання. Педофілія ніколи не буде виправдана в суспільстві, тому кожен випадок сексуального використання дітей, незалежно від того, хто вчинив діяння, одразу засуджується в засобах масової інформації. Метою цієї статті є аналіз літератури на предмет педофілії як злочинного акту і форм допомоги неповнолітнім жертвам педофілії в Польщі.*

*Вивчення проблеми педофілії, визначеної етіопатогенезом, травматичних наслідків для потерпілої дитини та питань профілактично–ресоціалізаційної діяльності є значною допомогою не тільки у веденні публічних дискусій, а й для розширення педагогічної практики.*

*У статті сформульовано такі рекомендації: комплексна система запобіжних заходів, спрямованих на захист дітей та молоді перед злочинами педофілії; розробка і впровадження загально польської програми профілактики, зокрема для учнів шкіл (загальноосвітніх, гімназійних, вищих гімназійних); систематичне навчання вчителів і батьків, спрямоване на превентивні заходи.*

**Ключові слова:** педофілія; педофіл; дитина, що використовується як сексуальний об'єкт; етіопатогенез вчинків педофілії.

**Адамчик Б. "Плохое прикосновение" (педофилия) – украденная детская невинность. Анализ явления и формы помощи жертвам педофилии в Польше.**

*Педофилия – одно из преступлений относительно детей, которое все больше распространяется в мире и в Польше. В общественном измерении – это разновидность сексуальной девиации, которая поражает чувство достоинства и невинность несовершеннолетнего, нанося ему непоправимую физическую и психическую травму. Жертва сексуальных домогательств страдает от тяжести стыда и страха, прячется в тени собственной трагедии и отгораживается от полноценной жизни в обществе стеной молчания. Педофилия никогда не будет оправдана в обществе, поэтому каждый случай использования детей в сексуальных целях, независимо от того, кто совершил деяние, немедленно осуждается в средствах массовой информации.*

*Цель этой статьи – анализ литературы по теме педофилии как преступного деяния и форм помощи несовершеннолетним жертвам педофилии в Польше.*

*Изучение проблемы педофилии, определенной этиопатогенезом, травматических последствий для потерпевшего ребенка и вопросов профилактически–адаптационной деятельности является существенной помощью не только в ведении публичных дискуссий, но и для расширения педагогической практики. В статье сформулированы следующие рекомендации: комплексная система опережающих действий, направленных на защиту детей и юношества перед преступлениями педофилии; разработка и введение общепольской программы профилактики, в том числе для учеников школ (общеобразовательных, гимназий, высших гимназий); систематическое обучение учителей и родителей, нацеленное на превентивные действия.*

**Ключевые слова:** педофилия; педофил; ребенок, используемый в сексуальных целях; этиопатогенез актов педофилии.