FEATURES OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR OF YOUTH AS A MODUS OF NEW SOCIETY IN THE CONDITIONS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND QUARANTINE (EXAMPLE OF UKRAINE)

Abstract. The relevance of the research topic is due to the existing general professional demand for the development and expansion of the conceptual and theoretical arsenal of modern social sciences due to the dynamic complication of social forms and structures. The transition from industrial to post-industrial society, globalization and the rapid development of communication technologies have actualized the emergence of a new type of social reality. This problem has not yet been fully investigated due to their novelty and unusualness. Nevertheless, there is an urgent need to respond to the risks of our time, which is what science is called to do. The sociological perspective of the study seems to be the most accurate and fruitful, as it provides an opportunity for a comprehensive examination of this phenomenon. The purpose of the study, the results of which are presented in this report, was to implement the worldview reception of the "new sociality" of modern youth in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine, based on well-known postmodern sociological concepts and the results of their own sociological research.

Keywords: young people, deviant behavior, new social reality, pandemic, quarantine, COVID-19.

Introduction. The sharpening of attention to modern social transformations was due to the changes that took place in industrial societies during the transition to post-industrial, from the Modern to the Postmodern era. In the period of formation of postmodern society in the context of the announced "end of history" (F. Fukuyama) and "end of social" (J. Baudrillard) in the "society of risk" (U. Beck)
recorded radical changes that appear in the form of atomization, individualization, fragmentation etc. That is, the previous constant, fixed, with clearly defined parameters, the society is blurred and acquires a "liquid" character (Z. Bauman).

Aim. The purpose of the study, the results of which are presented in this report, was to implement the worldview reception of the "new sociality" of modern youth in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine, based on well-known postmodern sociological concepts and the results of their own sociological research.

Materials and methods. The study used a comparative and sociological analysis of modern sources on the spread of COVID-19 in the world. In particular, it is determined that since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic at the end of 2019, the urgency of the debate on the transformation of sociality has not only increased, but is gaining momentum with each passing day. The statement "the world will never be the same again" sounds constant [1].

The actual sociological research was carried out by analyzing the results of the survey through a formalized questionnaire on social networks Internet. The survey was attended by 50 respondents – high school students and students of various educational institutions of the city Dnipro, aged 16 to 20 years. Females and males were selected equally. The evaluation was carried out on a 30-point scale, up to 0 to 11 was considered no deviation, and 21 to 30 was considered a stable model of social deviation) When identifying features of social deviation due to the extreme situation caused by the pandemic COVID-19 and the quarantine compared the results obtained in the spring of 2021 with the results of a similar survey conducted in the pre-pandemic period (autumn 2019) [2].

Manifestations of deviant behavior have always confused society because they disturbed social peace. It is for these reasons that an active study of this area of social relations began. Over a long period of time, many theories and methods for determining deviant behavior have been formed. All theoretical and methodological material can be divided into two main approaches opposite in their provisions

In the first approach, behavioral disorders are perceived as "social pathology", the biological organism was analyzed in the social system. According to this approach, deviations took the form of "social disease", the main cause of which was seen in social disorganization, ie "reducing the impact of existing social rules of
conduct on individual members of the group."

In the postwar period, the study of social deviations acquires a different approach - constructivism, where the responsibility for deviations is transferred from the person to the social factors that provoke them. For example, R. Merton considered the manifestations of deviations as an individual adaptation in a crisis state of society. Under the conditions of theoretical and methodological pluralism in modern sociology, one can speak of the existence of a certain consensus between the two approaches, since both have functional consequences [3].

The changes in the modern world that are taking place under the influence of the pandemic are global in nature, as they extend to all spheres of social reality, both at the macro level and at the level of the individual.

Many changes are taking place in the social and cultural spheres. Pandemic trends encourage changes in regulations, such as freedom, responsibility, security, equality, trust and solidarity, and so on. During the pandemic in many countries, and in Ukraine in particular, began to use various disciplinary formats, such as social distancing, quarantine restrictions, isolation and others. This highlighted the problem of the balance between human rights and freedoms (for example, freedom of movement), on the one hand, and security, on the other. During these restrictions, the practices of people in leisure time changed, they began to distribute their free time differently, as it became much more, paying attention to what they could not do before, such as self-development, self-education, improving living conditions, communication with relatives and friends, etc. It should be noted that during the COVID-19 epidemic, the manifestations of the values of individualism began to become relevant. Total or adaptive quarantine and related requirements for self-isolation / solitude / social distance have contributed to the establishment of new social norms and risks that can have destructive effects.

For example, self-isolation to some extent can lead to the loss and even some leveling of universal values due to the perception of another person as a potential carrier of the virus, which is a threat to life and personal health. As a result, there is a high probability of forming a culture of aggression, general irritation, rejection,
intolerant relations in society.

An interesting perspective – the effectiveness of measures to combat the coronavirus also raises the question of the relationship of liberal, individualistic and communicative guidelines for social development. Whose values are more important – the individual or society? Do we need to fight for each specific life, or focus on maintaining an effective social structure, even at the cost of certain sacrifices? If you ask the average person what he or she prefers, whether he or she is guaranteed to survive in a totally impoverished and dilapidated country, or to take risks, but to continue a normal life if lucky, it is not a fact that everyone will choose the first option.

The systematization of theoretical and methodological approaches to the interpretation of the concept of "social reality" revealed the gradual complication of understanding this phenomenon in the context of objectivist, subjectivist and integrative paradigms: from positivism and to social interaction and inter-subjective communication. The analysis of sociological reflections showed that the greatest epistemological potential is represented by the integrative paradigm that combines subjective and objective characteristics and examines the levels of social reality.

Epidemics used to be seen as a punishment from God, as a natural phenomenon – something that is not subject to control and management. The twentieth century, with vaccination, restriction, and the de facto disappearance of a number of previously deadly diseases, has shown that people can effectively resist disease. In any case, after this pandemic, we will be different, hardly better, but different – exactly… We are waiting for a reassessment of living standards of society and the study of their transformations.

Various manifestations of social deviations, namely: crime, alcoholism, drug addiction, suicide, prostitution, have always attracted the attention of young people as the most psychologically unstable social group. For example, recently the juvenile police of Ukraine has been recording a surge of dangerous challenges and suicide attempts among older teenagers. The vast majority of such actions lead to tragic consequences. Therefore, the problem of the prevalence of deviant behavior among young people in our country has reached alarming proportions and requires sociological analysis in order to improve methods of control, prevention and
cessation of antisocial processes among young people.

It is the level of manifestation of youth deviation that can be used to judge and predict the state of crime and other deviations in society in the coming years. At the same time, we consider the issue of deviations in the youth environment involves the study of the severity of youth deviations, the dynamics of time, and the connection with the extreme social situation caused by the pandemic COVID-19 and quarantine.

Throughout the existence of society, there has been an active struggle against undesirable forms of human behavior. Deviations from the norm are called "deviations", these are the actions and deeds of people who do not meet social norms of behavior. Thus, the essence of deviant behavior is non-compliance with the requirements of social norms in various situations that lead to a violation of the interaction of the individual and society.

Deviant behavior is always associated with a certain inconsistency of human actions, actions, methods of activity common in society or groups of norms, rules, stereotypes, expectations, values. In this case, deviant behavior can act as a means to an end, as a way of psychological relief, as an end in itself that meets human needs for self-realization and self-affirmation.

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The changes in social values that are taking place today in the political and social and economic life of the country affect the entire population of Ukraine. According to sociologists, social psychologists, social workers and physicians, the most vulnerable today are young people (children, adolescents, young people).

The theoretical and practical relevance of these issues lies primarily in the fact that the problems of socialization of young people, which are characterized by a certain degree of social mal-adaptation, are particularly acute today. This is due to the fact that young people who have lost social adaptation are a so-called risk group,
do not always belong to low-income, single-parent or troubled families. Recently, there has been an increasing increase in deviant behavior among the so-called "prosperous" youth, which may indicate the existence of other social factors of its mal-adaptation.

Rising tensions in society have a negative impact on the upbringing of the younger generation. Social unrest is manifested in the breakdown of family ties, homelessness, vagrancy of young people, committing anti-social acts and offenses, drunkenness and drug addiction.

One of the most common types of social deviation of young people is auto-aggressive behavior, sometimes with suicidal consequences.

In general, world statistics show that in the group of adolescents aged 15-19, suicide is the second most common cause of death among girls (after complications of pregnancy and childbirth) and third among boys (after road accidents and interpersonal violence). Among the main factors that motivate suicidal behavior, not only young people but also people of all ages, in particular, psychologists call emergencies and disasters.

If at the beginning of 2020 the auto-aggression index among the studied group was 6.8 points, then at the beginning of 2021 – already 14.8 points – which is more than twice the previous indicator.

General aggressive behavior can be both direct, when a person does not hide his aggression from others, and indirect, when aggression is hidden under hostility, jealousy or irony. Direct aggression is manifested in various ways, from threats to the interlocutor and ending with direct aggressive actions. Indirect aggression puts pressure on the "victim". For example, recently in Ukraine there has been an increase in the number of cases of bullying among young people.

At the beginning of 2020, among the studied group, the indicator of propensity to aggressive behavior was 6 points, then at the beginning of 2021 – already 11 points – that is, almost doubled and reached the level of pronounced deviation. Moreover, 10% of respondents had indicators that indicate the formation of a stable model of socially aggressive behavior (in 2020, none of the respondents had such high rates).

Delinquent behavior is behavior in which minors commit "illegal acts" that
have the outward appearance of "offenses" but for which they cannot bear legal responsibility because they have not yet acquired a state of legal "capacity." Adolescence is characterized by increased sensitivity to external and internal factors, as at this time radically changes the social status of children. The influence of the environment in adolescence occupies a prominent place, and each individual manifestation of delinquent behavior is due to the complex interaction of age, individual-typological, individual-psychological and social determinants.

According to the results of the study, we can conclude that the average rate of delinquent behavior (11.3 points) tells us that among the respondents found a situational predisposition to delinquent behavior. A similar figure in 2020 was recorded at 7.8 points. That is, there is an increase of at least one and a half times.

Addictive or addictive behavior (smoking, alcoholism, drug addiction, Internet addiction, gambling addiction) is one of the most common types of deviant behavior and is expressed in the desire to move away from reality by changing their mental state by taking psychotropic substances or constant fixation of attention on certain subjects or active activities that are accompanied by the development of intense emotions. Recorded in 2021, the average rate of addiction among respondents (11 points) generally does not exceed the socially critical level, but compared to 2020 (6 points) is almost twice as high.

The results can be clearly seen in the graph presented in Figure 1.

Fig. 1. The differences in youth deviant behavior before the pandemic (2019) and during quarantine (2020)

Conclusions. The above allows us to draw the following conclusions:

1. Comparison of the results of pilot sociological surveys of young people
obtained with an identical tool (standard survey questionnaire) and identical methods (anonymous online survey) in one area (Dnipro city), with all other similar social conditions and circumstances, except for the COVID-19 pandemic and related with her quarantine measures, showed a marked trend towards a rapid increase in the level of propensity of young people to deviant behavior in 2020-2021.

2. The social crisis situations associated with the COVID-19 pandemic together create the level at which socio-cultural "barriers" are almost inevitably reduced, which are, in principle, the most important norms and guarantors of behavior that is consistent with the values of society and legal requirements. The very conditions of life that lead to the reduction of these "barriers" make the violation of the rules of coexistence morally justified for the young person. If this trend continues throughout 2021 with the transition to 2022, then in Ukraine we can confidently say about the "COVID-generation".

3. After analyzing the various forms of deviations, we can conclude that they are both positive and negative. Each of the types of deviant behavior has its own form and specific meaning (destructive and transformative), and is associated in some way with others. Minors are considered to be the main representatives of deviant behavior because they are the most vulnerable part of society.

The most common cause of deviations among young people is primarily the social environment in which they develop as individuals. In general, there are three types of factors that provoke deviant behavior: socio-economic, psychological-pedagogical and medical-biological. After studying the results of the study, it becomes obvious that the number of young people who are prone to deviant behavior is growing disappointingly.

In this regard, there is a need to form a specific social discourse that reflects the main features and trends, causes and factors of youth deviation in a pandemic and in general the strategy of preventive work among young people in today's "risk society".

References: