

Some views on the personality of police officers

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There is a generally widespread belief among professionals that a so-called police personality does not exist. Due to the particularity of the police profession, it is nevertheless possible to speak about easily recognisable characteristics, observed in police officers. The shaping of such a professional personality is determined by several factors: the police subculture, the attitude of the public and media toward the police, specificities of job performance, education and training and finally, the personality traits of police officers. Among the latter, researchers most often mention such properties as authoritativeness, suspiciousness, cynicism, pronounced phenomenon of intergroup relationships we-they, conservatism, rigidity, machismo, pragmatism, stereotypical way of thinking and behaviour, aggressiveness etc. The paper does not provide only a description of police officer's personality, but highlights also some of the causes and effects of the mentioned factors.

Keywords: police officers, personality traits, police subculture, the media

UDC: 351.74-051 + 159.923