

## **Definition of violence in contemporary interpersonal relationships**

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The contribution is a paper delivered at a conference organised on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law, in which the author discussed the social construction of violence in direct ("face to face") interpersonal relationships, taking place in the contemporary everyday life. According to the author, any definition of violence is possible only and exclusively within the frame of a given system of values, i.e., based on a specific social and historical (and for this reason not absolute or universal) assessment and attribution of what is and what should be. He reflects on the impact of the social context, social structures and processes on behaviour in direct interpersonal relationships and pleads for collective (but also individual) cultural efforts aimed at reaching better (less violent) systemic possibilities of interpersonal relationships.

They should be maintained on terms of self-respect and respect for the other as a person - as a subject of human rights and freedoms at all levels of social life. Since everyday "victimization of the subject" is imminent to conditions of contemporary life, the author suggests a radical change of rules of the (globalised) game or the making of more human macro and micro arrangements which should be done in the not-too-distant future.

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