

## **Games of the "underground" in transactional analysis**

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The paper deals with certain phenomena of interest to criminology and explains them by the use and interpretation of concepts developed by transactional analysis (TA), an approach derived from psychoanalysis and becoming prominent in the early sixties of the past century. The introductory part of the paper is devoted to a very broad definition of the basic institutions and philosophy of TA. It is followed by an explanation of the notion of game in TA, which is indispensable for the elucidation of laws governing some of the most frequently used psychological games that occur in the "criminal underground".

The central part of the article focuses on two games, "robbers and cops" and "how to escape from here", although it is not limited only to them but indicates similar topics and highlights some current issues. In the concluding part of the article, the author presents some other TA concepts related to criminology and tries to integrate them loosely into a meaningful whole and enrich them with similar reflections of other authors, psychologists and non-psychologists.

**Key words:** transactional analysis, games, criminology

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