

## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL PERSONALITY TENDENCIES AND FEELINGS OF GUILT IN PRISONERS

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to examine the relationship between personality disorder tendencies and the feeling of guilt among incarcerated individuals. The study population includes prisoners from the correctional facilities of Tetovo, Skopje, and Veles. The sample was selected using a non-random (purposive) method, where individuals voluntarily agreed to participate and complete the questionnaire. The total sample consisted of 273 prisoners, 207 males and 66 females with the youngest participant being 21 years old and the oldest 58 years old, and the most represented age being 39 years. Questionnaires were used as measuring instruments to assess both the tendencies of personality disorders and the level of guilt sensitivity. The data were analyzed using SPSS. The results of the analysis revealed that personality tendencies of Cluster B (including antisocial, narcissistic, histrionic, and schizoid traits) are associated with lower levels of guilt compared to tendencies of Cluster C (such as avoidant, obsessive-compulsive, dependent, and borderline traits). Individuals with personality tendencies from Group C showed significantly higher levels of guilt compared to those from Groups B and A, while no significant difference was found between Groups A and B. The findings emphasize the psychological complexity of guilt among prisoners and suggest the need for personalized rehabilitation programs that address emotional and personality factors.

**Keywords:** Psychopathological personality tendencies, feelings of guilt, prisoners.