First theories describe all offenders as born criminals. Lombroso's theory stated that they are distinguishable from non-criminals by various atavistic features. Freud suggested that criminality may result from a conscience that results in excessive guilt feelings. Further criminologists focusd on biochemical factors. They have identified some food components that have been associated with behavioral disorder, including criminality. Other scientists began to consider the possibility that there are indeed traits that predispose a person to criminality and that these traits may be passed from parents to children through the genes – XYY syndrome or IQ.

The present day situation demands something else, this has led to the creation of social learning theory. The criminal behavior is socially transmitted through examples which come from the family, the subculture and mass media. The «heroes» of many Hollywood pictures could be called mass murderers and career

criminals.

According to the works of modern criminologists organized criminals and professional criminals share some characteristics: both types develop special careers in certain types of criminality, become skilled in their execution; both tend to enjoy high status in the criminal world; both plan their criminal pursuits in order to maximize profits and minimize risk of arrest.

Organized crime got its start in the USA when Sicilian immigrants replicated their traditional family structure in organizing criminal activities. These families and their associates were so successful in controlling bootlegging, gambling, loansharking, drug traffick\ing and other illegal enterprises that they were able to assume control of many legitimate businesses. In recent years members of other ethnic groups – Latin Americans, Jamaicans, Israelis, Chinese – have challenged the Sicilian Mafia for supremacy in organized crime.

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В данной работе речь идет о токсикомании (наркотической, алкогольной и другой зависимости), а так-

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIME

People take an incredible array of substances to alter moods or relieve discomforts. One relationship of substance abuse to crime, as already indicated, is that some of it is in itself criminal; another is that drugs are alleged at times to so alter the minds of users as to cause them to commit crime. A third and more indirect relationship to crime occurs when people commit offenses to get money for a substance they urgently crave.

Alcohol

The substance most widely abused, since earliest recorded history, is ethyl alcohol. The most frequent basis for arrest is drunkenness, any disturbance of behavior ascribed to alcohol. The second largest category of arrests is theft, but third is «driving under the influence», and fourth is «disorderly conduct», which usually includes drunken-felonies in which a majority of arrestees were drinking at the time of their alleged offence include murder, forgery, and aggravated assault; most misdemeanor assaults are also associated with drinking, as are about half the rapes and a third of child-abuse cases.

Opiates

A beautiful poppy, its white blossoms four or five inches in diameter, has been cultivated in the Middle East and India since ancient times for the pain-killing and calming effects of the resin from its egg-sized, immature seed pods.

Raw opium was once eaten; after the spread of tobacco it was also smoked, but increasingly in modern times it has been consumed

in chemically refined derivatives called «opiates».

When addicts cannot get drugs they «climb the walls» in desperation and misery. As a result this kind of addiction fosters much predation and prostitution, especially in metropolitan areas.

Marijuana and hashish

Marijuana, mixture of leaves, stems, and flowering tops of the Indian hemp plant Cannabis sativa, smoked or eaten for its hallucinogenic and pleasure-giving effects. The psychoactive ingredient of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), is

concentrated in the flowering tops of the plant. Hashish, a drug prepared from the plant resin, has about eight times more THC than marijuana. Except for limited medical purposes, cultivating marijuana is illegal in all but a few countries.

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Печальные последствия землетрясения, которое нанесло удар Сальвадору 13 января этого года. Страшные последствия этой природной катастрофы. 750 жизней было унесено.

В бедных странах последствия катастроф наиболее тяжёлые. Даже в Лас Коллинас, пригороде Сан Сальвадора, где дома не попали в грязеной поток, были

жертвы и разрушения.

Реконструкция обойдется в \$ 1 млрд. или 50 % бюджета. Землетрясение может привести и к политическим последствиям. Экологи пытаются остановить развитие строительства в районах повышенного риска.

Важный вопрос – что маленькие и бедные страны Центральной Америки могут сделать, чтобы защи-

тить себя от природных катастроф.

В заявлении ООН говорится о том, что каждая страна нуждается в «постоянном государственном органе, созданном из специально обученных профессионалов по борьбе с катастрофами» и вооруженных

мандатом на предупредительные работы.

Сальвадорская организация по гражданской защите имеет недостатки. Несмотря на жалобы нескольких населённых пунктов, что помощь не достигла их в течение 3-х дней, иностранные добровольцы-спасатели говорят, что организация отреагировала настолько быстро, насколько смогла.

Региональная координация усовершенствовалась. Перед Сальвадором и его соседями по-прежнему долгий путь.

SMALL, POOR COUNTRIES AND NATURAL DISASTERS

Dramatic effect of the earthquake that hit Salvador on January, 13th this year. Terrible consequences of this natural disaster. 750 lives were lost.