

**A SENSE OF SAFETY OF PRISONERS DETAINED IN HOLDING CELLS
OF PENITENTIARIES AND REMAND CENTERS**

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Abstract. The article was inspired by the desire to broaden the knowledge on the existence of adult men just after the loss of freedom – that is, during the transitional period of imprisonment. The research was inspired by the specific nature of the temporary cell and the conviction that for many researchers, this area is almost inaccessible and the research itself difficult to conduct. The aim of the research is an attempt at identifying factors that may be related to the sense of security among inmates in the temporary cells of prisons and detention facilities. I have personally conducted three studies among men in the transitional period of imprisonment, twice in the correctional facility in Pińczów (2013 and 2016) and in 2017 in the Detention facility in Kielce. The randomly selected research sample includes 422 inmates. The author's own questionnaire for studying the sense of security among inmates in the temporary cell of the correctional facility and detention facility also made it possible to examine their moods and a tendency to present oneself in an excessively favourable manner. In order to verify the research hypotheses, a diagnostic survey method and a method of statistical and comparative analysis were adopted. A factor analysis revealed that the sense of security among inmates in temporary cells is determined by three factors: fear of inmates' threatening behaviour, fear of inmates and anxiety. It appeared that the first-time inmates in temporary cells demonstrated more Fear of Inmates than the prisoners returning to it. As far as the fear of inmates' threatening behaviour and anxiety are concerned, there were no significant differences between first-time inmates in the temporary cell and the prisoners returning to it.

Keywords: prison temporary cell; anxiety; fear of inmates; transitional period; sense of security; inmates' threatening behaviour.

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1. Introduction

Safety, which is an interdisciplinary concept, may be understood as an objective or subjective state. For the purpose of this study, safety is viewed from a psychological perspective. According to Klamut (2012): "It is understood as a subjective state of experiencing calmness, security and lack of danger". Further considerations focused on the sense of security, which, according to Klamut, is the most important context for understanding safety in psychological terms. The importance of the need for safety is confirmed by its presence in Maslow's theory. The sole category that is located lower is the physiological needs, which are necessary for sustaining biological existence of man. Recognizing the importance of safety, Abraham Maslow states that it is only in extreme situations (war, social disorganization, chronically difficult situations) that safety becomes a dominant factor that motivates to action. However, he identifies individuals (e.g. some neurotics, people suffering from obsessive-compulsive neurosis) whose perception of the world is a disturbed, and who may lose this sense of security unexpectedly and relatively easily. Nevertheless, in situations of extreme danger, all people regress

from higher needs to the prevailing need for safety. However, this pattern seems to be more pronounced for people living on the verge of safety (Maslow, 1990). The importance of the need for safety seems to be linked to its impact - if it is not satisfied, the self-esteem is affected, and so is the perception of the world and the relationship with the surrounding reality (Mądrzycki, 1996). According to Siek (1986), the need for safety corresponds to the self-preservation instinct, whereas the deficiency in its satisfaction generates fear and anxiety. The notion which may be a carrier of information about the level of perceived safety may be the feeling of security (Klamut, 2012). The feeling that, seemingly, might significantly depend on living conditions. However, according to Szmyd (2014), it is not only the institution that bears responsibility for the type of internal safety, but also the individual himself/herself, and especially his or her cultural, mental and moral level. In philosophical terms, the quality and standard of the individual's humanization plays a significant role here. According to Uchnast (1990), on the other hand, the feeling of security is understood rather as a property at the disposal of a man, which has no reference to the surrounding reality. The quoted opinions clearly highlight the human properties, but they overlook the potential of the impact of the environment on the feeling of security.

Men deprived of their liberty, by virtue of their age, are already shaped by their home environment. Thus, they are people with a specific personality structure and a certain culture, which to a large extent determines acceptable defence techniques in difficult situations. According to Goffman (1975), total institutions do not seek to make changes within the established culture of the inmates, instead they create and sustain a kind of tension between the previous social environment of the newcomer and the world of the institution in order to have control over the subordinates. Prison isolation means that existing ties are broken and a process of degrading human personality begins. Some fundamental changes to moral attitudes and changes in beliefs take place. Human behaviour is governed by the principle of maximising one's own interests. An inmate respects only the opinions of significant people in the prison community. The actions undertaken by total institution towards inmates, which Goffman calls attacks on personality, may contribute to the loss of their sense of security. The way in which the institution exercises its power restricts the behaviour of the inmate by means of coercion, commandments and judgement, which on the one hand may cause fear and insecurity, and compel constant vigilance on the other. As a consequence, a tendency to avoid problems appears, which leads to the limitation of contacts with other prisoners. The sense of security and the need for privacy are not fostered by gathering many prisoners within a small space. It is also important that the depreciation of an inmate in an exaggerated manner may take place even during the transition period, when the newcomer learns his place in the prison community through the interaction with the staff of the institution and also other inmates (Goffman, 1975). Limiting the inmate's contacts with the outside world, which, on the one hand, deprives him of the support from his home environment and may cause anxiety about the fate of his loved ones on the other, may significantly contribute to the loss of security. According to Nowak (2017), people who are socially excluded as a result of recidivism and re-imprisonment declare high concern for the safety of their families.

The highly heterogeneous prison population also includes prisoners equipped by their home environment with the ability to apply adaptation techniques that work well in the grim reality of prison and who do not need to make any modifications to their adaptation patterns (Goffman, 1975). This is confirmed by research results. As reported by Wróbel-Chmiel (2018), insecurity seems to be a typical feeling for first-time inmates. A study among the inmates with long-term sentences showed that first-time inmates and recidivists differ significantly as regards their sense of security.

Inmates who are particularly vulnerable to insecurity from the very beginning of their stay in prison isolation due to the nature of the committed crime or their personality traits are in a totally different situation. The behaviour of the prison community towards aggrieved (degraded) prisoners and the fact of the double isolation of these people (from the outside world and the general prison population) probably impacts their self-esteem, perception of the world, and their place in it. The research conducted by Snopek (2019) indicated that half of the aggrieved prisoners were afraid of the prisons who use cryptolect, and almost a third - of other aggrieved prisoners. Slightly fewer respondents felt fearful of convicts who did not use prison cryptolect (16.56%), while almost one-quarter of all respondents feared the wardens. Only 7.95% of the respondents declared fear of correctional educators.

During the transition period a newcomer is treated with consideration and usually does not suffer any particular humiliation (Goffman, 1975). The transfer of the inmate to an alien and unfamiliar prison environment may, however, contribute to the loss of his sense of security. The newcomer may be anxious about being in a cell with random other prisoners and observing their behaviour (which is sometimes unpredictable and incomprehensible). According to Shalev (2014), small cells are not conducive to a sense of security.

Some new inmates have reasons to fear because of their lifestyle outside the prison, others because of their behaviour during their previous stay in the penitentiary institution (unsettled business or unpaid debts). According to Niełaczna (2011), the sense of security among the inmates in temporary cells is reflected, among other things, in a rather small number of extraordinary events in these cells and in the statements of the inmates themselves, who suggest that the conflicts in temporary cells are not frequent. These beliefs are supported by research results which do not indicate the temporary cell as a place where extraordinary events involving aggression take place (Nowacki, 2011) and show it as an extremely rare place where self-aggression of inmates occurs – 1.53% of analysed cases (Nowacki, 2012). Nevertheless, leaving the temporary cell is only a matter of time – the length of stay in a temporary cell under Polish conditions cannot exceed 14 days (Article 79 of The Executive Penal Code, 1997). Being transferred to a specific residential cell is another factor that is connected to the sense of security of persons deprived of their liberty (Kalisz & Kwieciński, 2013). One way to ensure security is to form alliances within the prison community (henchmen, accomplices and companions). Each of these alliances fulfils specific functions. During the transition period, which is related to the acquisition of experience, a special role is attributed to a henchman, who is responsible for creating an image of a 'masculine' man (Szczepanik, 2018). Human safety is dependent not only on the complex environmental conditions, but also on the feelings and the ability to assess and understand the changes that take place in the surrounding world and the ability to overcome the experienced difficulties (Pieczywok, 2018). A significant portion of the situations a person may find themselves in are simply challenges (e.g., uncertain situations) that can be made safe by mobilising forces and intensifying thoughtful action (Fehler, 2018). Researchers trace a sense of ontological security to interpersonal relationships, emphasising the role of community which enables the creation of the feeling of security through interpersonal connections (Giddens, 2002). Speaking of relations, it should be noted that relations between inmates and wardens are also related to security. Humorous exchanges enable officers and persons deprived of their liberty to temporarily abandon their roles and meet in a space where they can informally present themselves as unique human individuals in a socially acceptable way - a space in which they can briefly meet as equals. Research indicates that the skilful use of humour fosters relationships, including conflict avoidance, and enhances everyday interactions between representatives of otherwise opposing groups (Nielsen, 2011).

The importance of the sense of security among the inmates in a transitional period - and thus the validity of the undertaken research problem – seems to stem from the consequences of experiencing this state. According to Pokruszyński (2012), feeling safe fosters the development of individuals, allows them to maintain identity, stay active and maintain proper relations with others. On the other hand, the lack of security implicates irrational behaviour and hinders individuals from undertaking activities aimed at personal development (Lewicka-Zelent, 2019). The complexity and specificity of the residential cell and its relevance to the daily experiences of persons deprived of their liberty is particularly illustrated by Turner and Knight (2020). According to the proposed analogy, the prison cell is comparable to a microscopic biological cell. The residential cell represents the monolithic values of the prison - it is the 'living tissue of the penal space'.

This small room is the space used by people in a situation of vulnerability. This use involves, among other things, its personalisation and assigning meaning to it (Baer, 2005). It is also a place where informal social control is exercised. This social control, in its illegal form, operates in criminal groups and the whole criminal underworld (Szacka, 2003). Thus, it also refers to the prison community, which has developed procedures for handling conflicts, rules of conduct and principles for applying these rules (Kamiński, 2006; Szaszkievicz, 1997). No one needs to be convinced of the fact that conflicts in prisons do take place. Prisoners who are easily angered and openly express their anger show more interpersonal difficulties than those who experience anger with less intensity. And internal expression of anger is related to almost all dimensions of psychopathology (Kroner & Reddon, 1995). The potential conflictuality of inmates makes it necessary to constantly control the

prison population, also by means of CCTV. Research findings indicate that CCTV is a means of detecting or preventing highly suspicious behaviours in prison (e.g. smuggling, self-harm, suicide and escape), and consequently improves the safety of persons deprived of their liberty (Allard, Wortley, & Stewart, 2006).

What did I know about this issue before I undertook the research? In order to avoid truisms, I will highlight the observation that goes somewhat beyond the conclusion of my reflections on the sense of security among inmates. However, my personal conviction about its essence made me make this choice. During the period of transition, the contact with the inmate can often be qualitatively different (sometimes even open and undisguised) from the later phase of imprisonment (which is very formal and superficial). This is a significant time frame in terms of influencing the inmate. During the transition period, there are possibilities (of influencing the prisoner) that are not available in the later phases of imprisonment. This is particularly important from an educational point of view. Although it is difficult not to notice that the above observation has its significance for the issue of security.

The subject of the research was the sense of security of adult men during the transitional period of imprisonment - during their stay in a temporary cell. The aim of the presented research is an attempt at identifying factors that may be related to the sense of security among inmates in the temporary cells of prisons and detention facilities. The following research hypotheses have been formulated: H1: It is presumed that the decrease in the feeling of security is dependent on the increasing age of the inmates H2: It is presumed that the increase in the feeling of security is dependent on the increasing length of time spent in the temporary cell; H3: It is likely that first-time inmates in a temporary cell are characterised by lower feelings of security than the prisoners returning to it; H4: It is supposed, that the mood of first-time inmates and the prisoners returning to a temporary cell does not differ. The following independent variables were examined: age, length of stay in the temporary cell, number of stays in a temporary cell and the inmates' mood. The dependent variable is the sense of security of adult males during the transitional period of imprisonment. The non-measurable dependent variable makes it necessary to specify it with indicators – items selected by means of a factor analysis. By means of factor analysis, factors were extracted that included questionnaire items with a high KMO value. The extracted factors were subjected to an in-depth analysis.

2. Methods

In order to achieve the research objective, a diagnostic survey method and statistical and comparative analysis methods were used. The survey technique and the interview technique were used accordingly to the adopted method. The research tool was the author's own Sense of Security Questionnaire for Inmates in a Temporary Cell, which consisted of questions used to determine the level of inmates' security. The respondents answered questions with the use of the 5 point Likert scale. High results indicate a low sense of security (high sense of threat). However, for the study of mood in people deprived of their liberty, a research scheme with a single measurement was applied. The survey was conducted during typical hours of human activity (9 AM–5 PM). The respondent was asked to estimate his mood (How are you feeling today?) using the eleven-point Likert scale, namely: Worse than ever before; Much worse than usual; Noticeably worse than usual; Worse than usual; A little worse than usual; As usual; A little better than usual; Better than usual; Noticeably better than usual; Much better than usual; Better as never before (Johnson, 1937). Also the Lie Scale was used, which consisted of five items similar to the questions of verification scales from personality inventories, mainly the 'Lie scale' from Eysenck's MPI (Choynowski, 1968; Drwal, 1981). The research was carried out in three stages. The first survey was conducted among inmates in the temporary cells of the Correctional Facility in Pińczów in 2012–2013 (n =224). The next one was conducted in the Correctional Facility in Pińczów in 2016 (n =58), while the third one was conducted in the Detention Facility in Kielce in 2017 (n =140). The study group consisted of a total of 422 convicts. Random sample selection was used. Participation in the research was voluntary. The respondents were provided with detailed instructions, including the need to consider before giving an answer. Inmates were informed that they could resign from the participation in the study at any stage. The adequate investigator-researcher quality contact was ensured. The study was concluded with an interview with the inmate during which the respondent had the opportunity to obtain answers to his questions, including those concerning the purpose of the study, his participation in the study, the results obtained and their significance.

An integral part of the study was to obtain classification information necessary for a statistical analysis of the obtained data from a proper correction officer. The information was arranged and recorded in the Personal-Cognitive Documentation Card.

Undoubtedly, the study was hampered by the fact that the duration of the inmates' stay in the temporary cell was limited to 14 days (in reality it was much shorter). This time was also the reason for the limitations in the research methods used. Among other things, it meant that the research with a single measurement was used to examine the mood of the inmates. One should also take into account the fact that the applied methods of statistical and comparative analysis may fail in the case of studying a variable (time of stay in a temporary cell) with a very narrow scope.

Research material from 8 questionnaires was rejected (due to high scores on the lie scale). Ultimately, the statistical analysis was performed on the results of 419 adult male-inmates who did not participate in the subculture of prison cryptolect (99.29%) and 3 participants of this subculture (0.71%). More than 50.71% of the total number of respondents were prisoners who stayed in a temporary cell for the first time ($n = 214$). The others returned to it. The convicted adult men were studied in three age groups: early adulthood ($n = 139$, $M = 23.94$, $SD = 3.27$); medium adulthood ($n = 268$, $M = 42.36$, $SD = 8.44$); late adulthood ($n = 15$, $M = 65.60$, $SD = 3.98$). The education of the respondents was varied (primary – 26.30%; lower secondary – 12.32%; basic vocational – 41.47%; secondary – 16.6%; higher – 3.32%). The length of stay in the temporary cell was also varied, namely: first-time inmates ($n = 214$, $M = 77.80$ hours, $SD = 51.62$); returning prisoners ($n = 208$, $M = 86.84$ hours, $SD = 56.32$). Verification of the research tool of own construction – Sense of Security Questionnaire for Inmates in a Temporary Cell.

Using factor analysis by the principal component method, the KMO values for each of the 20 questions included in the author's questionnaire were defined, verifying whether they are consistent enough with the remaining questions of the tool, so that they could be left in the analysis. All questions obtained satisfactory individual KMO measurement properties. The measure of sampling adequacy for the whole sample (all questions) reached a fully acceptable $KMO = 0.87$, which means that the sampling was satisfactory for analysis. The Barlett's Test of Sphericity ($\chi^2(190) = 2900.77$; $p < 0.001$) showed that the correlations between the individual factors were large enough to carry out factor extraction (Bedyńska & Brzezicka, 2007).

Both the scree plot and the Kaiser criterion indicated a three-factor solution, which explained the total of 49.51% of the variance. This means that taking into account the explorative approach to the created tool for measuring the Sense of security among inmates in a temporary cell, the answers were treated as referring to two clearly separable factors. The varimax method was used for the extraction of factors. The first extracted factor, called 'fear of inmates' threatening behaviour', contains questions implying that one of the security factors may be the behaviour of fellow inmates, e.g.: P9: Has anyone from your cell threatened you? This factor explains 29.15% of the variance. The second factor, 'fear of inmates', is made up of questions which indicate that fear of fellow inmates may be a factor in feeling secure, e.g.: P6: Do you fear the inmates who have returned to prison repeatedly? This factor explains 11.55% of the variance. The third factor is called 'anxiety' because it contains questions indicating that anxiety about continuing to stay in prison may be a security factor. The factor is manifested in problems with sleep, among other things, e.g.: P11: Do you wake up at night? This factor explains 8.81% of the variance. In order to determine the level of reliability (reliability understood as a feature that indicates the accuracy of measurement) of the questionnaire, Cronbach's Alpha statistics were calculated. All factors have satisfactory reliability. For the fear of inmates' threatening behaviour factor, consisting of 6 items: P2, P9, P13, P18, P24, P25 – $\alpha = 0.81$; for the fear of inmates factor, consisting of 6 items: P2, P5, P6, P19, P20, P21 – $\alpha = 0.83$; for the 'anxiety' factor, consisting of 6 items: P1, P11, P14, P15, P16, P23 – $\alpha = 0.72$.

Statistical measurements for the factor "fear of inmates' threatening behaviour" showed that this factor was characterised by moderate variation ($n = 422$, $M = 1.87$, $SD = 0.49$). To check the normality of the distribution of results the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used. The statistics and the significance for this test showed that

the data distribution was not consistent with normal distribution ($K-S=0.20$, $p < 0.001$). The skewness statistic ($SK=0.56$) indicated a slight positive right-skewed distribution, the predominance of values higher than the mean, while the kurtosis statistic ($KU=1.80$) indicated moderate leptokurtic distribution (i.e. a concentration of the results around the mean).

The 'fear of inmates' factor was characterized by a moderate differentiation ($n=422$, $M=2.30$, $SD=0.64$). The factor distribution was not consistent with normal distribution ($K-S=0.19$, $p < 0.001$). The skewness statistic ($SK=0.93$) indicated a significant positive right-skewed distribution, i.e. the predominance of values higher than the mean, while the kurtosis statistic ($KU=1.31$) indicated moderate leptokurtic distribution, i.e. a concentration of the results around the mean.

The "anxiety" factor was characterized by a moderate differentiation ($n=422$, $M=3.04$, $SD=0.69$). The factor distribution was not consistent with normal distribution ($K=0.07$, $p < 0.001$). The skewness statistic indicated a slightly right-skewed distribution, i.e., a predominance of values higher than the mean ($SK=0.01$), while the kurtosis statistic indicated a slightly platykurtic distribution, i.e., a small concentration of results around the mean and a lot of extreme results ($KU=-0.50$).

To check if there is a relation between the factors, a correlation analysis was performed. A non-parametric Spearman rho correlation test was used. The coefficients indicate that as the factor 'fear of inmates' threatening behaviour' increases, the 'anxiety' factor increases slightly ($n=422$, Spearman's rho correlation= 0.26 , $p < 0.01$) and the 'fear of inmates' factor increases strongly ($n=422$, Spearman's rho correlation= 0.41 , $p < 0.01$). With the increase in the 'fear of inmates' threatening behaviour' factor, the 'anxiety' factor increases strongly ($n=422$, Spearman's rho correlation= 0.41 , $p < 0.01$). With the increase in the 'anxiety' factor, the 'fear of inmates' factor increases strongly ($n=422$, Spearman's rho correlation= 0.41 , $p < 0.01$).

In order to analyse the relationship between the 'mood' factor and the feeling of security, the non-parametric Kendall's tau-b correlation test was applied. All correlations, i.e.: between the 'mood' factor and the 'fear of inmates' threatening behaviour' factor (Kendall's tau-b correlation -0.08 , $p < 0.05$), and between the 'mood' factor and the 'fear of inmates' factor (Kendall's tau-b correlation -0.16 , $p < 0.001$), and between the 'mood' factor and the 'anxiety' factor (Kendall's tau-b correlation -0.19 , $p < 0.001$) were statistically significant. Low values of correlation coefficient should be interpreted as no correlation or very weak correlation. It can therefore be concluded that the results of the study are reliable.

In order to verify the relationship between the result on the Lie Scale and the identified factors, the non-parametric Kendall' tau-b correlation test was used. Only the correlation between the result on the Lie Scale and the "anxiety" factor was statistically significant (Kendall's tau-b correlation -0.24 , $p < 0.001$). The low value of the correlation coefficient should be treated as a very weak correlation between variables (Bedyńska & Brzezicka, 2007). Hence the conclusion, that the study outcomes are reliable.

3. Results

The most important research findings are as follows. It was found that age is not related to the sense of inmates' security in the temporary cell of the correctional facility and detention facility. The first hypothesis was not confirmed. However, there is a weak, positive relationship between the time of first-time inmates' stay in a temporary cell and the 'anxiety' factor (Spearman's rho correlation= 0.19 , $p < 0.01$). The low value of the correlation coefficient authorises only a cautious interpretation of the result, which indicates that as the length of stay increases, the anxiety and sense of security of the first-time inmates in a temporary cell decreases. The research result is of particular interest due to the short (analysed) length of inmates' stay in a temporary cell. The result did not confirm the second hypothesis.

In order to assess whether there were differences in the sense of security between first-time inmates in a transitional cell and those who returned to it, an intergroup analysis was performed. The analysis of differences carried

out based on the non-parametric Mann-Whitney rank-sum test for the 'fear of inmates' factor showed that the differences were statistically significant ($U=16503.00$, $Z=-4.65$, $p<0.001$). First-time inmates in a temporary cell ($n=214$) showed more fear of inmates than the prisoners returning to the temporary cell ($n=208$). In contrast, there were no differences between first-time inmates in a temporary cell and the prisoners returning to it as regards 'fear of inmates' threatening behaviour' and 'anxiety' factors. The third hypothesis was partially confirmed.

In order to assess whether first-time inmates in a temporary cell and the prisoners returning to it differed in their scores with regard to the 'mood' factor, an intergroup analysis was performed. The analysis of differences with the use of the non-parametric Mann-Whitney rank-sum test showed that first-time inmates in a temporary cell ($n=195$) and the prisoners returning to it ($n=188$) had similar scores ($U=18022.50$, $Z=-0.29$). The research result fully supported the second hypothesis.

In addition, an intergroup comparison was made on the 'Mood' scale between inmates in the temporary cell and inmates in the residential cell of the correctional facility. For this purpose, the results of the study regarding the inmates' mood in the residential cell of a correctional facility, which was conducted as part of studying the inmates' inclination to ingratiation in the Correctional Facility in Pińczów and the Correctional Facility in Trzebinia, were used (Nowacki, 2017). The comparison of arithmetic means indicates that inmates in the temporary cell ($n=383$, $M=-0.61$, $SD=1.97$) scored worse on the 'Mood' scale than inmates in the residential cell ($n=501$, $M=0.36$, $SD=1.72$). This result is not surprising. The research result becomes more meaningful when juxtaposed with the result indicating that first-time inmates in a temporary cell and the prisoners returning to it do not differ in their scores on the analysed scale. The obtained result may mean that during the transition period the first-time inmates and those who serve the sentence again experience strong negative emotions, primarily as a reaction to the loss of freedom.

Age is not related to the sense of inmates' security in the temporary cell of the correctional facility and detention facility.

There is a weak, positive relationship between the duration of first-time inmates' stay in a temporary cell and the 'anxiety' factor (Spearman's rho correlation= 0.19 , $p<0.01$). However, no relationship was found between the duration of the inmates' stay in the temporary cell and the 'fear of inmates' threatening behaviour' factor and the 'fear of inmates' factor. It should be borne in mind that an extremely short duration of the inmates' stay in the temporary cell was analysed.

First-time inmates in a temporary cell revealed greater fear of inmates than the prisoners returning to it ($U=16503.00$, $Z=-4.65$, $p<0.001$).

The first-time inmates in a temporary cell do not differ in the 'Mood' scale score from the prisoners returning to it.

The inmates in a temporary cell are characterised by a worse score on the 'Mood' scale ($M=-0.61$) than the inmates in a residential cell ($M=0.36$).

Discussion

The presented study analyses the relationships between the feeling of security and the variables distinguished by means of factor analysis. The complex situational context of an inmate in a temporary cell seems to contain the hallmarks of a double transitoriness. Within a small time frame a person is transitioned, first between freedom and imprisonment, and shortly thereafter, between a small group of newcomers and a large prison population. Some researchers see the factors that influence the sense of security primarily in the individual himself, without, however, completely dismissing extreme situations that may make the situational context the decisive factor. The short duration of an inmate's stay in a temporary cell is not conducive to obtaining unambiguous research results. This makes it all the more interesting to reveal the relationship between the length

of time prisoners spend in a temporary cell for the first time and the anxiety factor. The result obtained in the presented study may mean that the increased duration of stay in this cell does not increase the sense of security among the inmates. Moreover, it may reveal a growing anxiety against the stay in prison isolation. However, it should be borne in mind that the average length of stay of first-time inmates in a temporary cell only exceeded three days. The research has revealed that first-time inmates in a temporary cell are more fearful of fellow inmates than the prisoners who return to it. Similar findings were made by (Wróbel-Chmiel, 2018). The obtained results do not allow to unequivocally resolve the problem of locating the factors that determine the sense of security (person versus the surrounding reality of the temporary cell). The obtained research result, which significantly reveals greater fears of newcomers towards other convicts than the returning inmates, seems to be close to the views of researchers who locate the factors of losing the sense of security in the individual (Maslow, 1990; Uchnast, 1990). However, the findings that relate to the length of stay in the temporary cell, age and mood seem to strongly emphasise the role of the situational context of the temporary cell. The result indicating that there is no relationship between age and the respondents' sense of security is comparable to the research result obtained by Klamut (2019). On the other hand, the research conducted by Jovanić (2014) demonstrates that there is a relationship between the age of the persons deprived of their LIBERTY AND THE PERCEIVED SECURITY – THE FEAR FOR PERSONAL SECURITY IN PRISON INCREASES WITH AGE. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE taken into account that Janovic studied inmates in different types of institutions (i.e. open, semi-open, closed and strictly closed). In contrast, the results presented in this article refer to adult prisoners in a temporary cell of a closed-type institution.

The transfer of the convict to a residential cell ends the transitional period of the imprisonment. The inmate begins to function socially in a wider prison community, which to large extent is the basis for the realization of the imprisonment objectives. As mentioned earlier, a person's safety also depends on the person himself (Szmyd, 2014). The necessity to isolate the inmate from other prisoners due to his behaviour significantly limits the possibilities of educational impact. Szmyd also recognizes the ability of institutions to model and organize collective and individual life. An institution also involves officers and employees. The results of the research indicate that the quality of the relationship between prison staff and persons deprived of their liberty is related to the social climate and maintenance of order in the prison environment (Hacin, Fields,& Meško, 2018).

The relevance of the results in the Polish and international context seems to manifest itself in the identification of factors that determine the sense of security of inmates during the transitional period of imprisonment. The identified factors are: Fear of Inmates' Threatening Behaviour, Fear of Inmates and Anxiety. In addition, the results show a significant reduction in the mood of adult males during the transitional period of imprisonment. The lowered mood may be a signal to the prison administration about the inmate's issues, specific needs, experienced emotions. A deficit of information about the inmate can threaten their security. According to Jankowski (2011), mood lasts longer than an emotion and its level is internally conditioned.

Mood is therefore an observable source of information about a person deprived of liberty. It is a source that is independent of the inmate's attitude towards the prison administration and his willingness and readiness to cooperate in terms of education. The potential objectivity of mood as a carrier of information on the mental state of a person deprived of liberty determines its cognitive value. Indicating the potential importance of mood for educational needs is a kind of added value of the conducted research.

A conclusion for practitioners based on the research seems to be of some importance, namely: the stay of a first-time inmate in a temporary cell could be used for systemic preparation of the inmate for a safe functioning in prison. In consequence, this would imply a departure from shortening the transitional period provided for by the legislator.

On the other hand, in the Polish context, the significance of the results is manifested in the postulate to make full use of the time that first-time inmates and temporary detainees spend in a transitional cell, as provided by the legislator because, as the research shows, in some penitentiary institutions the average time spent by inmates in a temporary cell was 5 days (Niełaczná, 2011).

The conducted research seems to justify the need for thorough research on the sense of security among persons in the transitional period of serving a prison sentence. The analysis prompts some important observations. An unquestionable challenge for further research will be to obtain a research sample representative for the general population. Another problem may consist in obtaining a sample that represents persons in various stages of the transition period (temporal aspect of staying in a temporary cell). The research sample should be large, which seems to be justified by the limitations related to the study of the dependence of a variable with a significantly limited scope, i.e. time of stay in a temporary cell. A large number of respondents will ensure better results of statistical analysis.

The specificity and importance of the transitional period for the social functioning of an inmate in prison is a circumstance that prompts the author of this article to examine the susceptibility of inmates to social influence during this phase of imprisonment.

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