

ABSTRACT

Crimes against peace and security of mankind have become a major issue in societies world over. Sri Lanka is not an exemption for this phenomenon. Although, some crimes have not increased noticeably during recent past serious crimes such as Murder, Attempted murder, rape, Kidnapping/Abductions have been increased in Sri Lanka. The prevention of crimes is still at a primitive stage in Sri Lanka. This research paper is to examine the serious crimes against persons and its behaviour and to make recommendations to develop social advancement as a remedy to curtail serious crimes in Sri Lanka.

The scope of this research is restricted to selected most serious crimes against persons namely Murder, Attempted murder, Abduction/kidnapping, Grievous hurt. Further study is limited to time period of year 2011 to 2015 considering the availability of data and time limitation of the study.

This research employs both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. Mainly primary data were collected from a survey carried out at Welikada prison with a randomly selected sample of 50 prisoners who have been convicted for selected most serious crimes against persons in the Colombo district. In addition to that some interviews were carried out with prisoners and senior officials such as Additional Superintendent of Welikada prison, Director Crime Investigation Division, Director Crime Research division of the Police department. Secondary data was collected from the crime records available at Crime Research Division and the statistics division of the Prison Headquarters.

Collected data was presented in the form of bar charts, pie charts and scatter plot diagrams and correlational analysis was done to test the hypothesis and accordingly findings and recommendations were made. The study will be useful to understand causes for serious crimes in criminological perspective and provide relevant authorities necessary feedback for the control and prevention of serious crimes against persons.