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## **METHODOLOGICAL BASIS FOR UNDERSTANDING THE PHENOMENON OF "VIOLENCE" IN CRIMINAL LAW**

The article examines the views of representatives of various scientific schools on the definition of the phenomenon of "violence", in particular, with an emphasis on the features of its relationship with the notion of "coercion". It is noted that both coercion and violence are direct, individualized and mediated, encoded in the institutes and mechanisms of society, hidden and open, physical and psychological. Any violence is coercion, but not any coercion is violence. The article states that the category of "violence" is considered in various aspects: historical, sociological, psychological, legal, anthropological, biological, political. The scientific search within the framework of the study allowed us to look at the phenomenon of "violence" in the philosophical sense, which is an integral part of the overall development of mankind. On the basis of scientific research, the authors come to the conclusion that such a multi-faceted concept still does not have a single definition. It is noted that ancient philosophers have explored the "force" side of violence, and representatives of medieval philosophy have revealed another, "authoritative" aspect of violence associated with competence, ability to dispose, ability to insist on their own. The beginning of the 20th century was

marked by the emergence of many philosophical and journalistic works, in which violence appeared as a vivid image of the embodiment of the most creative force of nature. In the article, having examined the opinions and positions of scientists, the general interpretations of the essence of the phenomenon of violence are outlined and highlighted, and attention is focused on the features of violence. In addition, it is noted that the results obtained in this article create a methodological basis for further improvement of the knowledge system about the concept of violence in criminal law.

**Keywords:** violence, coercion, category, concept, phenomenon of violence, philosophical and legal concepts, methodological aspects.

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