

**CRIMINAL THINKING STYLES AND THEIR RELATION WITH ILLUSION OF INNOCENCE
AMONG A SAMPLE OF CONVICTS**

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Abstract

The methods of criminal thinking increased after 2003, and criminals used methods that required great efforts to discover their crimes, and the number of crimes increased in all governorates of Iraq for psychological, political, economic, social, and cultural reasons, which resulted in weakness in thinking, and depended on the illusion of acquittal without paying attention to the consequences of behavior, the illusion of acquittal It pushes the individual to engage in socially unacceptable behaviors, preferring the present reality over the future, moving to the reality of pleasures, surrendering to temporary desires, indulging in pleasure, feeling strong, and getting rid of potential consequences. It will be better, and this can be sustained through cognitive, social, over-perception of self-control, and unrealistic optimism. The researcher adopted a scale of criminal thinking methods, and the researcher built a scale of illusion of exoneration, and the stability of the first scale was (0.78), and (0.71) by the half-segmentation method. While the stability of the second scale was (0.88) by the Alpha Cronbach method, and (0.77) by the half-segmentation method, and the researcher applied the two scales to a sample of (248) judged men only, and he reached a set of results, including that there are no criminal thinking methods in the research sample, and they do not have They are acquitted, and he reached a set of recommendations, including the necessity for the Ministry of Interior to invest the results of the current research. The researcher suggested a set of proposals, including conducting a similar study on a sample of female prisoners in Iraqi prisons.

Chapter I

1st Topic

Introduction

Criminal thinking styles have grown after 2003 due to the changes that Iraq witnessed in various fields, especially with the complexity and diversity of crimes, and the criminals' use of methods that require great efforts to discover the threads of the crime, its perpetrator, motives, and the reasons that prompted it (Sumaya, 2006, 6). Societies suffer from crime as an anti-social behavior, an obstacle to progress, a source of disintegration, a form of corruption, and a threat to the moral, social, economic and security entity (Ibrahim and Mudawi, 2013, 15). What we do depends on what we think about. The human's thinking, plans, expectations, and behavior are preceded by actual thinking, which prompted researchers to pay attention to the methods of criminal thinking, (McMorran, & Howard, 2011, 32).

The year 2003 constituted a defining moment in the conditions of Iraqi society, as the system of social values was cracked, and crime rates increased, especially with the entry of terrorism, as Iraqi society was subjected to exciting changes that reflected their impact on the security situation with the interaction of the results of previous wars, economic siege, looting, and looting of state departments, which left It had a negative impact, and caused a deterioration in the social fabric that encouraged criminal minded people to commit crimes that were not known in Iraqi society, such as identity killing, bank robbery, and electronic extortion (Al-Falahi, 2013, 519). As well as changes in the political, economic, social, and educational fields, as the criminal court statistics showed an increase in the percentage of criminal cases for the period between 2004-2014 from (20%) to (50%), with reference to the absence of crime in 2003 despite the occupation of the coalition forces, The disintegration of state agencies until terrorism appeared in 2004 in Iraq, and premeditated murders began to increase dramatically, and their increase encouraged the presence of terrorism, the proliferation of weapons, and the erosion of borders (Al-Rifai, 2015, 2). Weak security and the emergence of sectarian polarization with the absence of opportunities to solve the aggravating problems, which caused a decline in the sense of belonging, dispersal of identity, and a loss of a sense of trust, with the absence of light at the end of the tunnel (Ministry of Planning, 2014, 93).

In an attempt to study the association of criminal thinking methods with the illusion of innocence, to know the indicators carried by the individual, which lead to biases in cognitive processes, distortion of information, distortion of facts, and exaggeration of judgments (Majid, 2015, 2). It appeared that those who tend to the delusion of healing exaggeratedly feel overcoming difficulties and controlling events (Yamaguehi, & et al, 1996, 37). The illusory correlation leads to a distortion in the interpretation of behavior (Hamilton, 1981, 58). Connections bridge the gaps in the individual's perceptions of situations, events, and others (Brrhdt, & Heller, 1986, 884). The illusion of acquittal is a self-perception that does not correspond to reality. The person who is preoccupied with pleasure has illusions that push him to continue unreal behaviors to achieve the greatest degree of satisfaction and a sense of pleasure (Jenkins, & Ward, 1965, 98). Experience consistent with imaginary associations is not easily forgotten (Eysenck, 2000, 509). Those with delusion of innocence believe in controlling traumatic situations, which are unrealistic and deceptive opinions, and their owners can perpetuate them through cognitive and social means, as they have a positive view of the self and unrealistic optimism (Taylor, 1988, 422). And that the present is better than the past, and that the future is four times better than the present than it is in reality, and the evidence for the nature of illusion comes from comparing the judgments of oneself, with the judgments of others, as the results indicate that they have an exciting vision of the future that pushes them to overcome difficulties, and traumatic events such as traffic accidents, Or disease, or exposure to punishment, and this is an extreme tendency that leads to the formation of delusions (Weinstein, 1993, 78).

Illusion of Innocence achieves agreement with current events and with what will happen, but is unable to achieve this agreement in the long run. For example, the susceptibility to the disease is subject to a distorted perception, the individual who believes that he is far from infection suffers from Illusion of Innocence, which is in fact a method that arises on the basis of tendencies that are likely to influence the individual's overcoming the traumatic matters of his life by not thinking about the potential risks, and this delusion may benefit when Short-term achievement of normal behaviors, but over time it leads to paying a heavy price when situations appear to be out of his control (Mashacho, 2011, 22). Those with the Illusion of Innocence are five times more

capable of dealing with traumatic situations than others (Taylor, 1988, 177). Hence the problem of trying to define the relationship of criminal thinking methods with the Illusion of Innocence to discover the reasons that lie behind the imbalance of the individual's behavior within his social interaction, and to know the factors that control him in order to move towards compliance with the standards accepted in society, and to determine the defect that befell him, and its causes. Society is going through to put pressure on individuals, and if it is available to address its physical aspects, its psychological and social effects are difficult to treat as it requires multiple efforts. Of (78) prisoners in Algeria, he concluded that the convicts, regardless of the type of their crime, are characterized by aggression and violence in dealing with others, as aggression and ugliness appeared among the terrorists more than other methods, and negativity appeared among the killers more than others, while sadism and nature The persecution of thieves is more than others (Hantoul, 2004, 47). Al-Wasimi conducted a study on criminal thinking and its relationship to incompatible behavior among juvenile delinquents in a sample of (80) juveniles placed in a juvenile correctional institution. There are no differences according to gender, or specialization in the motives leading to criminal behavior, and economic motives ranked first in influencing criminal behavior, followed by psychological factors, then religious factors, and social motives (Al-Wasimi, 2018, 47).

Illusion of Innocence is part of the positive illusions that the individual adheres to in order to get rid of the threatening situations he faces, and is linked to a feeling of salvation. & Diener, 1995, 17). It is a response to traumatic situations that appeared in heart patients, cancer patients, and people living with AIDS, as they showed that they are better off when they deal with the threat because of the Illusion of Innocence they carry (Taylor, 1993, 196. When the individual is exposed to a traumatic situation, he tends to believe that he has control over aspects of This situation is as in breast cancer patients, AIDS patients, and heart patients, as they showed a high degree of emotional control (Taylor & Shelley, 1999, 193)). Illusion of Innocence is a need that appears when facing difficult situations, as the individual who believes that he is controlling them feels through a power that he cannot express, especially when dealing with difficulties (Wortman, & Brehm, 1975, 320). The Illusion of Innocence affects the sense of well-being, and longevity. It has been shown that those who exaggerated their feelings of overcoming the difficulties they face are less frustrated and depressed, meaning that the individual's control of situations reduces their negative effects (Thompson, & Spacapan, 1991, 18). The current research is an attempt to keep pace with studies of methods of criminal thinking, and studies of Illusion of Innocence among prisoners, who are a segment of society members who have fallen victim to their deviant behavior and need to modify their behavior.

Criminal thinking techniques are knowledge designed to initiate or continue a routine violation of rules, principles, and laws approved by a governing legislature (Al-Wasimi, 2018, 196). The Illusion of Innocence is a state of possession of the individual that accompanies the issuance of the conviction verdict, represented by vague feelings similar to the illusion that he will be rescued at the last moments (Al-Yaqoubi, 2021, on his personal Facebook page).

2nd Topic

Theory of Criminal Thinking Styles

The criminal thinks in a different way, motivated by cognitive patterns that seem logical to him even though they are wrong, and some individuals become criminals as a result of a series of choices that he makes in his

childhood, such as poor attention, sensory deprivation, and neglect, which represents an appropriate ground for initiating criminal behavior, and the criminal is a healthy person who commits crime with his will, and his conviction has lost. When interviewing (240) criminals, it was proven that they carried out (36) methods of criminal thinking due to distortion of self-image, deviation from the rules of society, repeated failure in life situations, the need for control, using any means to earn money, and rigid thinking (Haider Khan, 2018, 104). Criminal thinking styles are an indicator of criminal behavior that violates the law (Sadiq, 2021, 43). Behavior is determined by environmental conditions, decision-making, and the criminal mindset (Walters, 2002, 27). Walters identified methods that refer to criminal thinking, including: weak ability to reorganize experiences, closing off from information, weak cognitive structures, weak cognitive representation, and distortion of linking information to positive actions (Shehata, et al., 2004, 115). It has been proven that the cognitive structure of criminal thinking includes eight overlapping styles of thinking, which are to justify responsibility by assigning blame for criminal acts to difficult conditions of upbringing and poverty. The pain that leads to punishment is isolated from the crime. Merit is an individual's idea of himself that he has a right to enjoy life. The tendency of the individual to control his social surroundings. And show innocence by presenting himself in a positive way. Exaggeration in evaluating his abilities, and over-confidence. Cognitive lethargy. The tendency to breach obligations in order to obtain the material. There are factors that develop criminal thinking, the most important of which are the environment, the social behavior of family members, values, and parental, emotional and behavioral attitudes such as neglect, strict discipline, and the absence of one or both parents (Appleyard, & et al, 2005, 235). It has been proven that there is a relationship between criminal behavior and family problems. After analyzing the longitudinal research to study the association between family factors and the behavior of the criminal, four categories of problems appeared that develop the emergence of criminal behavior, namely lack of interest in the child, poor follow-up of parents, conflict between parents and children, parental rejection of the child, weak support, weak emotional relationship, and the prevalence of deviant trends. Cognitive distortions, excessive attention, poor tolerance, severe punishment, or overprotection. The Iraqi sociologist (Ali al-Wardi) believes that illusion is a feature that exists in the beliefs of the individual, and his attitudes. The illusion and the human being have been in bitter struggle since ancient times, and some people prefer illusion to the truth in search of fulfilling their needs. Illusion has many benefits, although it is a weapon that harms its owner if he exceeds his limit. Especially if the conflict is between the city and the tribe, and between personal identity and community identity in times of crisis, and this is more severe for the individual when religious or sectarian conflict spreads. Illusion is a wrong mental perception that may be a wrong interpretation of a real or imagined appearance, and it may be pleasant or harmless, (Stein, 1982, 662).

Taylor divided delusion into two parts: consensual and non-consensual. Among the characteristics of those who hold consensual illusions are the ability to achieve their goals, positive handling of stressful situations, flexibility in achieving goals, confrontation, investing past experiences, looking at failure as a challenging situation, avoiding stating facts, falsifying them, and over-estimating. Self-justification, self-biasing, ignoring others, avoiding negative thoughts, expecting success, internalizing and ignoring symptoms of illness to maintain mental health (Lewicki, 1983, 160). Delusions are types, including the illusion of optimism, as the individual believes that he is less susceptible to negative events because of what he desires, his cognitive mechanisms, his information about himself and others, and his general mood (Shapperd, & Jamse, 2002, 65).

In addition to the illusion of the Fading Affect Illusion, the individual believes that negative feelings go away faster than positive feelings. Egocentric Illusion, as the individual believes that his abilities are higher than they are (Baron, 1994, 372). Also, the illusion of superiority, and the belief that the individual is superior to others (Hoorens, & Vera, 1993, 115). The self-interest illusion, as the individual attributes his success to personal factors, and his failure to external factors. And Illusion of Innocence Illusion of Innocence The bias of the individual when processing information to maintain his compatibility such as making personal concessions, and excessive optimism (Taylor, & et al, 1984, 490).

2nd Topic

The Theory of Illusion of Innocence:

Taylor and Brown (1988) presented a theory that presented accurate perceptions of the human psyche from a positive side and the role of psychological adjustment in dealing with traumatic situations, how to manage them, and its relationship to self-bias, mental health, and touching the social reality to which the individual belongs under the assumption of the need to support mood states Positive through bias in processing information to conform to self-image, people need to maintain a sense of security, tranquility, belief that the future is better, without traumatic events, neutralizing self-threatening information, reducing experiences of failure, and setbacks to maintain an effective awareness. Facing traumatic life situations to protect themselves, enhance them, and ward off danger from them, and what they are doing are misperceptions that contradict the real reality but are beneficial to their personalities. These delusions can be observed statistically for their generality, and their impact on persuading the individual that the situation will end with salvation from the predicament (Taylor, & Brown, 1988, 198). Studies in the fields of information processing, cognition, memory, personality, and social psychology have shown that there are (32) types of positive illusions in normal people aimed at self-support and risk deficiencies, including Illusion of Innocence. Ordinary people use strategies to maintain a balanced view of themselves by evaluating them positively, even if perceived, as they find it easy compared to the amount of negative information they are exposed to (Kuiper, & et al, 1985, 90). Individuals tend to remember what they went through, and how to overcome it, and describe it as the best they did, even if it contradicted reality, and they view failure as possible, and that their positive selves exceeded its effects (Alicke, 1985, 38). The results of studies indicate that traumatic situations produce an increase in physiological, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral activity more than normal situations, and accordingly, the Illusion of Innocence has a feeling of the ability to control traumatic situations without logical justifications, or manifestations that lead to this feeling, which can cause unexpected results, Accordingly, the individual reaches severe frustration, or psychological illness (Taylor, & Brown, 1988, 193). Some people believe that they are immune, and that bad luck and disturbing events do not affect them, which is a false epistemological belief, and it means that negative events are few, and that positive events are more than others (Weinstein, 1993, 809). Most people turn towards the future because they believe that it will be better, and accordingly they bias themselves in order to preserve them through an unrealistic illusion of liberation that makes them feel that they have overcome the difficult situations they face through an external force, (Job & Lee, 1955, 65). Illusion of Innocence may cause weakness in mental health as the individual moves away from reality and deceives himself by having a positive view of the traumatic situation, but it gives the individual a good mood when dealing with stress. Illusion of Innocence is a positive illusion related to self-protection from illnesses, traumatic accidents, crimes, and environmental dangers through unrealistic preventive measures. Because the

threat generates tension, and makes the individual self-centered trying to evoke positive experiences and dependence that an external force will take over the threat (809 Weinstein, 1993). Some unrealistically exaggerate the degree of their control over large events, for example when playing gambling, or throwing dice, as it turns out that they perform behaviors that suggest skill for others, and that they will achieve victory through these behaviors that require experience, practice, and great cognitive control (Langer, 1975, 8). Some fail to control the traumatic situation in the absence of a sense of luck, as they believe that an external force helps them in such situations, and that luck requires skill to achieve what they want (Langer, & Roth, 1976, 251). When the individual is deprived of control over the traumatic situations, great efforts are made to restore them, especially when exposed to a sudden health symptom, as he believes that with his skill, and some luck will transcend this symptom, and it seems that they are illusions that alleviate the state of weakness (Taylor, & et al, 1984, 73). Accordingly, realistic perceptions of personal control appear to be one of the characteristics of individuals when experiencing feelings of depression, and that their awareness of control is part of a concept of their positive selves, a feeling that contributes to promoting mental health.

Chapter III

1st Topic

Research Procedures:

The current research identified a sample of convicts, the number of which was (248) convicts in Iraqi prisons in 2021, who were chosen randomly. The number of convicts in the northern governorates is equal to (70), and their number in the central governorates is equal to (107), and their number in the southern governorates is equal to (71). The number of convicts for the age group (19-30) years equals (94), their number for the age group (31-40) years equals (90), their number for the age group (41-50) years equals (51), and their number for the age group (51 years and over) is equal to (13). The number of convicts who did not obtain an educational certificate was equal to (25), the number of those who obtained a primary school certificate was equal to (102), the number of those who obtained a middle school certificate was equal to (64), the number of those who obtained a secondary school certificate was equal to (43), and the number of those who obtained undergraduate certificate equals (14). The number of those convicted of the crime of kidnapping was equal to (33), the number of those convicted of the crime of forgery was equal to (33), the number of those convicted of the crime of bribery was equal to (33), the number of those convicted of the crime of attempted murder was equal to (28), and the number of those convicted of the crime of theft was (29) The number of those convicted of the crime of fraud and fraud was equal to (33), the number of those convicted of the crime of premeditated murder was equal to (36), and the number of those convicted of the crime of human trafficking was equal to (26). The number of convicts who were employed was equal to (180), while the number of convicts who were not employed was equal to (68).

2nd Topic

Scale of Criminal Thinking Styles

The Thinking Styles Scale is concerned with the correlation with the criminal lifestyle, based on the Walters 1990 model, who suggested that the criminal life style is the result of three factors: Conditions, Choice, and Cognition. Circumstances are determined by the individual's readiness to adopt a criminal lifestyle, but these preparations do not appear to everyone because people have choices about the lifestyle and behavior they

follow. They develop cognitive justifications for the behaviors they will perform, and so the three factors are linked together to produce a set of multiple biological effects of Criminal Behavior.

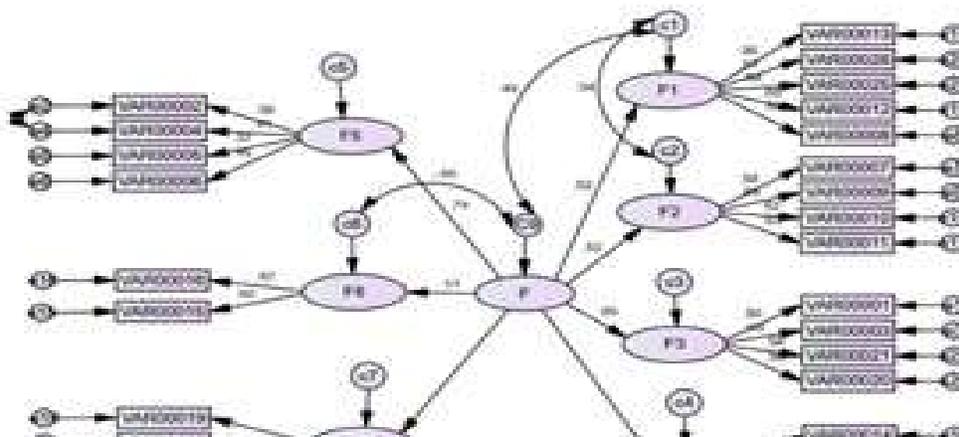
The Criminal Thinking Styles Scale appeared for the first time in 1989 and it consisted of (32) items distributed over four thinking styles called Interpersonal Intrusiveness, Irresponsibility, Self-Indulgence and Social Rule Breaking, and it is answered with three alternatives: (Agree, Not Sure, disagree) Then Walters 1990 increased this scale to (40) items distributed on (10) styles of criminal thinking with four answer alternatives (strongly disagree, agree, not sure, disagree) and then added in 1992 (40) items To the scale, the scale became in its final form of (80) paragraphs, and its validity and stability were proven after applying it to a large sample of prisoners after it was formulated in the light of clinical observations represented by mollification, which means blaming external circumstances and providing delays and excuses for committing crimes. Cut-off means poor tolerance for frustration, transgression of moral standards, and poor mental abilities. Entitlement means the tendency to control, and distort the views of others. Power orientation means the need for an increased sense of control over others. Sentimentality means a person's belief that he is a good person despite his criminal behavior. Super optimism means the individual's belief that the consequences of his criminal behavior can be avoided. Cognitive indolence means weak critical thinking, and excessive confidence in past experiences when dealing with stressful situations. Discontinuity means poor consistency between thinking and behavior. Confusion means severe emotional stress, disturbance of attention, and poor analysis of the stressful situation. Defensiveness means concealment, and the absence of acknowledgment of weakness through the use of psychological defense tricks. The results of the application of the Criminal Thinking Methods Scale revealed its relationship to the criminal history of the criminal, and the criteria for self-control in prison.

Walters 1995 used the factorial analysis of the Criminal Thinking Methods Scale, and he reached four factors: Problem Avoidance, Interpersonal Hostility, Self-Deception, and Denial of Harm, which are saturated with (80) items. Cronbach's alpha is from 0.54 to 0.79. While the degrees of stability according to the retest method ranged from 0.73 to 0.93 and a group of trends appeared when comparing males with females, as it was found that female criminals have a higher degree than criminals in all methods of criminal thinking (Walters, 1998). And the measure of thinking styles of female criminals is more strongly correlated with each other than the male criminals. The cutting method of criminals predicts the results of release from prison, while the emotional sensitivity of criminals predicts this. In the light of criminal thinking methods, the Prison Service in England and Wales recommended reviewing criminal thinking methods and applying it inside prison in order to measure criminal trends and the possibility of changing criminals' thinking during prison period.

In order to calculate the discriminatory power for each paragraph of the scale, the researcher applied the scale to the sample of the analysis of (248) subjects and then determined the total score for each form, and arranged the forms in descending order according to their total score from highest to lowest, and assigned (27%) of the forms with the highest score The scores and (27%) of the questionnaires with the lowest scores represent two groups with the largest size and maximum differentiation possible (Anastasi, 1976: 208). The number of forms in each group was (67), and then extracting the arithmetic mean, and the standard deviation of the scores of the examinees for each group for each paragraph of the scale, then applying the t-test for two independent samples to test the significance of the differences between the scores of the upper group and the lower group for each paragraph at the level of Significance (0.05), it turns out that all paragraphs are distinct, knowing that the tabular value (t) is equal to (1.96) at the degree of freedom (132) and the level of significance (0.05). After

obtaining the results and comparing the correlation coefficients with the tabular value of the correlation coefficient, it was found that all items were statistically significant at the level (0.05) and all items of the scale were accepted. Note that the tabular value of the correlation coefficient is equal to 0.098 at the significance level of 0.05, and in accordance with the criterion of discrimination and the relationship of the paragraph with the total sum, all items of the scale were accepted.

In order to document the paragraphs of the researcher's scale, the factorial analysis of the criminal thinking methods scale, which is an indicator of construction validity, was carried out by applying the scale to (248) subjects. The results of the analysis revealed that most of the correlation coefficients were higher than 0.30, which is statistically significant. Also, the absolute value of the determinant of the correlation matrix was greater than 0.00001. Which indicates that there are no very high correlations, or there is no linear dependence between the variables. And the value of the KMO test was 0.786, which is greater than 0.50, which indicates the sufficiency of the sample size to perform the factor analysis. The level of significance in Bartlett's test was less than (0.05), which means that the use of factor analysis provided the minimum correlation between the variables. Factor analysis using the Principal Components method resulted in the extraction of eight factors whose potential root exceeds (1). When the factors are rotated by the orthogonal method Varimax 25 times, it becomes clear that there is an increase in the amount of saturation of the items on the factors, as five items are saturated on the first factor which are (13-26- 25-12-8) and the second factor four paragraphs (7-9-10-11), the third factor four paragraphs (21-3-20-1), the fourth factor three paragraphs (17-18-14), and the fifth factor four paragraphs It is (4-2-5-6) and the sixth factor has two paragraphs (16-15), and the seventh factor has four paragraphs (24-23-19). As for the eighth factor, it may consist of one paragraph that is (22) as it was saturated with the factor 0.77 and it was excluded This factor is because it did not fulfill the conditions of the factor, which must consist of at least two paragraphs that are highly saturated (Tegha, 2012, 99). Accordingly, the criminal thinking methods scale, in its final form, consisted of (25) items distributed over (seven) areas after deleting paragraph 22, which states (I am a good person in the main despite my violation of the law), and the first factor was named (weak personal responsibility), and the second (guidance self), the third (conscience procrastination), the fourth (persistence), the fifth (cognitive inactivity), the sixth (super-optimism), and the seventh (merit), and through the previous indicators, it can be concluded that most of the matching indicators indicate a good fit of the model, and therefore the theoretical model conformity to the community has been confirmed by assaying the sample data with the statistical indicators adopted in the confirmatory factor analysis. Therefore, the conclusion emerging from the results leads to the adoption that the scale of methods of criminal thinking with its seven factors in the current research indicates an acceptable match between the theoretical model adopted in the scale and the data resulting from the sample. Thus, the confirmatory factor analysis has provided a strong support for the construction validity of this scale. The following figure illustrates this.

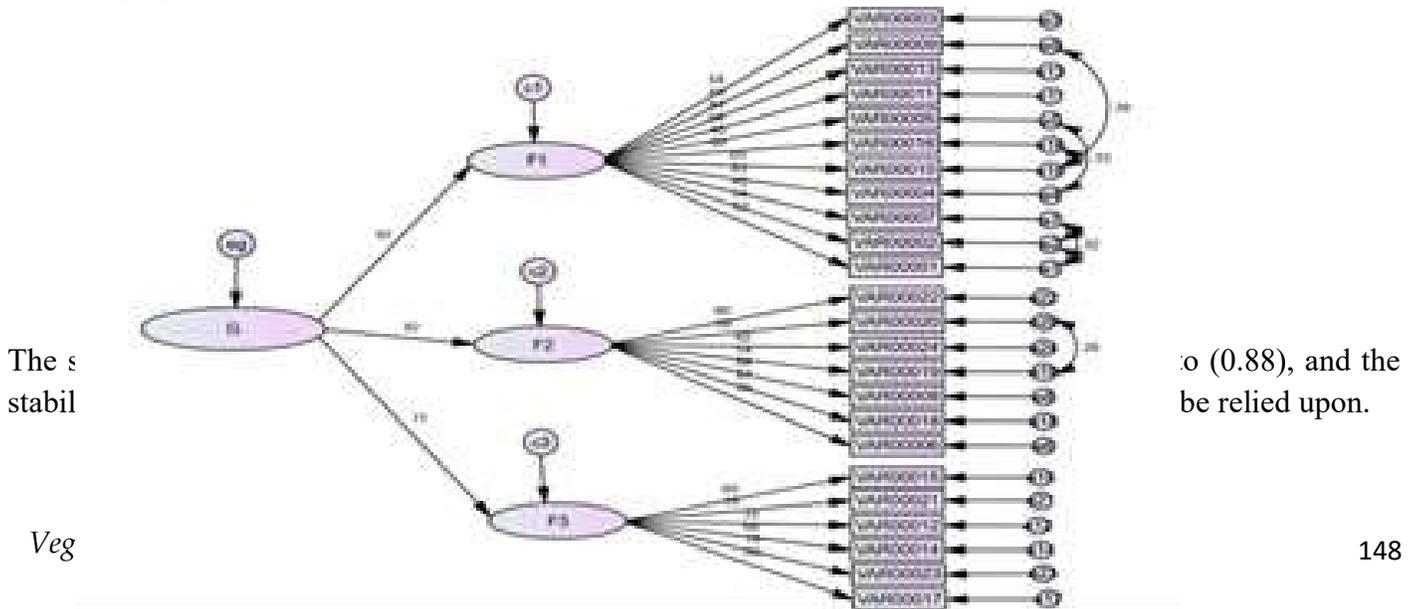


The stability was extracted by two methods of Cronbach's alpha, so it appeared equal to (0.78), and the stability was extracted using the half-segmentation method, so it appeared equal to (0.71). It is a stability coefficient that can be relied upon after reviewing the Walter scale stability index.

3rd Topic

Illusion of Innocence Scale:

Specialists in psychology and psychometrics were consulted, and previous literature was reviewed to install (36) paragraphs of the approved theoretical framework, and some previous studies, and to conduct factor analysis with the aim of building the Illusion of Innocence scale, a procedure that indicates the validity of the scale construction by applying it to the research sample, and the results of the analysis resulted However, most of the correlation coefficients were higher than 0.30, which is a statistical function, and the absolute value of the determinant of the correlation matrix was greater than 0.00001, which indicates that there are no very high correlations or the absence of linear dependence between the variables and that the value of the KMO test reached 0.857, which is greater than 0.50, which indicates To the sufficiency of the sample size to perform the factor analysis. And the level of significance in the Bartlett test is less than (0.05), which means that the use of factor analysis provided the minimum number of correlations between the variables. Factor analysis using the main components method resulted in the extraction of three factors whose latent root exceeds (1). When the factors are rotated by orthogonal rotation 25 times, it turns out that there is an increase in the amount of paragraphs saturation on the factors as they are saturated on (the first factor) eleven paragraphs are (1-2- 7-4-10-16-5-11-13-9-3) and (the second factor) seven paragraphs are (22-20-24-19-8-18-6) and (the third factor) six paragraphs are (15-21-12-14-23-17). Accordingly, the Illusion of Innocence scale in its final form consisted of (24) items distributed over three domains called the first factor (perceived optimism), the second (illusion of strength) and the third (self-aggrandizement). Through the previous indicators, it can be concluded that most of the matching indicators indicate a good conformity with the model. Therefore, the theoretical model has confirmed its conformity with the community by assaying the sample data with the statistical indicators adopted in the confirmatory factor analysis. Therefore, the conclusion arising from these results leads to that the Illusion of Innocence scale with its three factors in the current research, it indicates an acceptable match between the theoretical model adopted in the scale and the data resulting from the selected sample. Thus, the confirmatory factor analysis has provided a strong support for the construction validity of this scale. The following figure illustrates this.



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Chapter IV

1st Topic

Results

The results showed that the average scores of criminal thinking methods were (44.3226) with a standard deviation of (7.67302). There is no significant significance at the level (0.05) and the degree of freedom (247), which indicates that the current research sample is not characterized by any of the seven criminal thinking methods, which are weak personal responsibility, self-direction, procrastination of conscience, persistence, cognitive lethargy, superlative optimism, and entitlement. Note that the tabular value of the t-test was 1.96 at the level (0.05) and the degree of freedom (724). And there are no differences in the methods of criminal thinking according to the conservative variable, and there are differences in the methods of criminal thinking according to the age group in favor of the group (51 years and over) with an average of (49.5). The researcher did not find a reference to age in Walter's model, and accordingly, the age variable has a definite effect on criminality, as the accumulation of experiences, especially successful ones, and the passing of traumatic experiences, and overcoming them, pushes the old criminals to repeat their actions because of the feeling of control, neutralizing fears, and relying on optimism Unrealistic when looking at life situations. And there were differences in the methods of criminal thinking according to academic achievement in favor of a (bachelor) degree, with an average of (62.0). And there are differences in the methods of criminal thinking according to the job in favor of the employees due to the prevalence of administrative and financial corruption crimes among the employees. There are no differences in the methods of criminal thinking according to social status (married - unmarried). And there were differences in the methods of criminal thinking according to the legal article ruled in favor of the crime (kidnapping) with an average of (50.0), then the crime of (forgery) with an average of (48.8), then the crime of (fraud) with an average of (47.3), then the crime of (bribery) with an average of (47.1)), then the crime (attempted murder) with an average of (44.0), then the crime (theft) with an average of (43.4), then the crime (intentional murder) with an average of (42.8), and finally the crime (human trafficking) with an average of (41.9).

The results showed that the average score of Illusion of Innocence among the members of the current research sample was (39.7) with a standard deviation of (8.69), and when comparing the arithmetic mean with the hypothetical average of the scale, which amounted to (48) it is noted that it is (smaller), and when testing the difference between the two means using the t-test for one sample. It was found that there is no significant significance at the level (0.05), and at the degree of freedom (247). And there were differences in the Illusion of Innocence according to the governorate variable, as the northern governorates came (first) with an average of (43.8), then the central governorates (second) with an average (39.4), and finally the southern governorates with an average of (35.2), which indicates that the convicts of the northern governorates have a higher acquittal from the convicts of the central and southern governorates. And there are differences in the Illusion of Innocence according to the age group in favor of the category (41-50) years (first), with an average of (43.1). There are no differences in Illusion of Innocence according to academic achievement. There are differences in Illusion of Innocence by job in favor of employees. And there are differences in Illusion of Innocence according to marital status in favor of (unmarried). There are no differences in the Illusion of Innocence according to the legal article ruled. The values of the correlation coefficient indicated that there was a (direct) relationship between the methods of criminal thinking and the Illusion of Innocence among the governed,

which reached 0.57. The relationship between the methods of criminal thinking and the Illusion of Innocence among the convicts is a (real) relationship that is not subject to chance, and this relationship can be explained because of the illusions in which the convict lives, and his waiting for release from an external force, and this is confirmed by the repetition of amnesty decisions, the mitigation of penalties and the prevalence of administrative and financial corruption in government institutions. and rampant bribery. Multiple regression analysis was used with the entry method, and it was found that criminal thinking methods are able to predict the Illusion of Innocence by (0.57), and predict the sentenced substance by (0.24), and predict (province, age group, and marital status) by (0.17), and academic achievement predicts by (0.13), and finally job predicts by (0.12), and all t values of the regression coefficients were statistically significant at a degree of freedom of 1-246 with a significance level of 0.05.

After the results of the current research appeared, the researcher recommended investing the results from the public relations departments in the Supreme Judicial Council, the Federal Court, and the Courts of Appeal to educate people about crimes and the consequent strict provisions, and urging satellite channels to increase the area of legal media programs, and the researcher suggested conducting a similar study on women Convicts in Iraqi prisons, in addition to conducting a comparative study of the types of illusions prevalent among Iraqi society.

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