

The Essence Of The Concept Of Insult

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Abstract

This article analyzes the legal and social essence of the concept of insult, its forms, consequences, and liability measures established by the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan based on a scientific approach. The article also pays special attention to the expansion of insults via the Internet and social networks, their negative impact on society, and measures to prevent them.

Keywords: insult, honor, dignity, legal responsibility, moral standards, Internet, cyberbullying.

Words are one of the most powerful tools of man. Words build and words destroy. Especially in modern society, the damage caused to human honor, dignity and reputation through words is increasing. Negative, derogatory and offensive expressions are often used in interpersonal relationships, in the media, and on social networks. This violates the delicate line between personal freedom and honor. This article analyzes the legal and moral boundaries of the concept of "insult", its impact on society, and the regulatory and legal frameworks that regulate it.

Insult is the deliberate, derogatory insult to the honor and dignity of a person through words or actions that are usually expressed verbally, in writing, or in any other form of expression. From a legal point of view, insult is a subjective act that deliberately violates the honor of a person and causes him psychological harm. From a psychological point of view, insult is a form of severe psychological pressure that undermines a person's self-confidence and attitude to social relationships.

Insulting always goes beyond personal freedom and violates the rights of another person. This act usually has more negative consequences when it is committed in public.

Insults come in the following forms, and real-life examples can be given for each:

1. Verbal abuse – through direct words (for example: "idiot", "wrong person", "you can't be called a person", etc.). Example: At a work meeting, a department head, in response to an employee's opinion, says, "You are a person who doesn't even understand such a simple issue, we don't need personnel like you!" These words are derogatory and, since they are said in public, can be considered an insult.
2. Written insults – in letters, comments on social networks, articles and other materials. Example: One user on a social network comments on another's post and writes, "You are a liar and a scoundrel, it is not worth talking to you!" A person whose honor has been violated by these derogatory expressions can go to court under Article 41 of the Code of Administrative Offenses.
3. Cyberbullying – on social networks, forums, blogs and messengers. Example: A female student sends a message to her classmates in a Telegram group saying, "Even looking at you is disgusting, I have never seen a person as dirty as you." This is a case of "cyberbullying" and, in addition to insults, also leads to psychological pressure. If this situation is repeated or causes psychological harm, criminal liability will arise.
4. Insults through gestures and signs – for example, derogatory actions or body language. Example: A driver on the street, angry at the wrongdoing of another driver, reacts to him with insulting hand gestures (for example, an insulting hand gesture). Although this form of insult is not verbal, it is considered a derogatory gesture and gives rise to legal liability.

Insult is not only a legal problem, but also a deep socio-moral problem. Its negative consequences can be as follows:

- Harm to the mental state of a person;
- Increased social hostility and conflict;
- Disruption of the environment in organizations and communities;
- Leading to psychological pressure and depression among adolescents;
- Increased suicide rates (as a result of cyberbullying).

International norms also define measures to combat bullying:

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) – every human being is born with dignity and worth and must be respected. European Convention on Human Rights – defines that freedom of expression does not mean permission to humiliate someone else's dignity. In many countries (for example: Germany, France, Japan), insult is considered a crime and punishable by law. Therefore, the following measures are important to prevent insult:

1. Increasing legal literacy - explaining to citizens the consequences of insults;
2. Strengthening moral education - promoting respect and culture in the family, school, and media;
3. Strengthening control over the Internet - introducing algorithms and models to combat cyberbullying and harassment on social networks;
4. Developing psychological support systems – providing support to victims.

In conclusion, it can be said that insult is a harmful act aimed at human honor and dignity, which should be considered not only as a legal, but also as a social and moral problem. The legislation of Uzbekistan is taking this issue seriously, but in practice, both legal and educational measures should be taken together. Within the framework of freedom of speech, each person must be responsible and respect the honor of others. Strengthening the culture of communication, values of tolerance and respect in society will lead to a decrease in cases of insult.

Various forms of insults are widespread in real life and are observed in many areas, from personal relationships to social networks and the media. The goal is to understand the severity of these actions, their legal and social consequences, and to propose systematic approaches to prevent them.

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