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# Pathology of Procedural Rules Governing Petty Crimes in the Context of the McDonaldization of the Criminal Justice System

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction provides a solid contextual background but could benefit from more specific references to studies that have directly addressed the McDonaldization of criminal justice systems. Please integrate citations from contemporary studies that discuss the global spread of McDonaldization principles in justice systems, especially in the context of petty crimes.

The article mentions the failure of rehabilitation theories without adequately discussing the critiques of zero-tolerance policies. Including a balanced critique of the McDonaldization model, which advocates for efficiency and predictability, would provide a more comprehensive foundation for the discussion.

The claim that procedural rules in Iranian law sometimes align with McDonaldization is intriguing, but the article could elaborate on how these principles conflict with or deviate from the McDonaldization model in specific examples. This could offer deeper insight into the hybrid nature of Iranian criminal justice.

The article would benefit from a more nuanced discussion of the “suspension of prosecution.” Specifically, explore how this leniency might serve as an obstacle to the effectiveness of zero-tolerance policies and the efficiency required under McDonaldization.

The use of non-judicial methods, such as mediation, is a relevant point. However, the article could explore the efficacy of such methods in reducing judicial burden. Including statistical or comparative data from jurisdictions where similar practices have been implemented would strengthen this claim.

While the theoretical background is well-articulated, the literature review would benefit from including studies that have compared McDonaldization in different justice systems, particularly in post-colonial or developing nations. This could add depth to the discussion of Iranian law.

The concept of "broken windows theory" is introduced but could be better contextualized within the specific political and social conditions of Iran. A comparison to Western countries' implementation of this theory would provide valuable perspective on its relevance in Iran.

The analysis of petty crimes in Iranian law is well-structured. However, the section could benefit from a clearer distinction between petty crimes and more serious offenses, with specific examples of cases that demonstrate this distinction in legal practice.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The shift from rehabilitative to retributive justice is discussed, but there is insufficient analysis of how the McDonaldization of justice might contribute to an erosion of human rights or affect the rehabilitation potential of offenders. A clearer link between McDonaldization and the diminishing scope for rehabilitative measures in criminal justice would strengthen this argument.

While the article mentions the emergence of zero-tolerance policies, it could be enhanced by a discussion on the real-world effects of such policies on marginalized communities. This would help contextualize the discussion within global social issues and highlight the impact on social justice.

The classification of petty crimes based on the severity of penalties needs to be expanded. For example, how do current crime rates correlate with the legal treatment of petty offenses? Are the penalties for petty crimes effective in deterring these behaviors?

The discussion of summary proceedings and trial without indictment raises important concerns regarding judicial impartiality. The article would be stronger if it included a critical analysis of how this practice might impact the fairness of trials, particularly for vulnerable populations.

The section on suspension of prosecution provides a useful overview of Iranian legal provisions but should explore the consequences of such leniency for victims. How does this leniency impact victims' rights, and could it be perceived as a form of injustice?

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.