

Abstract

Presented thesis is focused on a comprehensive analysis of domestic violence and its prevention. Domestic violence can be described as a deeply rooted socially pathological phenomenon about which the society dares to talk more and more openly over the last few decades. Its unique characteristic does not lay in the form of violence the victim has to endure but in the place in which the violence occurs. It is a private family environment which is hidden from the sight of the public. Due to this aspect domestic violence is not only a serious problem but also a problem that is very difficult to detect and repress. Because of this it is vital to access domestic violence with great care, consistency and expertise. In the first part the thesis focuses on theoretical description of domestic violence, presents possible definitions of the concept, states the characteristics of domestic violence and refutes certain myths which trivialise this social problem. Further in this part an overview of typology of domestic violence and forms of violent conduct is included. The last chapter of the first part is dedicated to analysing the causes of domestic violence and its perpetrators including their classification and possible effects of therapeutic programs for violent persons. This chapter also addresses the victims of domestic violence, their possible reactions to this phenomenon and the effects domestic violence leaves on them. The opening chapter of the second part of the thesis provides an overview of evolution of the Czech legislation on domestic violence. The following chapters analyse the protection which is provided to the victims of domestic violence by substantive and procedural provisions of administrative, civil and criminal law. Attention is also paid to the act on the crime victims and to the intervention centres. The last chapter of the thesis contains a summary of preventative initiatives organised on international as well as national level. Considering the ongoing debates about ratification of the Istanbul treaty by the Czech Republic a relatively large part of this chapter is dedicated to the analysis of this treaty. The conclusion includes a brief evaluation of the current solution of domestic violence in the Czech Republic and presents several suggestions in order to improve the prevention and repression of this phenomenon and the protection of its victims.