

Abstract:

The rigorous thesis deals with topic of uncommon role of fathers being on parental leave. The aim of the thesis is to describe the general public's perception of the role as well as to explore its psychological circumstances.

In broader context of family, the paper deals with the mother and father figure, their roles and their relationships with their children. The main focus is on the importance of the father in the family and the benefits for children and in further detail also on the personality characteristics of the caring fathers. In the paper is based on available resources that deal with the topic of parental leave, the fathers' act of taking parental leave, their motivation and the effect of parental leave itself on the children. We focus mainly on the situation in the Czech Republic.

The empirical part consists of two pieces of (realized) researches. The first one is put on the attitude of Czech men (as the potential fathers taking parental leave in the future) to taking on a parental role in relation to the openness to experience factor in the NEO Five-Factor Inventory. We consider the potential predictors of the fathers' taking parental leave as well. The second one is focused on fathers on paternity leave and their personality characteristics. The research explores fathers who experienced parental leave. Their preferences, interpersonal attitudes, values and tendencies were subjects of SIPO questionnaire.

Keywords:

family, parental leave, maternity leave, paternity leave, role of the father