

Topic of the work was chosen on the basis of experience and four-year practise in working with families as a part of family re-institution. During the years of working with families, in a significantly woman-staffed profession it has been proven how difficult it is to get also fathers involved into therapeutic work with families and into removing difficulties in childcare. In most cases fathers perceived their role as very marginal. They did not take part in the appointments and avoided them. They were not used to being present there, in most cases they considered these appointments as an issue for mothers and also a matter belonging to the world of women.

Over the years we were learning how fathers shall be approached, we asked ourselves whether such approach differs from the way of approaching mothers. Or whether a different language style shall be used? What else can be done in order to involve father into reconstruction of family relations from the social worker point of view? How fathers can be activated and accentuated?

In this work I decided to present techniques, which we used and which were the ones that helped us to accentuate the father's role, to support him and to make him engaged into what is going on in the family and to help the children. My work deals with the family theory, history of its creation and type. In which way a social worker meets the family and works with it, especially from the perspective of potential social services that are provided to families in difficulties.

Next part of my work outlines the history and development of perceiving the role of father predominantly within European cultural environment. Here I also describe the significance of father's role for a child's development at different development stages.

Working with the family is subsequently brought nearer through casuistries, where I explain the use of certain elements that we utilised to activate the father's role.