

Abstract

Master's thesis entitled: *Is Czech Society Divided? The Sociological Analysis of Social and Political Polarization in Czech Society* is concerned with the study of polarization on a mass level. Its main goal is to indicate social and political polarization by means of a questionnaire survey and subsequent quantitative analysis to identify any fault lines and determine the essential factors that contribute to polarization. The author first focuses on research into party and political polarization, from which she moves to the social dimension of polarization, i.e. the key topics and groups that form fault lines. In the text, the author further focuses on opinion extremity, affective polarization and perceived polarization, where the influence of (a)political anger or political engagement is examined. Last but not least, the influence of social media use and exposure to extreme views and political content on levels of polarization is examined. The results show that Czech society does not appear to be strongly divided, rather it feels that way. However, the research revealed several lines of conflict in society concerning the political situation, human rights, topical issues, social questions and wealth inequalities. The results demonstrated the influence of factors such as (a)political anger, political engagement, or exposure to extreme views or political content on social networks on the degree of polarization. In her work, the author supports the belief that social and political polarization can never be completely separated. At the same time, the work refutes some assumptions, for example that the use of social networks will increase polarization in and of itself.