

## **Abstract**

This thesis focuses on the influence of birth order on social pathological phenomena and risky behavior. It describes the theory of birth order and emphasizes its evolutionary-biological assumptions. The main goal of the thesis is to summarize existing knowledge about the relationship of birth order with selected socially unacceptable phenomena. It compares the diverse results of scientific studies and assumes possible causal mechanisms of the dynamics observed in them. It points to understudied areas that require further investigation. In these areas, the thesis tries to predict theoretically possible indirect dependence through other factors that are connected with the theory of birth order. It points to the importance for research of such aspects of birth order theory as the age spacing and gender of siblings. This thesis should serve as a theoretical basis for further research of the issue.