

Abstract

The bachelor thesis focuses on the socially current topic of the combination of family and professional life of Czech top female politicians - mothers. In the theoretical part, the concept of the dichotomy of private and public spheres is first introduced, then the specifics of gender culture in the Czech Republic are described, specifically the topic of parenthood, childcare and domestic work. An integral part of the bachelor thesis is also a chapter concerning the nature of the political institution, which is viewed through feminist theories, and the barriers that women face in politics are also presented. At the same time, space is given to existing research from abroad on the combination of family and work among women politicians. Also, the typical harmonisation strategies which are utilised to strike a balance between family and work are presented. The aim of the paper is to use a qualitative research method to find out what are the experiences of female politicians with combining their family and professional roles. Specifically, the thesis seeks to map out the challenges and obstacles that female politicians encounter and the strategies they use to cope with them. The answers to the research questions were drawn from information obtained from female politicians working in top politics through semi-structured interviews. The results indicate that work-family conflicts are a major challenge for all the female politicians involved in the research. These barriers have their origins at the institutional, family and individual levels and are very closely interrelated. Politicians-mothers are coping with the challenge of reconciling family and work commitments through various harmonisation strategies.