

The thesis "Women in the Role of Breadwinners and Care-takers: Work and Family Strategies of Single Mothers. Qualitative Inquiry" was written on the bases of a qualitative inquiry concerning the mutual relationship of single mother's work and private lives which is a part of the research "The Context of Changes in the Labour Market and Forms of Private, Family and Partner Life in Czech Society", carried out by the Gender and Sociology Department of the Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

The first part tries to survey the important labour market changes and the most distinctive family behaviour trends after 1989. The analytic part has as its subject to observe the mutual relationship of the changes within the two fields on a particular group of single mothers.

To seize the problem, the method of semi-structured qualitative interviews was used, completed by a statistical analysis of previous representative survey data. The procedures applied should have helped to find an answer to the two key questions: In which way the current labour market demands reflect in the partnerships' fragility and How the single mothers' family situation affects their work behaviour.

It reveals that structural changes of the labour market are closely related to the family-life modifications. It results from the interviewed women's interpretations that the raising number of incomplete families could be also caused by discrepancy between the increasing labour market exigencies and maintaining the traditional role-distribution within the family. On the other hand, the single mothers' situation reflects on the work strategies chosen by the communicants and on their initial labour market position.

The gained knowledge is just an outline of a fragment of the afterseparation reality and doesn't try to reveal all its regularities.