Abstract

The thesis focuses on the application of the role of a social worker in the process of formal support for children during parental divorce, specifically support in the form of mediation, OSPOD, social therapy or the use of a non-profit organization focusing on the issue of helping families in difficult life situations. The aim of the work was to find out how people who experienced parental divorce in childhood or adolescence and used the services of social workers evaluate the assistance provided and what role the social worker played for them in the entire divorce process. The aim of the work was achieved with the help of qualitative research. The research consisted of in-depth interviews with people whose parents divorced when they were children and who were not older than 25 years at the time of the interview, so that their memories of their parents' divorce and the use of psychological support were not too distant. The resulting research group included 9 people who experienced their parents' divorce in childhood. The research showed that children's experiences with professional support during divorce are very diverse and often depend on the individual approach of the workers, their ability to establish trust and respect the child's experience. The research showed that children perceive close people from an informal environment as the greatest support, while professional support is often perceived as insufficient or impersonal. The key factor for the positive impact of professional help has been shown to be the emotional availability of the worker, sensitive communication and the longevity of the relationship.

Keywords: Family, divorce, child, professional support for children, social worker