

Psychological and symbolic violence in a partner relationship

Abstract

The master's thesis entitled *Psychological and Symbolic Violence in Partner Relationships* deals with the issue of violent behaviour between partners characterised by a high degree of latency. The research conducted as part of this thesis focuses on the perception of these phenomena and people's experiences of this type of violence between partners. The thesis analyses the frequency, form, and specifics of these forms of violence, both from the perspective of the victim and in the role of the perpetrator. This thesis aims to bring people's perspective on the issue of partner violence closer, to analyse the experience of certain types of psychological and symbolic violence, and to find out possible reasons leading to the failure to report the experience to the police. Thus, the contribution of this thesis is primarily to map the phenomenon under study as a basis for further possible research on this issue. The results on the population under study show a significant incidence of psychological and symbolic violence between partners, with most of these cases going unreported. The analysis also reveals differences between men and women in attitudes regarding the acceptability and the limits of legal sanctionability of these forms of violent behaviour in partner relationships. Finally, the analytical part of the thesis also identified the types of partner violence according to M.P. Johnson, with situational couple violence, violent resistance emerging as the most common type.