The treatise deals with foster care as the most suitable alternative to the institutional upbringing. It acquaints the reader both with the foster care practice, and the need of its development in the Czech Republic. Secondly, it compares foster care with adoption. The conclusion of the treatise is devoted both to the institutional upbringing system, and to the risks of this form of alternative care of children. It also brings interviews with the staff members of the regional children's home for children up to 3 years of age.