

Thesis titled "Family as a Cultural construction and Lifestyle determinant" deals with the theoretical analysis of developmental changes in the perspective of cultural studies. The aim is to capture the family as a cultural phenomenon, determined by the institution that is an important mediator of the influence of culture to people. Particular attention is paid to the definition of family as a cultural construction and the specific institution, whose form and content reflects contemporary social and cultural context. The thesis is divided into two main parts. In the first part delineates changes in the traditional European family in time and space with emphasis on the Czech environment. Simultaneously, an analysis of the family as an institution to ensure transmission of cultural values. At the end of the first part is offered a comparison of current Czech family with the rest of Europe with regard to marriage and changes in family behavior. The largest part is devoted to the family in the context of ritual and kinship ties. This section is complemented by empirical research, which explains the form of family rituals in contemporary Czech family, and thereby contributes to enrich the existing theory.