

## **Abstract**

My bachelor work is focused on the topic of childhood, namely its development and change in society. I introduce here the discipline of sociology of childhood – range of its interest, background of its progress and notable authors. I'd like to prove that childhood isn't only a period of time in life. I research infancy as social entity, in this context it is possible to compare childhood to social construct such as gender or social class. I define possible forms of infancy including for example the topic of disappearance of childhood. I try to emphasize that infancy wasn't always included in the same way in society. Last but not least I try to deconstruct the myth of innocent childhood, which is typical for Western culture. Apart from the theoretically oriented part the work also includes empiric section, which analyses infancy of three generations of women, who lived their childhood in different periods of 20th century in Czechoslovakia. In this analysis I concentrate on infancy in context of social changes and in relation to effect of educational institutions or child collective on children. I aim to describe disappearing infancy and the myth of child innocence.