

## **Abstract**

VACULIKOVA, K. *The profession of social worker in selected states of the USA*. Prague: Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague, 2012. 109 pp. Diploma thesis.

The goal of this diploma thesis is to introduce the profession of social worker in selected U.S. states - State of California, State of Iowa, State of New York, and State of Texas. In order to achieve the goal, the thesis first discusses the development and professionalization of social work, the values and ethics within the profession, the forms of the profession regulation and the scope of social work practice in the overall context of the U.S. Subsequently, it describes the specifics of social work profession in the selected states, including geographic and demographic description that significantly influences the focus of social work in each state. In a separate chapter, several aspects of the social work profession in the U.S. and the Czech Republic are compared. The thesis also presents the results of previous research on the public perception of the social work profession in the U.S. The follow-up research part uses the comparative analysis method and determines whether the social workers in the U.S. have realistic notions on the public perception of the social work profession in the U.S. and whether the public perception of the social work profession differs by the selected U.S. states. The data for comparative analysis were obtained by analysis of a research on the public perception of the social work profession conducted in the U.S. in 2004 and by carrying out a survey questionnaire. The thesis draws mainly from the relevant foreign literature and foreign resources.