

## **Abstract**

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The object of this work is to identify the weaknesses of the current system of the alternative care by comparing casuistry with the standards of quality. I use casuistry of the current or former clients of foster care. In the first part I put the topic of social and legal protection of children into context of international and constitutional documents. There is also a chapter about the Standards Quality4Children. Then I focus on the situation in the Czech republic. I start with the description of the current system and finish with the process of transformation of the system of care for children at risk. The bill changing the Act No. 359/1999 Coll. on the social and legal protection of children was published. It is the first step to the transformation and it's necessary to be followed-up other steps. The actual explorative empirical part of this work is conducted by a qualitative research strategy. The empirical investigation was executed in form of interviews with twelve respondents. Research sample consists of two social workers (from authority for social and legal protection of children), eight foster-mothers and foster-fathers (three women, one man, two married couples) and two people entrusted to foster care. On the basis of established facts I conclude that the most weak parts of the system of foster care is support of the foster-parents, absence of individual care plan and leaving-care process.

Key words: social and legal protection of child, standards of quality, alternative care, foster care, process of transformation, authority for social and legal protection of children