

Abstract

The goal of this thesis is to compare the development of fertility in Czech and Slovak after the year 1989. The comparison according to age specific fertility rates and children birth order is pointed out. Generational analysis aims to evaluate fundamental changes in fertility rates of 90's from the long-term point of view. In Czech the reproductive behaviour transformations were faster, the fertility shifted at the women's age about 30. The fertility rate in Slovak is expected to be more unfavourable than the fertility rate in Czech from the long-term view. I consider the possible causes of changes in reproductive behaviour using the fertility theory and population climate survey, and I compare the possible impact of family policy on fertility rate. I regard the combination of cultural, economic and institutional changes as a cause of fertility decrease in 90's. Increase in fertility rate is evidently possible only by means of extensive and conceptual changes in family policy, primarily with regard to harmonizing of work and child care.

Key words: fertility, family policy, Czech, Slovak, 90's of the 20th century, fertility theory