

## **Abstract**

My thesis deals with the child's right to know his or her genetic origin. It is a universal human right guaranteed by the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. The Article 7, paragraph 1 states that every child has a right to know his or her parents, if possible. European Court of Human Rights repeatedly postulated that the right to know one's origin is an integral part of the right to respect for private and family life provided by the Article 8 of the *Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms*.

The purpose of my work is to explain on particular problems, to what extent is this right respected in the Czech Republic, in conformity with its international obligations. The text is based on valid legal status to June 21, 2011, with regard to proposed changes in the upcoming adoption of the new Civil Code.

The text is systematically divided into seven chapters. The first chapter is focused in general on the right to know one's own origin in the human rights dimension. The following chapters examine particular relevant sections of family law and its imperfections.

Firstly, I discuss the issue of determination and denial of parenting with an emphasis on emerging deliberate disharmony between biological and legal parenthood. Furthermore, I focus on the issue of adoption, especially its anonymity and possible impacts on the child's psyche. Then I concentrate on the problem of the assisted reproduction in the light of donor anonymity. The second part of this chapter is aimed at the surrogacy, the most controversial method of the assisted reproduction. The next chapter deals with the problem of anonymous births and births with hidden identity of the mother. These births constitute an obstacle for children to discover their origin from the very beginning. In the following part of this work focus on baby boxes which are uncritically admired by the majority of the Czech society, in spite of its negative aspects.

The final chapter proposes possible legislative changes to fulfill the commitments accepted within the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*.