

Abstract:

The support of families with children till the age of seven in the 21st century in the Czech Republic

The topic of the thesis is the support of families with children till the age of seven in the 21st century in the Czech Republic. The main objective is to summarize the possibilities of state and private sector. Because the family, especially the association among parents and their children, has an irreplaceable importance for all the society. It is interesting how much has the support changed in the recent years.

Considering the fact that the society has entered a new millennium, a lot of people were expecting, with more than ten years after the Velvet Revolution, some reversal, or an evolution.

During the last thirteen years, there happened many very important events, such as the accession to the European Union or the intervention of the so-called global financial crisis (thanks to which the social solidarity has become more than necessary). Over the whole period, eight governments of two political parties and one caretaker government had been changed in the Czech Republic. The left replaced the right, the impact of individual political views was of a different power. It is clear that the direction of legislators' thinking affects the society and vice versa.

The thesis is divided into seven chapters.

The first includes the legal basis of family support, the national, the European and the international one as well.

The second part contains an introduction to the possibilities for family support and its historical excursus. It is necessary to briefly explain the basis the legislator came out, what motivated him to set up the current form of family policy in the Czech Republic.

In the next parts, the author shows the concrete arrangements that are related to the families with children till the age of seven. The focus is put initially to tax issues, which means helping to the families through indirect funding.

The fourth chapter presents the largest and probably the most important tool of state family support – the direct funding through the social security system.

Benefits or insurance system are traditionally the most employed to help.

Another important area is the combination of parenthood with employment, what is discussed in chapter five. Various possibilities of labour law can significantly influence the parents' decision - whether they can have children and if so, how many. Substantially, the influence of private sector is shown – employers, on whose willingness and cooperation often depends.

The sixth and the seventh parts monitor the child care services. They are divided according to how they are often designed – meaning the children's age: from three to seven years. There is referred to the institutions set up by the state, municipalities, etc. (nurseries, kindergartens) and strictly private organizations (parent centres, private nurseries).

Keywords: family policy, family support, social security