

## Abstract

This thesis discusses various steps how institution of family policy in France and the Czech Republic influences the social status of single mothers, or how it affects their standard of living and opportunities. The thesis is based on a comparative analysis of two measures. The first one concerns possibilities of work-life balance, the second one means of prevention from poverty. The key factor influencing work-life balance is the interplay between maternity/ parental leave, public childcare accessibility and flexible working time practice. The character and availability of allowances completes the picture of what the prevailing gender principles in each family policy are. Hence, it also demonstrates the situation of single mothers.

Key words: one-parent family, single mothers, labor market, flexibility, discrimination, poverty, social policy, family policy, work-life balance, maternity/ parental leave, childcare, gender

