

This diploma thesis focuses on the matters of children interrogation -specifically persons younger than 15 years being in position of victims or witnesses of crime. Even though I narrowed down the topic of the thesis, it is certainly very broad and complicated one which can be discussed more in depth. Children interrogation usually requires extensive efforts of the interrogating person - patience and empathy above all. Also, previous experience and the understanding that each case is individual and each child has to be approached in a different way, are crucial. The interrogating's objective is to find out the relevant information and prevent secondary victimisation of the child at the same time.

Diploma thesis contains two parts - theoretical and practical. Theoretical part is focused on Czech legal regulations related to these matters, specifics of child personality (ontogenesis, temperament and child character) and methods of interrogation (analyses single stages of the interrogation, deposition, documentation, persons taking part in the interrogation and possible mistakes which can be made). Special emphasis is put on suitable interrogating environment, approach to the children and prevention of secondary victimisation. The thesis also considers specific problems related to the interrogation, for instance falseness of child's statement, or inability of the child to recollect details of the incident - in both cases the thesis provides explanation of causes, possible solution and methods of approaching such children. Usage of the demonstration dolls Jaja and Paja is also described with the suggestions of innovative uses of dolls. Additionally, the thesis contains the analysis of children's verbal and non-verbal communication, which are one of the key parts of the interrogation.

The second part of the thesis includes description and results of practical experiment carried through in summer 2012 in several scout summer camps.