Abstract

The bachelor's thesis „The Current State of Maternity Leave and the Labour Market in the United States: Goals and Reality" deals with a model of maternity leave in the United States. This model can be seen as very unique in many ways, especially due to its form and problematic historical development. The United States was one of the last industrialized countries codifying a certain form of maternity leave. The result was defined as an unpaid gender neutral maternity leave, a part of a broader policy concept called a family leave. The thesis explores the formation of the current state of maternity leave in the United States and its goals which compares to the actual reality of the present labour market situation. The thesis discovers that the initially declared objectives weren't met. The current state of maternity leave is very exclusive. It also reinforces inequality based on race, gender and family income in relation to the labour market.