

Abstract – Criminal-law protection of victim of domestic violence

The aim of the thesis is to summarize and evaluate the issue of legal protection of domestic violence victims in the Czech Republic, especially what concerns criminal law.

In the first part of the thesis, the author deals with the definition of domestic violence and issues associated with it. Attention is paid to the features which must be present so that violent behaviour may be considered domestic violence. The work also mentions the types and causes of domestic violence, as well as myths that are rooted about it in society. In addition, this chapter also focuses on the characterization of the perpetrators and victims of domestic violence.

The second chapter discusses the development of the society's attitude towards solutions of domestic violence. It focuses on the breaking point when society realized the need for changing its attitudes towards domestic violence. Particular parts of the chapter focus on the most important legislative milestones. At first, it discusses the introduction of the fact of crime of battering a person living in a shared house or flat into the Criminal Code. Further on, the legal regulation on protection from domestic violence is presented, and other legislative changes in this area are briefly mentioned.

The theme of the third chapter of this work is the regulation relating to domestic violence in substantive criminal law. At first, the work deals with the analysis of the most important facts of crimes committed in connection with domestic violence. The greatest emphasis is laid on the crime of battering a person living in the same dwelling. The facts of crimes of battering the person in guardianship, dangerous threatening and stalking are also discussed. Subsequently, the sanctioning of perpetrators of domestic violence is analyzed.

The fourth chapter introduces to readers the regulation of the protection of victims from domestic violence in criminal procedure. The main content of the chapter is the definition of individual rights of victims and injured parties in criminal proceedings. Emphasis is laid in particular on changes brought about by relatively recently adopted Law on victims of crimes.

In the third and fourth chapters the author also compares the substantive and procedural institutes contained in the Czech legislation with regulations of the Slovak Republic.

In the conclusion, the current legislation is assessed solutions *de lege ferenda* are offered.