

**Abstract:**

This diploma thesis deals with the comparison of happiness between married people and cohabiting non-married people in the Czech Republic. The theoretical part deals with the transformation of the partner relationships in the modern society. It focuses on sociological theories which explain the changes in family behaviour. It also explains and compares marriage and cohabitation of non-married people, which is a new and relatively widespread form of living. The key topic of this thesis is the happiness of the people depending on their marital status. The research part analyses ISSP data – Family and changing gender roles from 2012 using a multiple regression analysis. It tests the hypothesis based on the conclusions of the previous research, which indicate that married people are happier than cohabiting non-married people. However, this assumption was not proved to be true. Non-married cohabitation affects the happiness of people in a same way as marriage. The positive influence is strong enough within both, the control of the influence of basic sociodemographic characteristics, such as gender, age, education, as well as within the control of the influence of health.