

Abstract

The aim of the thesis was to describe the main differences between an interrogation of adults and children. The thesis is composed of six chapters, an introduction and a conclusion.

The first chapter is focused on concept „a child“ in the Czech legal order and International agreements.

The next chapter describes specifics and problems of individual evolutionary periods of children.

The third chapter explains the interrogation in a general meaning. The interrogation is included and modified in more statutes. I focused on provisions of a statute relating the interrogation in Czech law, especially in criminal law. Next part of this chapter deals with the interrogation and a criminalistics. How to prepare for the interrogation, the stages of the interrogation and tactics of its implementation. I also mentioned the forensic psychology which helps and supplements the criminalistics with its own methods and findings.

The fourth chapter is an analysis of a testimony, in a first part in general meaning and the second part describes a process of formation of the testimony and the factors which can influence this process from an event to a record by an interrogator.

The fifth chapter is concerned on specialities of interrogation of children. One of the major factors by interrogation of children is a surrounding where the questioning is happening. For this reason are developed the special interrogating rooms which can really help with communication between the questioner and a child. There is used special equipment in these rooms like toys, furniture etc. which makes a child to feel more safe, more comfortable and more communicative, and also technological equipment like cameras and microphones. I also mention an interrogator, the ways how he can begin a contact with a child, how to advise a child about his/her rights and instruct a child how he/she should answer. The child can also say „I don't know“ and shouldn't have a feeling that he/she must ingratiate to a questioner. The next part is including the ways how to ask questions.

The last chapter is about suggestibility, credibility of the testimony and aspects of children lie and the reasons why the self-incrimination or false confession can happen.