

The aim of this thesis is to briefly introduce criminalistic victimology and characterise victim of a crime. Text is composed of six chapters, concerning different aspects of the topic. First two deal with the science of criminalistic victimology. Following two examine role of victim during criminal investigation according to criminalistic victimology. Last two chapters reflect position of victim in contemporary czech criminal law.

The first chapter defines basic terminology used in criminalistic victimology, different to terms of criminal law.

The second chapter documents origins and evolution of criminalistic victimology and its place among related disciplines.

The third chapter is focused on the object of criminalistic victimology, i.e. victim's role in criminal investigation. It is further divided in nine parts examining relation of victim and offender, victim's role in genesis of criminal situation, victim as originator and carrier of forensic evidence, significance of victim for criminal investigation, victim as crime reporter and witness with focus on question of credibility, participation of victim during other investigative measures and finally expert examination of victim.

The fourth chapter concentrates on the issue of secondary harm caused by inappropriate behaviour towards victim during investigation and judicial proceedings. It describes specific psychological recommendations and proper conduct.

The fifth chapter explores role of victim in contemporary czech substantive criminal law. It analyzes actions of victim relevant for justification or sentence and some specific crimes.

The sixth chapter describes rights of victim of a crime in criminal procedure.

This paper illustrates and in its conclusion emphasizes that general public does not pay attention to problems of victims and there are still many myths and prejudices.