

Abstract

This dissertation is concerned with the issues surrounding substitute family care in the Czech Republic and presents an analysis of its legal regulation as set out in both private law and public law regulations. The term substitute family care encompasses several independent legal institutions, which together form a system serving to protect children at risk who cannot grow up in their own family. The system of substitute care is divided into family-type individual care on the one hand and collective care provided in institutional facilities on the other. This dissertation examines the historical development of forms of substitute care, analyses their current legal regulation, including procedural regulation, and evaluates the interconnectedness and mutual harmoniousness of individual legal regulations. It analyses the inner workings of the substitute care system and delineates the rights and obligations of entities which enter into it in various capacities, with an emphasis on how the fulfilment of the rights of a minor is enforced and how their best interest is considered. Given the subject matter, the topic of the dissertation is approached in an interdisciplinary fashion, for the interdisciplinary cooperation of individual persons acting on behalf of the state in the legal relations of substitute care which are of interest here is entirely indispensable with regards to the best interests of the child.

Key words

child, substitute care, adoption, foster care, institutional care, wardship, guardianship