

Abstract (in English):

The aim of this thesis is to map the situation of single mothers and to some extent the situation of their children in the Czech Republic. In the theoretical part, I focus on the family, its functions and development in history with an emphasis on women's position in the society, because all of those aspects are directly related to the rise of single parent families. Then I describe what single parent families mean, what single mothers have to face, how they live in our country and several selected European countries with different social policies.

The introductory chapters show that single mothers have to deal with a number of problems, that they are unable to cope with, so I have compiled from several Internet sources an overview of institutions and services to help them.

Given that one of the practical aims of my research was to find out how the children of single mothers spend their free time, I included a chapter dealing with leisure-time activities for school-aged children in the theoretical part.

In the last part of this work, there are results of the qualitative research, I carried out. In the research, I focused on how single mothers perceive their situation and how their children spend their free time.