

Abstract

This master's thesis analyzes a family as a crucial element of each society. It also depicts its functions and presents possible forms of interpersonal relationships. The Czech Republic is one of the countries in which it is possible to identify existence of several forms of interpersonal relationships – a concubinage of heterosexual and same-sex couples, married couples and people in a registered partnership. Personal attitudes have been evolving over time and the Czech Republic is no exception. The change of attitudes and points of view towards homosexuality and its gradual acceptance have been present within the Czech society for decades. These changes finally led to legalization of the registered partnership in 2006.

Even though the Czech modern society is trying to eliminate discriminating attitudes, homoparental families still do not have the same legal certainty and social security as heterosexual families with children do. Inequality as per current Czech laws exists even between a marriage and a registered partnership. The Czech Republic needs to take steps in order to guarantee equality of all family forms.

The empirical part of the thesis provides an analysis of the Czech sociological surveys in order to identify to what degree the Czech heterosexual majority tolerates and accepts the homosexual minority. The results will clarify whether the Czech society is absolutely tolerant or whether is bound by a phenomenon called “tolerance at certain conditions”. All attitudes expressed in these surveys will convey if the society is willing to accept, besides the already legalized registered partnership, same-sex marriages and adoptions of children by non-heterosexuals.