

Annotation

This rigorous work is engaged in the issues of national and foreign substitute family care, its systems, structure and specifics.

The first part consists of historical insights about the development of substitute family care both in our country and abroad and deals with its individual forms, whereas the biggest space is devoted to two fundamental forms of substitute family care – adoption and foster care. Individual chapters enable deeper understanding of partial problems and aspects of individual care systems, *e.g.* homosexual couples as parents, illegal practices related to adoption, etc.

Individual chapters of the second part delve into individual systems and forms of substitute family care abroad, introduce particular examples of good practice and deal with specific approaches in selected countries of Europe and overseas.

Information presented in this rigorous work, by means of comparing the current state of this care in countries with different traditions and historical experience, should contribute to more complex and integrated view of problems of substitute family care in the system of organisation and execution of their individual forms in the Czech Republic