

Abstract

The thesis is focused on environmental justice issues in Czechia on the case of the removal of the Roma community in Vsetín in October 2006. Concept of justice in general and social justice in particular is introduced in theoretical part of the thesis. Environmental issues are discussed as an important aspect of the quality of life. Finally, the concept of environmental justice is introduced. Examples of environmental justice empirical research are presented. In the following part, critical realism is introduced as philosophical and methodological foundation of the research. General conditions of Roma are discussed in the beginning of the empirical part of the theses. The case of removal of Roma in Vsetín from an old house (which was in danger of physical collapse) in the center of the town to a newly built houses located in a peripheral locality of the town in a proximity to sewage water treatment plant is described. The interpretation of the case stresses environmental justice issues and causal mechanisms and structures. In conclusion, complexity of environmental justice is stressed. Due to such complexity, general judgment is very difficult. One-sided conclusions based on partial knowledge of the case should be avoided.