Summary:

Development and the current form of family policy in the Czech Republic

In my diploma thesis focused on the topic "Development and the current form of family policy in the Czech Republic," I attempted for description and characteristic of a family policy by using its specific tools. The initial chapter I dedicated to the definition of important terms, with which I further work. I'm focused on the concept of the family, family policy, system and concept of family policies in general, and with their help I define a particular system of family policy in the Czech Republic. In this chapter, I paid attention to the various forms of family life and their mutual comparison. The reason for this were differences in application of the family policy to various forms of cohabitation with regard to certain cases and social situation. The initial chapter I finish off with looking back and re-evaluating specific demographic behaviour of the Czech population.

The next two chapters are devoted to the structure, description and effects of family policy tools. I characterize direct and indirect financial tools and then non-financial tools of family policy. Non-financial instruments are evaluated in connection with their application in the field of harmonization of family and professional roles, and in a separate section I mention the social services as well.

After the presentation of the various tools of family policy, I focused on three types of families, that having regard to its specific needs, deserve a greater support and assistance from the state more than the most of the society. I pay attention to the position of single parent families, families with a member with disabilities and foster families. For the first two types I am trying to point out the less visible problems that may at first seem trivial, but the person with them may be socially excluded. Foster family as another prototype of a family with specific needs, I have chosen because it is a major recipient of financial help aid from the state and on the help itself is practically reliant.

In the final chapter of my work I have tried to approach the gradual development of family policy tools, with which I have worked in the previous sections, beginning the year 1989 to the present.

The very end of the work is reflecting my subjective view on three specific areas of family policy, which I consider to be problematic and insufficiently regulated. To my opinion I'm adding a subjective view on possible solutions.