

Abstract

Assisted reproductive technologies are the phenomenon of the nowadays. With respect to the growing possibilities of the medical science and its impact on lives of individuals it is very important to consider the legal regulation of assisted reproduction. The aim of the thesis is to analyse the law of assisted reproduction in the Czech Republic in wider context in three chapters.

The first chapter provides the reasons why it is necessary to regulate assisted reproduction, even though the law does not and should not interfere with the natural reproduction, reflecting the power of the modern reproductive technologies and new concerns it raises. Moreover, it focuses on the issues which need to be remembered when setting the legal rules in general, including the ethical aspects and access to treatment, considering the concept of reproductive autonomy of individuals.

The law of assisted reproduction in the Czech Republic is described in the second chapter, which includes the throughout analysis of the Czech law. The thesis includes the explanation of essential legal definitions as assisted reproduction and artificial insemination and summarises the legal conditions, under which the treatment by assisted reproduction technologies can be accessed including the financial issues. Moreover, surrogacy and its position in the Czech legal order are examined.

The last chapter focuses on the controversial aspects of the law of assisted reproduction from the perspective of the unborn child. The overview of relevant human right treaties and constitutional foundations is followed by examination of the status of the unborn child, setting of legal parentage and possible approaches to who can access the treatment. Restrictions on infertile couple and the age of the women undertaking the treatment are also assessed.

The author concludes that it is necessary to regulate assisted reproduction, even though it interferes with the concept of reproductive autonomy. Future possible and expected changes to the legislation or topics for public discussion are believed to be the explicit regulation of surrogacy, concept of donor anonymity and the age of women undertaking the treatment. However, for all the reasons explained in the thesis assisted

reproduction is a very sensitive topic and must be regulated with respect to all interested parties.