

Abstract

The topic of my diploma thesis is - a social worker, life experience. In the text of the thesis I focused mainly on a social worker, on the social worker who does this work for the Child Social and Legal Protection Authority. In my diploma thesis, I elaborated five chapters on the basis of academic literature. The sixth chapter of my work deals with methodological research.

In the first chapter I dealt with the history of social work. This chapter is included in my work due to the experience acquired from my practice. What social work looks like today is thanks to the history and the lessons taken from it. It is the basis for the further development of new experience for new social workers. In the second chapter, I focused on the aspects that are needed in order to become a social worker. What should be the prerequisites to be able to do this work, and what ethical rules should the worker follow. In the third chapter, I focus on a particular OSPOD worker, and on his most common job content. There I describe the job, which is the most demanding for the worker. The first contact with the child, social investigation and individual planning. The fourth and fifth chapters follow each other. In the fourth chapter I describe what complications can arise while carrying out the job as a social worker. In the fifth chapter I try to describe what is the possible prevention of these complications.

The last chapter is my research. I did my research with OSPOD workers. In this chapter, I look into the main aim of my work, which is to find out how the workers themselves see their work and how they cope with the strains associated with their work. I collected the data through a semi-structured interview lead with the workers. I learned from them that they feel their job as a form of a mission, but also as a form of appropriate help to people. As emerged from my research the demands and requirements that are placed on the workers are becoming

higher and less manageable. The workers try to protect themselves against this kind of stress by a form of physical strain, sharing with friends and postponing work matters during the days off. These answers also fulfilled the goal of my work, as I had set.