

ABSTRACT:

The diploma thesis analyses the work and contribution of clergymen in the Prison Service of the Czech Republic. The theoretical part of the thesis presents the role of the chaplains in the prison environment, it also deals with its historical development and key moments in history that have influenced the contemporary form of spiritual care of convicts. The theoretical part also presents an enumeration of the possibilities and specifics of development and education of convicts in the prison care system and the system of functioning of the educational and developmental system available to convicts during their sentence. It is within this spectrum of activities and activities that the role of spiritual care is further embedded in the theoretical part. Further, the theory articulates the impact of spiritual care on the lives of convicts and the experience of punishment. The theoretical part concludes with a comparison of the Czech and international context of chaplaincy and clerical activities, as well as post-penitentiary care, in which the thesis presents the specifics and methods of clerical work in the reintegration of convicts back into society.

The theoretical part of the thesis forms the basis for the empirical part, which embeds and verifies this enumeration and description in practice. The practical part consists of an analysis of a total of 4 semi-structured interviews with male prison chaplains and 1 interview with a female chaplain, which captures in detail the description of the chaplain's own perception of the role of the chaplain, the specifics of this work, a list of possibilities of working with the convicted, as well as a description of the subjectively perceived benefits and pitfalls of preparing prisoners for their return to society, and the motivations and frustrations of the prison chaplain. The output of the empirical part is, among other things, the formulation of several suggestions for improving the chaplaincy care of convicts, resulting from the chaplains' and clergy's own testimonies.

KEYWORDS:

andragogy, spiritual care, chaplaincy, education, convict, personal growth, reintegration, development, Prison Service of the Czech Republic, imprisonment