

Abstract

This thesis addresses the issue of sexual abuse. In the introduction of the thesis, the basic terminology that appears in the context of sexual abuse is presented. I introduce the definition of rape and then I focus on sexual abuse. There I mention two groups affected by sexual abuse, namely the elderly and the mentally disabled. The rest of the thesis is dedicated to children. The thesis also focuses on the legal aspects of this issue in the Czech Republic and on the offences known in our criminal code. In addition, I describe the forms of sexual abuse and talk about touch and non-touch sexual abuse and other less common forms. Then I specify child victims of sexual abuse and include the development of the concept of CAN syndrome in this chapter. Among other things, I introduce the characteristics of the at-risk family and other at-risk surroundings.

In the second half, both the physical and especially the psychological consequences of sexual abuse are described in more detail. The psychological consequences include post-traumatic stress disorder, defence mechanisms, adjustment syndrome to sexual abuse and I mention the risk of secondary victimisation. In the remainder of this thesis I introduce the consequences of sexual abuse not only on partner relationships but also on family relationships and I conclude with options for aftercare of abused children.