

13. Resumé

In my thesis "Peculiarities of questioning children" I have paid particular attention to the group of abused children. Generally speaking, the preparation and conduct of the interrogation of children is different from the preparation and conduct of the interrogation of adults. This difference is even more marked in the case of hearing children abused. My main goal was to obtain not only theoretical knowledge but also practical experience in this field. To get a theoretical knowledge was not hard. There are lots of books written to this topic.

But to get a practical knowledge was much more difficult. It meant to contact individuals and associations who come into contact with abused children. Whether they were the social workers, the pediatricians, the child psychologists or the police investigators.

The current practice focuses on that every police detective who works with children, undergoes a special training, where he or she obtains basic information and guidelines to ensure the correct interrogation of the child. A major benefit to me was to visit a special interrogation room in Ostrava - Zábřeh, which is the only one in the Czech Republic outside the police station and children who are questioned, are not subjected to the uncomfortable environment of the police station.

From the literature I had an idea, what the interrogation is all about. What are the requirements for an interrogation room, for a person, who leads the interrogation, what is the range of tactical procedures available to an investigator.

If I compare these claims with the facts I was very pleasantly surprised by the overall level of both the special interrogation room and professionalism of police investigators. Regarding the first, at this moment each county has at least one special interrogation room. Obviously such rooms would be

needed in practice more, but it is also clear that their further development and building is directly dependent on available funding. It is quite clear that the induction of contact with the child in a room resembling a child's room will be made easier and the outcome of the hearing will be more effective. With regard to the police investigators, I would also say that their approach is friendly, helpful, empathetic and in accordance with the requirements laid down by law. Of course, I can not generally say that all police investigators work with children perfectly, but I can certainly say that the level of the questioning increased many times over, since the special interrogation rooms were built, surely because the procedure is recorded now.

What is quite difficult in practise, is the issue of child instructions in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure. The child must be advised, depending on his age and intellectual level, and this is not always successful. Often happens that the police investigator is happy that he managed to maket the child talk, and so he or she forgets to advise teh child. Likewise interrogating guidance does not always avoid questions that are questioning the minor side.

Finally, I would like to pointed out that the issue of interrogation is much broader than I could capture in this work and would certainly be worth more attention.