

This thesis deals with the status of the elderly in the society and family and with the specific value of seniors for the youngest generation, the generation of grandchildren. The focus of the first part of the thesis lays on the main changes that affect the aging generation and its. These are primarily physical changes, mental changes, changes of needs, and changes in social area. The thesis emphasizes the developmental role of old age that has a decisive influence on quality and satisfaction of life in old age but also on the importance of seniors for their neighborhood. In the main part, the thesis deals with the status of seniors in society, both in terms of media presentation and political scene. It continues with a research on the attitudes of the Czech public towards the importance of seniors in the society and family. The chapter on the life of seniors in family starts with a look at the elderly life within families throughout history. It shows how the roles of individual family members have changed recently, how the cohabitation of generations has changed, and what the pitfalls of contemporary generational communication are. All these insights facilitate understanding of the value and status of seniors within families today. At the conclusion, the thesis deals with the specific relationship of seniors and grandchildren. In addition to the basic help with the care of grandchildren, the grandparents present certain backing in emergencies; they also have an irreplaceable role in conveying the continuity of life, and creating a lively relationship to the past. They are a model of how to deal with different situations, and ultimately, they give their grandchildren the courage to deal with rigors of life.