

## **Abstract (in English):**

Dissertation deals with the problematics of domestic violence from the perspective of empirical research. First, it discusses the definition of domestic violence with all its types and forms. Then it introduces possible typology of domestic violence conducted based on the frequency, cruelty, purpose and consequences of violent incidents and it identifies the most serious type of domestic violence known as intimate terrorism. It is characterized by cyclically repeating phases of partner's violent attacks and gradation of frequency and intensity of these attacks. Violent behavior is in this case guided by the motivation to dominate, control and intimidate the other partner. Next, it brings overview of risk factors and main sociological theories trying to explain the initiation and progress of domestic violence, starting from the Social Learning Theory, through the Social Situational/Stress and Coping Theory, Resource Theory, Exchange Theory, Sociobiological Theory, all the way to the Feminist Theories applied in subsequent interpretation of the results of the data analysis.

Before the data analysis itself the dissertation describes the sources of the data and it introduces main moments of the research of domestic violence both in the world and in our country. Then it identifies a group of women experiencing intimate terrorism from their partner. Finally, it performs an analysis of correlates of the initiation of intimate terrorism in a relationship followed by a deeper analysis of risk factors of the initiation of domestic violence and of a transition from a lighter type to a more serious one, ie. intimate terrorism. All that with a help of logistic regression models used in the data files from the research *Intimate Partner Violence: Follow-up Research to IVAWS 2003*, enabling to quantify the influence of the observed variables on the risk of a woman to become a victim of domestic violence in general and then specifically of intimate terrorism as its most serious form.