

The Influence of Transformation Processes on the Family in the Slovak Republic

Abstract

The paper analyses the consequences of transformation processes in the Slovak family since 1989 till present. Particular attention is paid to the consequences of unemployment in the Slovak family, which has been manifested in economic problems; then to demographic changes in the Slovak family, chiefly involved in the decline in marriage and birth rates and increase in divorce rates and other problems.

Key words: transformation process, family, problems of the family, unemployment, economic problems, cost of living, divorce rate, decline in the birth and marriage rates.

1. Unemployment and economic problems of the family

Transformation processes in the Slovak Republic after 1989, which brought about deep political and economic changes with subsequent social and cultural consequences, also initiated the process of changes in the Slovak family. During the International Year of the Family, in 1994, the scientific literature stated that the Slovak family was undergoing a crisis and that the crisis of society was manifested in the crisis of the family. (Zelina, M., 1994, p. 2005)

“Change in the political scene and orientation brought about the liberalization of prices, elimination of subsidies, restructuring of companies, change in manufacturing programs. The presented changes in the economic sphere of the country rendered Slovak families and their members unprepared. The citizens were