

Summary

CHILD IN THE FAMILY AND THE SOCIETY – THEN AND NOW

In the first part of the paper, the author pointed out that since the arrival to the world a child begins to develop their personality in certain socio-cultural conditions. Because of the fact that human race needs to travel a long way from the mental and physical, emotional and social maturity, birth of a child brings obligations and responsibilities for parents and the community to care for the new member. History indicates significant biological and socio-based relationship between parents and children, which creates families as a specific socio-cultural construct, which is a union of persons, as separate individuals and as members of the family community and part of a specific socio-cultural system. The family is universally prevalent in all civilized human societies, and the fate of women and children has always been tied to the fate of the family. The history of family and a position of the child in it can be most easily traced through historical stages of ancient times, the Middle Ages and civil society. The second part describes the biological and psychological development of the child in a particular social environment. It concludes that only when the child began to be viewed as a personality in development, with its biological and psychological characteristics that are required to have a special family and social treatment, the community imposed rules of behavior towards a child family and the institutions dealing with a child. The achievements of modern civilization accepted the understanding that any deviation from these rules of conduct can be considered an act of victimization of the child, which should entail adequate response of the state.