Summary

The physical punishment of a child in a family has many significations. It reveals the distribution of strength and the role of a child in the family and the level of respect for children's rights in society. The subject of the research project is a perspective that sheds new light on the physical punishment of children. The search for various concepts of experiencing corporal punishment in childhood aims to show the contexts of its application.

Beating children in upbringing is still common. With considerable opposition to beating the child with a belt, beating the child in the face or a strong beating with hand (about 90% for each of the variants), permission to slap the child was revealed. Approximate 60% of respondents said that this form of parental behavior should definitely not and should not be prohibited by law.

This dissertation is divided into three spaces of considerations which shaped its structure. Therefore, it consists of three chapters: theoretical, methodological and empirical.

Chapter I presents selected aspects of theoretical approaches to corporal punishment. Considerations were conducted in the perspective of desk study method. Psychological references and sociological theories were presented to show the ways of applaing corporal punishment into the life of the individual and its meaning in a social context.

The aim of Chapter II is to feature methodological assumptions of the dissertation. They are presented in two scenes: the assumptions of the humanistic research model and the ethical implications of the research procedure.

The empirical part of this dissertation is contained in Chapter III. It refers to key phenomenological categories: the situational context of experiencing corporal punishment in childhood, the phenomenon of punishment in collective consciousness and various concepts of corporal punishment. The researcher also makes an attempt to answer the question about the chances for changing social schemas in order to create the humanistic parent-child relationship.