

# ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



Mgr. Kamil Kunc et al.

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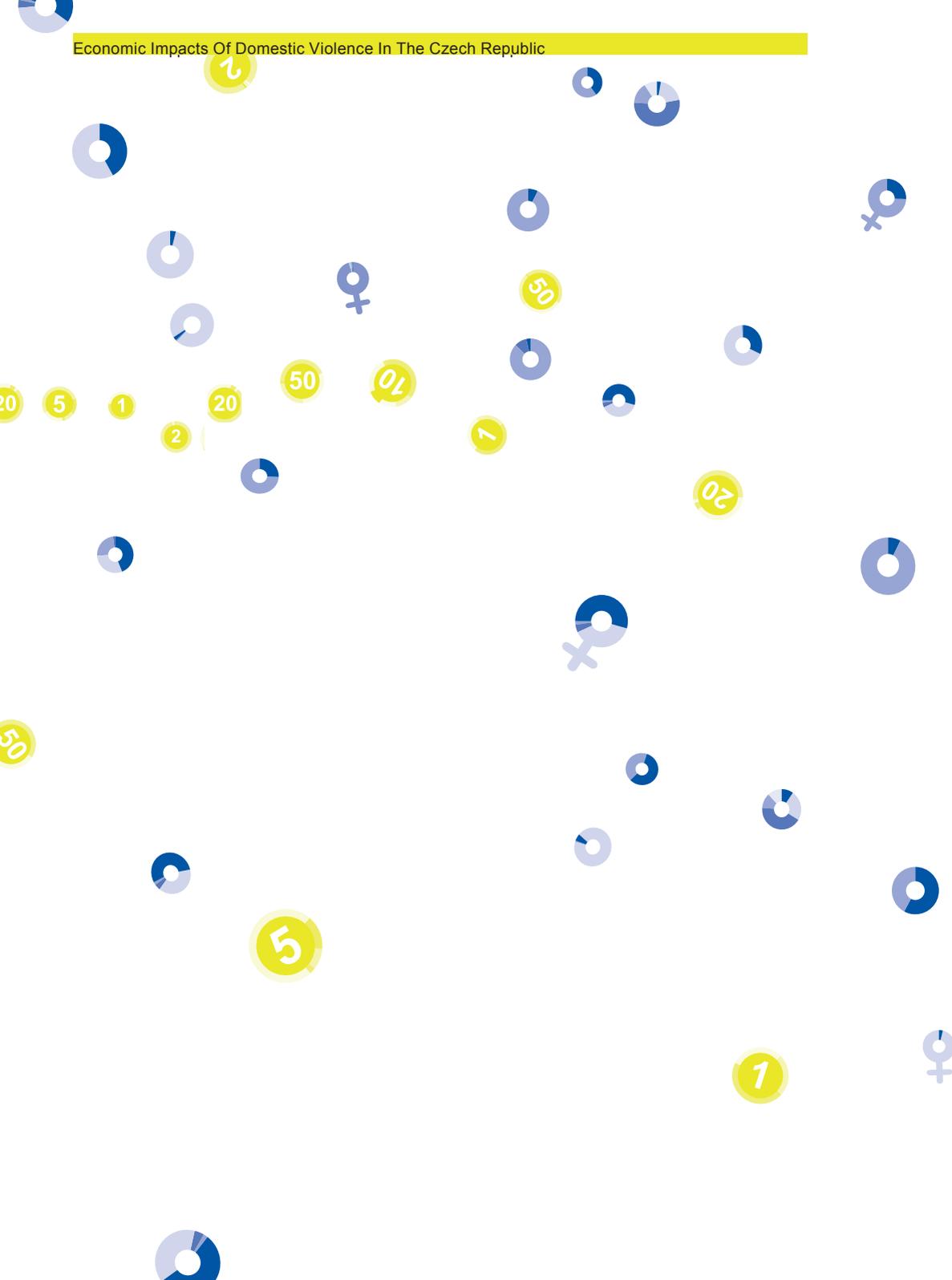
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## Foreword

### JITKA POLÁKOVÁ, DIRECTOR OF PROFEM, PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANIZATION

*We would like to present to the public a study entitled “How much the domestic violence costs the Czech Republic”. The incidence of this serious social problem, in addition to many other negatives, has huge impact on the state finance. In addition to the objectively quantifiable costs of combating domestic violence and the help for domestic violence victims, permanent damage to mental and physical health of the victims must also be included. This damage manifests itself long after the cessation of violence and is very hard to quantify. In our study, we call it “The Price of human emotions” and it is co-authored directly by women – victims of domestic violence. Our study emphasizes greater prevention and protection of victims, state MMM financial cost minimization, more frequent discussion with clear outputs concerning the complexity of solving the domestic violence issue.*

*The aim of the study is to support the intention of the Government, who in the National Action Plan of domestic violence prevention for the years 2011–2014, among other things, set a task: to prepare an analysis of the economic impacts of domestic violence. Until now, however, it was not written. Domestic violence is an integral part of the issue of violence against women according to the declaration in the international Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Convention CETs No. 210 adopted by the Committee of Ministers of Member States of the Council of Europe on the 7th April 2011 in Istanbul), including the still persisting gender conditioning of the problem. The full text of this declaration is unreservedly accepted by all non-profit organizations that are represented in the coalition Women Against Violence in Europe (WAVE). This declaration is also fully accepted by our organization, also a member of the coalition.*

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## Introduction

### BENEFITS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study is further exploration of the domestic violence issue in the Czech Republic. It delivers relevant estimate of its economic costs originating in different areas and reflecting the whole of society. It presents serious consequences of domestic violence (hereafter DV) from a different perspective than previously known. It is also an essential contribution to the National Action Plan for Prevention of Domestic Violence for 2010–2014, where the analyzes and study of this issue are one of the priorities. The National Action Plan has been drawn up by the Committee for the Prevention of Domestic Violence of Government Council for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men and approved by the Government of the Czech Republic. It has concluded that the lack of conceptual solutions of DV has a negative economic impact on the whole society reflected in increased costs in a number of sectors.

The aim of the study is to show with the help of economic costs, how serious the problem is and how much it drains the public budgets.

Presentation of DV through its economic consequences should contribute to include the solution of this socially negative phenomenon among tasks with higher priority. Through all the information on the DV impacts, the present study can support the development of policies and decisions based on relevant information and analyzes. A list of all the consequences and available items for such serious society-wide problem simultaneously encourages greater activation for concrete solutions and not only reflections.

The study is based on the fact that people at risk of DV are overwhelmingly women, and therefore we used the data on women – DV victims – for our calculation. Data from crime surveys, intervention centers or shelters for DV victims show that 90–95 % of people who seek help in DV cases are women. If for ease of calculation we understand DV as violence against women, it means just the

factor for the study, rather than ignoring male victims. Cost estimates are based mainly on publicly available data for the year 2010 and describe state in 2010.

Knowledge of the amount of cost associated with DV contributes to an understanding of the significance of all activities such as prevention, education and victim assistance. Suggestions of DV solution concept need to be based on statistical and relevant information this pilot study brings.



# 1. Domestic Violence

## 1.1 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AS A SOCIAL PATHOLOGY

This study wants to emphasize in its look at DV that this phenomenon incontrovertibly belongs to a social pathology of society. Until recently, the Czech Republic lacked legislation that would regulate criminality of DV. A globally uniform definition of DV does not exist. This is due to the complexity of the problem being viewed from many different perspectives. Differences arise from diverse views across society, cultural differences, ethnic traditions and values. Our existing legal order also does not contain a definition of DV, although the term occurs in some legislations. In the Czech Republic, definitions can be found in expert articles and publications of organizations that are devoted to this problem.

Basically there is international consensus on DV, in particular on its forms and cycle. Let us briefly mention that in the first cycle disagreements and tensions escalate, second cycle is a violent act itself, in the third cycle there are apologies and partial peace. However, soon afterwards violence escalates again, period of tension is usually shorter and the aggressive act itself begins much faster.

## 1.2 CONCEPTUAL DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

As already mentioned, there is currently no single view or definition of DV. It always depends on societal perception, so you can find some differences.<sup>1</sup>

Definition of the term DV in the wider sense of the word appeared in the Council of Europe Recommendation No. R (85) 4 on violence in the family of

<sup>1</sup> E.g. Austria sees domestic violence (DV) as violence against women, as there is more than 95% of the female sex on the affected side, and over 98% of the perpetrators of violence are males. In its policy on the fight against this violation of human rights Austria actively collaborates with non-profit organizations, includes their experience in its work and supports them financially and socially. Unlike Austria, the Czech Republic inclines (like almost all the countries of the former Eastern Europe) to neutral definition of DV, mixes groups of people affected by DV into one group and the results of active combat against DV are partially unconvincing and dysfunctional (eg DV detection in relationships within the family is completely different from the detection of DV against the elderly). Support of helping non-profit sector, active in this area from the beginnings, is dependent on applying for subsidies every year with an uncertain outcome. Only the intervention centers are financed on a regular basis.

1985<sup>2</sup>: “Violent behavior in the family includes any act or omission committed within the family by one of its members, that undermines life, physical or psychological integrity or freedom of another member of the same family, or seriously harm the development of his personality.”

The explanatory memorandum report to the Act No. 135/2006 Coll. amending certain laws in the area of protection against domestic violence, also favors broader definition and characterizes DV as *repeated violent behavior or threats of such behavior which results in a dangerous attack against the life, health, freedom or dignity, or is likely to occur, and the conduct takes place between people in the family or similar relationship, living together in an apartment or house.*<sup>3</sup>

Domestic violence in the narrow sense, or intimate (partner) violence is “any threatening behavior, violence or psychological, physical, sexual, economical or emotional abuse between adults who are or sometime in the past have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender”<sup>4</sup>.

General definition of DV includes all forms of violence of any household member against another member member (ie partner and intergenerational violence). This study only includes violence against women. The study is based on the following definition of DV: “Domestic violence occurs on the basis of abuse of power and control by one person (usually a man) over another (usually woman) in the context of an intimate relationship. Violence can take many forms, physical violence, psychological violence and emotional blackmail, economic control and isolation of victim or limiting her/his movement.”<sup>5</sup>

### 1.3 DEVELOPMENT AND SITUATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

At the turn of the millennium the Czech Republic belonged to the few European countries where the interpretation of DV was practically did not exist. Nevertheless, these issues reached dimensions with tragic consequences, including murders, suicidal tendencies, permanent damage to health, mental trauma,

2 Recommendation No. R (85) 4 on violence in the family [online]. Council of Europe, 1985 [cit. 8 26th 2012]. Available from [http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/victims/recR\\_85\\_4e.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/victims/recR_85_4e.pdf)

3 The explanatory memorandum report to the Act No. 135/2006 Coll. Amending certain laws in the field of the protection against domestic violence.

4 Voňková, J., Huňková, M. et al. Domestic violence in the Czech law from the perspective of women. Prague: ProFem, 2004, p.15.

5 Vargová, B., Vavroňová, M. From good intentions to good cooperation. Prague: ROSA, 2008, p.5.

dissociation and conversion disorders. Experienced suffering affects not only women but also children. They are often manipulated in DV cases. Sometimes it is possible to observe the CAN syndrome (Child Abused and Neglect). We can not skip hardships, mental suffering and pain of the elderly who are experiencing the same violence from their nearest. Prolonged deprivation leads to many somatic diseases, psychological problems, post-traumatic stress disorders, and many other damages to health mainly noticed by experts from non-profit organizations. Therefore, these organizations wanted to speak publicly and gradually made up coalitions.<sup>6</sup>

There was a long time trend to rather downplay or overlook the DV situation. This trend resulted in the low media response in the past. Workers in the helping professions have also begun to gradually educate in this field, but to address the DV still legislative support lacked. DV cases were not addressed until an offence or crime was committed.<sup>7</sup> Until then assistance and support to DV victims was provided by non-profit organizations only. On the initiative of these organizations begun also cooperation with government institutions which resulted in policy-making of protection against DV.<sup>8</sup> They started with an amendment to the Criminal Code, Law No. 91/2004 Coll., by which an offence concerning DV was for the first time incorporated into Czech law – 15a § 2 of the Penal Code - “Cruelty to a person living in a shared apartment or house.”

In 2006, Act No. 135/2006 Coll. was approved, amending certain laws in the area of domestic violence protection, with effect from 1. 1. 2007.<sup>9</sup> Adoption of this act ranks the Czech Republic among the countries of the European Union, whose legislation protects persons directly threatened by DV.

Regular cooperation of non-profit and public sector was established within the Committee for the DV Prevention<sup>10</sup> in order to jointly formulate current

6 E.g. Coordinating Ring for domestic violence prevention (1995), Coalition of organizations against domestic violence KOORDONA (2004), <http://www.koordona.cz>.

7 As a result of the absence of a criminal offence definition related to domestic violence, the repressive state bodies intervened only when the victim was hurt so much that it was a criminal offence, such as serious bodily harm or murder.

8 A series of discussion seminars with professional public grew up on the initiative and activities of proFem ops under the coordination of the Ministry of Interior which resulted in concrete measures to act in the field of domestic violence; on the initiative of the White Circle of Safety the Alliance Against Domestic Violence with the participation of politicians was established with the result of the first proposals for changes in legislation.

9 Act No. 135/2006 Coll. amended in particular Act No. 283/1991 Coll., On the Police of the Czech Republic, Act No. 99/1963 Coll., the Civil Procedure Code, Act No. 140/1961 Coll. Criminal Law.

10 Committee operates from 1. 1. 2008 as a permanent advisory body of the Council of the Czech Government for Equal opportunities for women and men.

priorities regarding DV. Among them are specific objectives, such as the National Action Plan of DV prevention for the years 2010-2014 (hereinafter NAP DV). One of the key objectives of NAP DV is a comprehensive analysis of the economic impact of DV, since it is thanks to it that it is possible to identify and emphasize all the severity of DV. Analyses of DV economical impact and cost made in European Union countries (Great Britain, Austria, Germany) pointed out that the unsolved or insufficiently solved DV causes significant economic costs. It would be possible to reduce by raising awareness, better protection and overall prevention.

#### 1.4 PREVIOUS SURVEYS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The first empirical field research, investigating the knowledge and experience, was carried out by Institute for Criminology and Social Prevention in 1991. In addition, investigation within the Security Risks research 1999 took place, carried out by the Universitas agency, which included a questionnaire on a sample of 900 respondents .

According to Špatenková (2004), about 16 % of the population over 16 years old in the Czech Republic is subject to domestic violence according to surveys /STEM, 2001/. In 84% of families where the domestic violence occurs children live and in 69% of these families domestic violence occurs in front of children. Victims are predominantly women (92–98 %), 2–5 % are men. Among seniors over 65 years 3–5 % of this age group is subject to domestic violence.<sup>11</sup>

In 2003, the Czech Republic joined the International Research on Violence against Women which compared the findings on violence against women in more than 20 countries. Survey showed that 38 % of women have experienced some form of violence from partner (current or former, husband or friend) during their lifetime. Research reflected incidence and frequency of physical and sexual violence assaults against women in partner relationships and outside of them, subjective perception and evaluation of violent attacks in the eyes of the victims.<sup>12</sup>

11 Sochůrek, J. Introduction to social pathology. First ed Liberec: Technical University, 2009, p 136.

12 Pikálková, S. International research on violence against women – Czech Republic/2003: contribution to sociological exploration of family violence. Prague: Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, 2004.

## 2. Studies on the economic impacts of domestic violence in the world

Key policies to protect DV victims originated in Western countries since the 80s based on research on the DV impact on the lives of victims and their children, both physical, mental and emotional. Since the beginning of the 90 years we can see widespread investigation of DV economic impact in the world (eg Switzerland, Great Britain, Netherlands, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and others). In 2004, the World Health Organization carried out a mapping overview of 119 international studies that address the economic impact of interpersonal violence.<sup>13</sup>

DV cost estimates in the DV studies are sometimes divided into direct and not-direct. As direct costs are usually considered the cost of police work, judiciary, health care, social services, welfare, probation and mediation services, alternative care for children. Indirect costs are usually made up of items as lost earnings, lost time of victims, lost or inefficient work productivity, loss of human capital.

Conclusions of foreign studies demonstrate the need for the systematic collection of DV cost data in all societies. The data could serve as basis for policy-making and development of preventive measures.

Internationally, estimates of the DV costs vary widely depending on the type of DV definition, types of costs, on which the foreign studies are based, and also depending on the methodology employed.

### 2.1 AUSTRIA

Austrian study<sup>14</sup> is based on statistics of Austrian institutions in 2004 and 2005. It works with data on the DV prevalence survey carried out in Germany in 2004

13 Waters, H. The economic dimensions of interpersonal violence [online]. WHO, 2004. Available from <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241591609.pdf>.

14 Haller, B., Dawid, E., Biff, G. *Kosten häuslicher Gewalt in Österreich* [online]. Wien, 2006. Available from: <http://www.ikf.ac.at/pdf/kosten.pdf>.

and applies its results to the Austrian population. DV is defined here as male violence against women.

The study distinguishes between direct costs (police work, medical care, legal proceedings and legal assistance, shelters, intervention centers, and other services for victims and their children and also for the aggressors). Indirect costs are the foregone earnings due to reduced working productivity of victims with their other DV costs. Estimates of these costs are rather conservative, the authors state that the costs of the various ministerial departments were rather underestimated than overestimated.

The Austrian study estimates the total DV cost at 78 million euros per year.

## 2.2 UNITED KINGDOM

Research on the economic impact of DV in the UK<sup>15</sup> was already performed twice, in 2001 and 2008. This research and its transposition to the broader economic indicators (inflation, change in GDP) is very complex. The study distinguishes between direct (cost of public services to DV victims) and indirect costs (rate of lost economic outputs). In addition, human, emotional costs of DV are included.

Although the study includes emotional costs, the overall estimates are conservative again, because since they include only some identifiable costs. Hardly identifiable costs are for example long-term DV health effects on victims and repercussions on their children's future.



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## 3. The main findings of the study in the Czech Republic

### 3.1 THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The total amount of the economic impact of DV in the Czech Republic in 2010 was estimated at CZK 1,328,200,000. The total amount includes the cost of police, prosecutors, courts, offence proceedings, the subsidies for social services, health care, the cost of the aid paid in unemployment, sick payment.

### 3.2 COSTS BY DEPARTMENTS

**Police:** Police costs were estimated at CZK 32.3 million resulting from the solution of removal of violent person cases or related, and criminal offence of Abuse of a person in a common dwelling under § 199 of the Penal Code (partly under § 215a of the Penal Code under previous legislation).

**Public Prosecutor:** Prosecution costs were estimated at CZK 7.7 million and are based on costs for the supervision overseeing preliminary proceedings of the criminal proceedings and processing claims in cases related to the offence of Abuse of a person in a common dwelling under § 199 of the Penal Code (or pursuant to § 215a of the Penal Code under previous legislation).

**Courts:** Costs associated with the judiciary were estimated at 314.2 million CZK and are derived from expenditure on criminal and civil proceedings.

**Offence proceedings:** Costs of offence proceedings pending in commissions of urban or municipal authorities were estimated to be 1.9 million CZK.

**Subsidies for the provision of social services:** The total amount of subsidies

15 Walby, S. The Cost of Domestic Violence [online]. 2004 [cit. 15. 7. 2012]. Available from: [http://www.devon.gov.uk/cost\\_of\\_dv\\_report\\_sept04.pdf](http://www.devon.gov.uk/cost_of_dv_report_sept04.pdf).

was estimated at CZK 190.4 million and includes contributions to the activities from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs funds and the EU Structural Funds, in particular from the European Social Fund (ESF), where there is the inclusion of 15% of funds from the state budget.

**Unemployment benefit:** Estimated amount of benefits paid as a unemployment benefit amounts to CZK 210.2 million.

**Sick benefit:** The amount of paid sick benefit leave is estimated at CZK 25.6 million.

**Health care:** The cost of providing medical care were estimated at CZK 545,900,000 and include both outpatient and inpatient treatment of injuries, rehabilitation, psychological and psychiatric help.

**Human and emotional costs:** the human and emotional costs were estimated on the basis of the amount that the respondents in the survey stated as reasonable compensation for the consequences, difficulties, trouble, excitement, hurt, suffered by them in the last DV case. Estimate amounts to CZK 19,250.0 million.

### Celkový přehled nákladů

General overview of the costs	The cost in millions of CZK
Health care	545,9
Courts -- Civil procedure and criminal procedure	314,2
Unemployment benefit	210,2
Subsidies for the provision of social services	190,4
Police	32,3
Sick benefit	25,6
Public Prosecutor	7,7
Offence proceedings	1,9
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>1 328,2</b>
Human and emotional costs	19 250,0



## 4. Methods and sources used in the study

The analysis in this study must cope with a lack or fragmentation of data and difficulties in identification DV cases and subsequent assignment of economic impacts on public budgets.

The study is based on a combination of a representative survey, analysis of accessible data from recordkeeping of various departments, the poll among social service providers and expert assessment of specific DV cases in individual areas.

To estimate the intensity of DV casework for police, prosecution, judiciary and offence proceedings commissions within the offence proceedings, information from judges, police officers, prosecutors and offence commissions staff has been used. On the basis of examination of 2-7 cases of individual departments, the number of working hours by all of the personnel in the present department was estimated. This information is an educated guess on which our study for the purpose of determining DV costs could be based.

To determine the number of DV cases solved by police, public prosecutor's offices, judiciary and offence proceedings commissions, we used the official statistics of Ministry of Interior, Police Presidium and the Public website of statistics and reporting of the Ministry of Justice.

In determining the specific labour cost we used resources available in the "Average Earnings Information System" for 2010 functioning under the auspices of the MLSA (Ministry of the Labour and Social Affairs). The study was based primarily on the cost of labour expressed as gross earnings.

To estimate the costs in the social field, we used data from social service funding requests recorded by the MLSA in combination with a poll among recipients of subsidies.

Health care costs are based on the treatment costs preliminary determined by a specialist from Ministry of Health, specialized in the area of DV, accord-

ing to the established reimbursement system for outpatient and inpatient treatment of varying degrees of injury.

Number and type of injuries the cost estimates were assigned to, are based on a representative survey which also found out number of DV cases and injury type victims suffered during the last assault of aggressor. It is assumed that the proportion of different injury types in the last case is not significantly different from the proportion of injuries resulting from DV in past year.

The expenditures for normal operating upkeep and facilities of individual institutions and workplaces has not been included in DV costs in this study. These costs are among others building and office space rent, office equipment, phones, company cars, fuel cost and other necessary operating expenses.

Costs also do not include financial loss arising from economic constraints of DV victims, including the costs incurred by the employers.

The costs also do not include the amounts that result from social protection in economic or social need. These are regulated by the Social Security Act No. 100/1988 Coll., MoLSA Decree No. 182/1991 Coll., Social Services Act No. 108/2006 Coll., Act No. 111/2006 Coll. on Assistance in Material Need or the Act on Living and Subsistence Minimum No. 110/2006 Coll. If victims get into a crisis situation due to DV, in some cases they can benefit from these resources. This state-provided aid includes the partial coverage of events that occur quite suddenly and unpredictably, which is very frequent in DV cases.

Drug costs are always at the expense of the victims or their relatives or close persons, except for drugs fully covered by insurance. However, they can not be specifically quantified, these are additional charges for medicines, this also includes all payments for doctor-recommended medication, such as vitamins, nutritional supplements or other drugs helping to improve health.

Police costs do not include costs on municipal and local police which are often also involved in dealing with DV cases.

Costs on the agreement on the relations to minors do not include costs of proceedings held between the parents of children who are not spouses (unmarried cohabitation) and which also occur frequently.

The costs of civil proceedings do not include the cost of marital property and cohabitation settlement.

For the above reasons, the estimates must be considered only tentative and

conservative, since they include only the cost of the public budgets and do not include many other indirect costs, including operating expenses of individual ministerial departments.



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## 5. Survey on the prevalence of domestic violence

In February 2012, a representative survey was carried out for the purpose of this study on a sample of 3,000 women in the Czech Republic at the age of 18–65 years.

Respondents for the survey were selected from an on-line panel on the basis of quota tags so that the sample represents the population of women aged 18–65 years. The criteria for the sample selection was the age, size of place of residence and county.<sup>16</sup>

Data were collected using an online questionnaire, because this form is suitable not only in terms of cost savings of that extensive research, but particularly with respect to its delicate topic. Also surveys abroad use, particularly for personal topics, self-completion module as a part of the questionnaire, while other parts of the questionnaire are completed with the assistance of the interviewer. Self-completion of parts of the questionnaire regarding DV was chosen for data collection British Crime Survey 2009–10.

Questionnaire of British Crime Survey 2009–10<sup>17</sup> was also main source of information when formulating the questionnaire for this Czech study.

### The questionnaire had a total of 22 questions and asked:

- » proportion of women at risk of dv over the life course
- » proportion of women at risk of DV in the last year
- » progress and impact of the last DV case
  - > police presence
  - > did the case ended up in court?
  - > mental or physical injuries and their treatment

<sup>16</sup> Data collection was conducted by the research agency NMS Market Research with the help of an on-line panel.

<sup>17</sup> Economic and Social Data Service [online], [cit. 16. 1. 2012]. Available from: [http://www.esds.ac.uk/fndingData/snDescription.asp\\_sn-6627](http://www.esds.ac.uk/fndingData/snDescription.asp_sn-6627).

- › disability and job loss
- › finance value of emotional harm
- » awareness about DV occurrence in the immediate vicinity (family, friends, acquaintances)
- » evaluation of access to care and effective prevention.

The questionnaire does not explicitly use the term “domestic violence”, but it describes demonstrable situations of DV.

### 5.1 DEFINITION OF TYPICAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SYMPTOMS

The list of situations describing incidents considered to be DV had in total 16 items, e.g. economic and psychological violence, such as obstructing equitable access to the joint money during marriage, restricted contact with friends or relatives, up to very serious physical or sexual assaults with a gun. Furthermore, threatening to use a gun or to kill. In addition to physical, psychological and sexual violence it included emotionally loaded situations where abuser damaged or destroyed property, particularly favourite things of the victim. It also included situations where any harassment and coercion from the aggressor against the will of the victim took place.

### 5.2 SCOPE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1.4 million women is experiencing or have experienced the DV.

The survey showed that 40% of women in the Czech Republic faced some form of DV from 18 year of age to the present. When adjusted for population size it means that 1.4 million women experienced sometimes in life at least once the DV, during which they got directly threatened.

DV is almost never just a one time event. It develops and takes on many forms. This is confirmed by figures from our research, from which we can deduce that on average, these women and de facto victims reported four different forms of DV they were directly subject to during their life.

The largest share among different DV forms has repeated humiliation, leading to utter degradation and even sensation of worthlessness. 21% of women experienced this form of DV during life. The second most common form is physical abuse, reported by 18% of women. In third place, according to the number



of women experiencing DV, we can see sexual coercion, e.g. touching against the will of the victims, reported by 12%. 8% of women reports DV associated with severe threats, e.g. forcing to have sex which was eventually enforced, or rape under various threats. 4% of women faced threats with weapons, even repeatedly. 2% of women faced direct assault with a weapon during life.

The survey also showed that over the last year 11% of women were victims of DV. When adjusted for the female population in the Czech Republic, it means that approximately 400,000 women are annually victims of DV.

### 5.3 ANALYSIS ACCORDING TO THE LAST ENDURED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The description and analysis of recently experienced DV cases showed information about the impact and consequences of DV. We found out to what extent police, courts, health care and nonprofit organizations are involved in dealing with these cases.

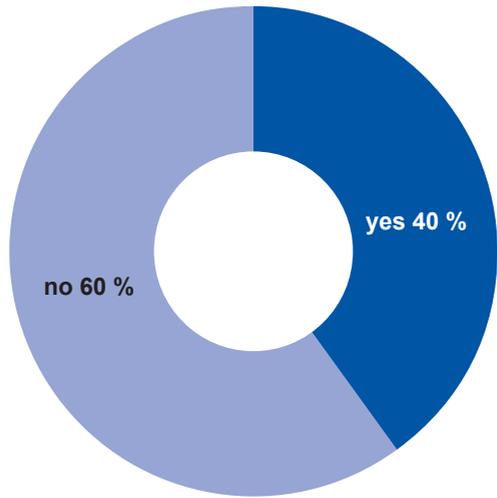
From the structure and shares of the recent cases victims have been through, we deduce pattern of all DV cases in one year. For the time being, most cases concern the repeated humiliation, leading to a feeling of worthlessness, reported as their last case of DV by 27% of women. 20% of the victims reported physical assault and stalking with 12% is in third place.

If we take into account the form of DV with strong physical and sexual violence, as well as threats of physical harm or threat of use of a weapon, it would be possible to believe that at least 46% of these cases will be solved with the help of police, legal services, courts, or staff of non-profit organizations.

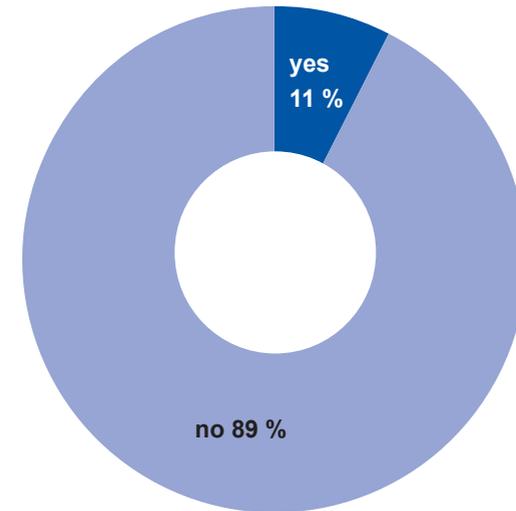
In the point of fact, only few cases of DV fall into the hands of competent experts, who can provide advice and assistance. To what extent the DV is hidden from other people, but not from children, 26% of women shows. Although they experienced DV, they kept the recent cases to themselves and did not talk to anyone about their situation.

Victims of DV mostly open to close persons (friends, relatives, neighbours). 63% of women mentioned this option. Another mentioned option is fellow workers, reported by 13% of women.

Only a small portion of the DV victims sought help by visiting experts, in these cases usually also women. 10% of women reported the problem with vio-



Exposure of women to domestic violence by a partner from 18 years up to the present (table 1)



Exposure of women to domestic violence by a partner during the last year (table 2)

Table 1			
Exposure of women to domestic violence by a partner from 18 years up to the present			
He repeatedly humiliated you until you felt worthless	21 %	40 %	
He physically challenged you	18 %		
He touched you sexually despite your resistance (e.g. groped, kissed)	12 %		
He used a different kind of violence against you	11 %		
He waited for you or stood in front of your house or workplace, stalked and observed you	11 %		
He frightened you by threats of harm to you or to a close person	10 %		
He intentionally interfered with your possession or destroyed it	10 %		
He sexually threatened you (forced to have sex despite your resistance)	8 %		
He had with you, or intensively attempted sexual intercourse despite your resistance (vaginal, anal or oral)	8 %		
He threatened to kill you	5 %		
He sent letters, e-mails, text messages or postcards with obscene or threatening content	5 %		
He made obscene, threatening, annoying or silent calls	4 %		
He threatened you with a weapon, such as sticks or knife	4 %		
He used a weapon against you, such as a stick or knife	2 %		
None of these			60 %

Basis: 3014 women aged 18 years or more.

Table 2			
Exposure of women to domestic violence by a partner during the last year			
He repeatedly humiliated you until you felt worthless	6 %	11 %	
He physically challenged you	2 %		
He touched you sexually despite your resistance (e.g. groped, kissed)	2 %		
He used a different kind of violence against you	2 %		
He waited for you or stood in front of your house or workplace, stalked and observed you	1 %		
He frightened you by threats of harm to you or to a close person	1 %		
He intentionally interfered with your possession or destroyed it	1 %		
He sexually threatened you (forced to have sex despite your resistance)	1 %		
He had with you, or intensively attempted sexual intercourse despite your resistance (vaginal, anal or oral)	1 %		
He threatened to kill you	1 %		
He made obscene, threatening, annoying or silent calls	1 %		
Vyhrožoval Vám zabitím	1 %		
He threatened you with a weapon, such as sticks or knife	<1 %		
He used a weapon against you, such as a stick or knife	<1 %		
None of these			89 %

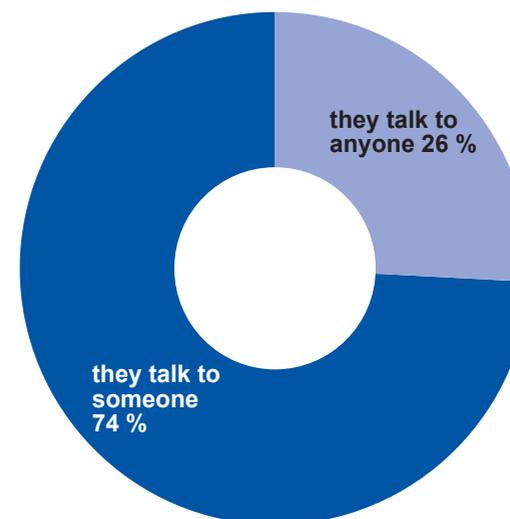
Basis: 3014 women aged 18 years or more.

lence to the police, 8 % of women sought psychological help, 5 % of women consulted their situation with law or medical service personnel. 3 % of the victims talked about experienced DV to a social worker, and only 1 % of contacted an organization specializing in assistance for anyhow vulnerable victims. These data clearly show that the DV in its most severe forms remains hidden from people and institutions where it is possible to seek help.

#### 5.4 POLICE AND COURTS AS A TIP OF THE ICEBERG

Women experiencing violence from their partners called the police immediately during the last DV situation in 13 % of cases. In three quarters of these cases the police dealt with the situation in some way on the spot, usually in the form of admonition. One quarter of these cases was in no way dealt with by the police on the spot. This implies that a quarter of cases at which the police was present, did not lead to any particular action.

Only a very small proportion of all DV cases get to court. The research found out that 2 % of the cases ended up in court and only 1 % of cases is being directed to the court, though the proceedings have not yet begun



To whom to women at risk of domestic violence talk about the last case of domestic violence (table 4)

Structure of last domestic violence cases	
He repeatedly humiliated you until you felt worthless	27 %
He physically challenged you	20%
He waited for you or stood in front of your house or workplace, stalked and observed you	12 %
He touched you sexually despite your resistance (e.g. groped, kissed)	7 %
He intentionally interfered with your possession or destroyed it	7 %
He had with you, or intensively attempted sexual intercourse despite your resistance (vaginal, anal or oral)	5 %
He sent letters, e-mails, text messages or postcards with obscene or threatening content	5 %
He frightened you by threats of harm to you or to a close person	4 %
He used a different kind of violence against you	4 %
He made obscene, threatening, annoying or silent calls	3 %
He sexually threatened you (forced to have sex despite your resistance)	3 %
He threatened to kill you	2 %
He threatened you with a weapon, such as sticks or knife	1 %
He used a weapon against you, such as a stick or knife	<1 %

Basis: 844 women describing their last domestic violence case

To whom to women at risk of domestic violence talk about the last case of domestic violence	
Friends, relatives, neighbours	63 %
Someone at work	13 %
Police	10 %
Psychologist (woman or man)	8 %
Someone else	7 %
Healthcare professional (e.g. doctor, nurse)	5 %
Lawyer (woman or man)	5 %
Social worker, Social and Legal Protection of Children worker (women or men)	3 %
Employee of an organization that help victims of domestic violence (women or men)	1 %
Employee of a citizens advice bureau (women or men)	1 %
Employee of a telephone helpline, S.O.S. line (women or men)	<1 %
Employee of a shelter for women with children (women or men)	0 %
Employee of the Crisis Center RIAPS (women or men)	0 %
Anyone	26 %

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.

## 5.5 HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Injuries with physical and psychological consequences are not only very common, but also serious consequences of DV. This is confirmed by a survey finding that 58 % of recent DV cases ended with psychological consequences or physical injuries.

This means that each year 230 000 women are physically injured or suffer from mental health problems due to DV.

The most common consequences are mainly psychological problems with emotional difficulties which was reported by 41 % victims. This fact confirms the fact already verified in the past that physical violence always goes hand in hand with psychological pressure.

In total, 19% of women reports minor scratches and bruises due to DV, 8% of women described extensive bruising or slight bleeding lesions, 3% had injuries after choking or strangulation, 2% of the cases ended with a concussion. Other and very serious injuries were represented by 1%, or less than 1% of cases. These consequences including amounts for necessary medical care and ongoing recovery have serious medical, psychological and economic impacts.

Woman sought medical advice in 32% of cases after the assaults.

Most women were treated in the emergency room - 48% of women which seek medical help because of the last incident.

The women reported that due to the recent attack by the aggressor they were hospitalized in 3% of cases. This information is in accordance with the above proportions of most serious injuries.

Serious consequences of DV also have a direct impact on their career, because victims often lose their chance for a productive and efficient work. 6% of women reported that their last incident meant incapacity for work. In 4% of cases our respondent told that as a result of the last DV attack they even lost their jobs.

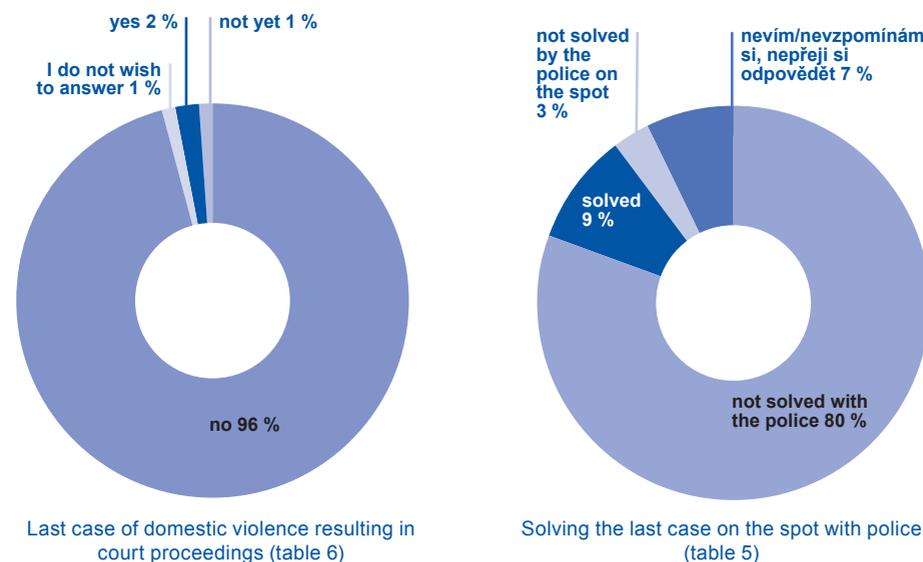
## 5.6 HIGH TOLERANCE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Surprising and at same time warning sign is the finding that only 55% of women consider partner's last attack as DV, although all types of conduct described in the survey and presented in the questionnaire are in accordance with the DV definition, including all of its forms and cycles. Attack does not only involve physi-



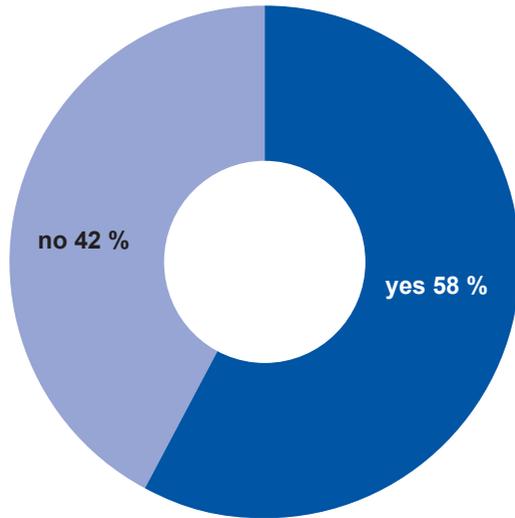
Solving the last case on the spot with police	
It was solved with the police	80 %
Solved, admonition	6 %
Solved, fine	1 %
Solved, removal	1 %
Solved, arrest	1 %
Not solved by the police on the spot	3 %
Do not know / can not remember	3 %
I do not wish to answer	4 %

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.



Last case of domestic violence resulting in court proceedings	
Yes	2 %
Not yet	1 %
No	96 %
Do not know / can not remember	0 %
I do not wish to answer	1 %

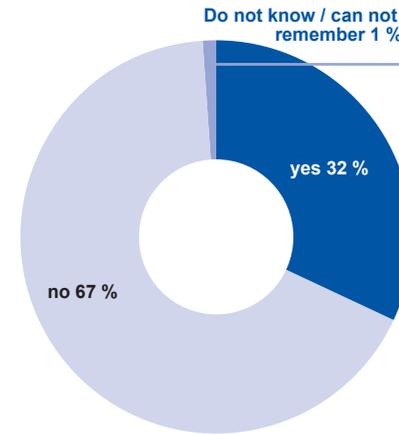
Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.



Injuries due to domestic violence (table 7)

Table 7		
Injuries due to domestic violence		
Psychological damage, emotional difficulties, sleep disturbances, nightmares, depression, loss of self-confidence, loss of confidence to people, limited contact with other people	41 %	58 %
Scratches, minor bruises (due to nudging, slapping, hair pulling, dragging, immobilizing, pushing)	19 %	
Extensive bruising or slightly bleeding injuries (as a result of kicking, biting, punching, throwing object)	8 %	
Injuries caused by suffocation or strangling	3 %	
Concussion	2 %	
Broken bones	1 %	
Injuries as a result of rape, gynecological internal injuries	1 %	
Stabbing or cutting wounds with a knife or other object	1 %	
Injuries to the spine	1 %	
Knocked-out teeth	1 %	
Burns, scalds	<1 %	
None of these	42 %	

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.



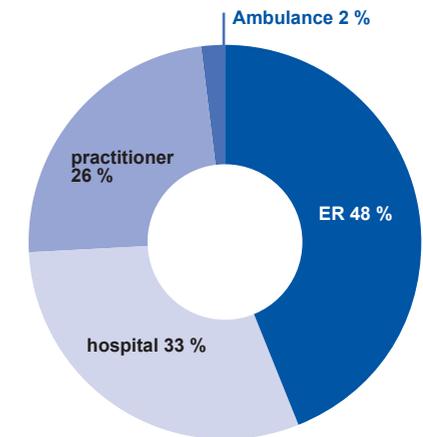
Visiting doctor due to injury (table 8)

Table 9	
Type of facility visited (doctor)	
ER	48 %
Hospital	33 %
Practitioner	26 %
Ambulance	2 %
Crisis center	0 %
Do not know / can not remember	0 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

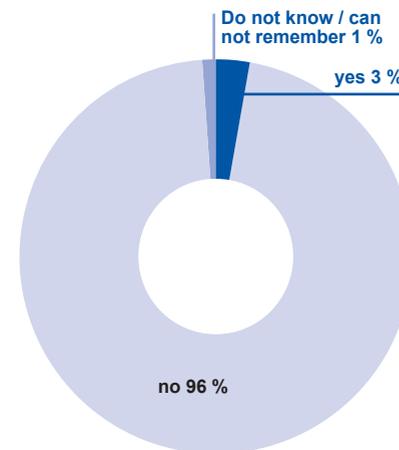
Basis: 153 women who suffered injuries due the last incident and were at the doctor

Table 8	
Visiting doctor due to injury	
Yes	32 %
No	67 %
Do not know / can not remember	1 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

Basis: 479 women who suffered injuries in the last case of domestic violence.



Type of facility visited (table 9)



Hospitalization due to last case (table 10)

Table 10	
Hospitalization due to last case	
Yes	3 %
No	96 %
Do not know / can not remember	1 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.

cal aggression, but also verbal aggression, including all the insults, blackmail, threats and many other things. The established fact shows the high threshold of tolerance for partner’s behavior in combination with a lower awareness of what DV is and what types of conduct it includes. The survey confirms that a high tolerance for DV has its cause in insufficient awareness about DV throughout society. It also shows that all improvement and efforts against the socially pathological phenomena are unfortunately still only partial. Prevention as such is in a whole clearly insufficient.

### 5.7 FINANCIAL COMPENSATION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

Although it is very difficult to convert emotional and human suffering to a financial equivalent, this question was included in the survey. There, where direct financial costs of DV are relatively lower and the main impact is emotional and human suffering, it is important to show the seriousness of the problem also by converting these costs to their financial equivalent.

Our respondents translated their emotional distress into financial amount. They were asked what amount would be considered “adequate” given the last experienced abuse case. 50,000 CZK is the mean value of “adequate” compensations. The amount refers to the last case of DV, but we know that in practice the immediate effects of DV are not complete, because they might show up in a few months or even years. Therefore, this “adequate” compensation can be considered as a lower limit of “actual” emotional and human cost of the DV.

The extent of “adequate” compensation is closely linked to the emotional hardship level of the specific situation of DV. Some cases shift this distress in significantly higher amounts which significantly raises the average compensation up to 270,000 CZK.

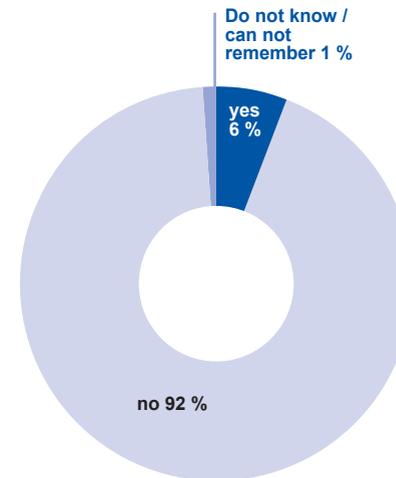
### 5.8 HIGH AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVALENCEĀ

Awareness about DV in our vicinity is very high. 58% of women in the survey said that they know about these cases.

Table 11

Incapacity for work due to the last case	
Yes	6 %
No	92 %
Do not know / can not remember	1 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.

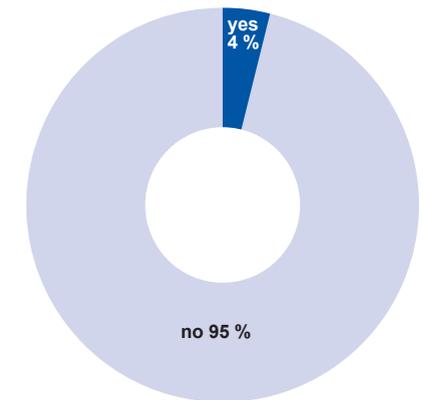


Incapacity for work due to the last case (table 11)

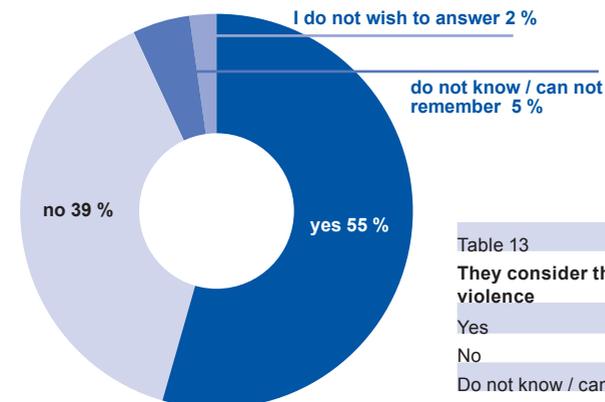
Table 12

Job loss due to the last case	
Yes	4 %
No	95 %
Do not know / can not remember	0 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.



Job loss due to the last case (table 12)

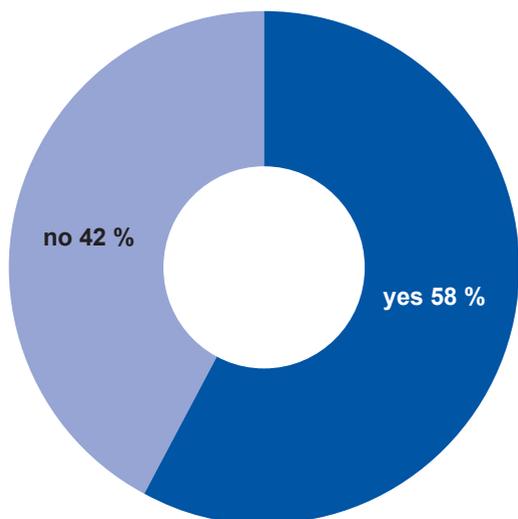


Awareness of domestic violence within close persons (table 13)

Table 13

They consider the latest case to be domestic violence	
Yes	55 %
No	39 %
Do not know / can not remember	5 %
I do not wish to answer	2 %

Basis: 844 women describing the last case of domestic violence.



Awareness of domestic violence within close persons (table 14)

Table 14		
Awareness of domestic violence within close persons		
Physical challenge	33 %	58 %
Repeated humiliation until the feeling of worthlessness	29 %	
Threats of harm to partner or to a close person	13 %	
Intentional interference or destruction with personal property	12 %	
Waiting for you or standing in front of your house or workplace, stalking and observing you	11 %	
Different kind of violence	9 %	
Sending letters, e-mails, text messages or postcards with obscene or threatening content	9 %	
Threats to kill	8 %	
Sexually motivated touching despite resistance (e.g. groping, kisses)	6 %	
Obscene, threatening, annoying or silent calls	6 %	
Sexual threats (forcing to have sex despite resistance)	5 %	
Threats with a weapon, such as stick or knife	5 %	
Sexual intercourse (vaginal, anal or oral) or intensive attempts despite resistance	4 %	
Using a weapon, such as a stick or knife	3 %	
None of these	42 %	

Basis: 3014 women aged 18 years or more.

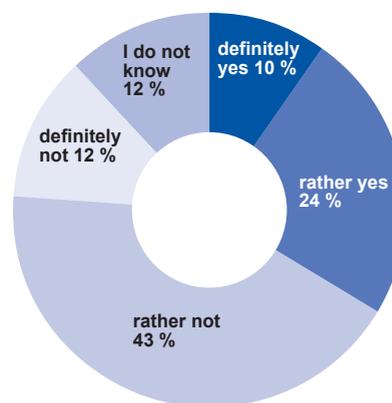


### 5.9 LOW LEVEL OF CARE AVAILABILITY AND INADEQUATE PREVENTION

Our survey identified much room for improvement in the availability of adequate care and DV prevention.

It was found that only 34 % of women in the population considers the availability of care for DV victims as adequate.

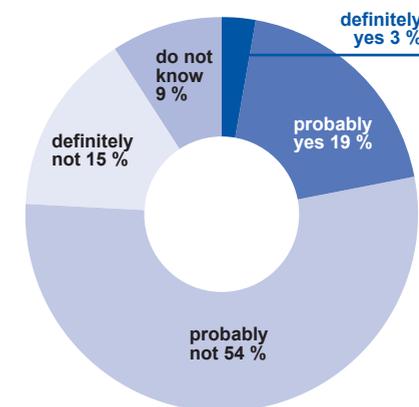
The area of prevention is perceived even less favorable by women. Only 22 % of the female population agree that the prevention of DV is satisfactory.



Available adequate care (table 15)

Table 15	
Available adequate care	
Definitely	10 %
Probably yes	24 %
Probably not	43 %
Definitely not	12 %
Do not know	12 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

Basis: 3014 women aged 18 years or more.



Adequate prevention (table 16)

Table 16	
Adequate prevention	
Definitely yes	3 %
Probably yes	19 %
Probably not	54 %
Definitely not	15 %
Do not know	9 %
I do not wish to answer	0 %

Basis: 3014 women aged 18 years or more.



## 6. Economic impact of domestic violence in the Czech Republic

We estimate economic impacts of DV in all areas in which according to international studies (Austria: data from the years 2004–2005 and published in 2006, or the United Kingdom: data from 2001 and published in 2004) highest proportion of costs arising from the assistance and care for victims of DV concentrates.

Therefore, we focused on the areas where, in accordance with international studies, we expect the highest proportion of costs that are borne largely by public budgets. The costs relate to the year 2010, since at the time the analysis started it was already closed and it was possible to obtain statistics and other information from publicly available sources.

The previous chapters have already mentioned the DV severity with huge influence on the healthy development of future generations. Therefore, it is not possible to consider its total impact with all the economic costs in some way negligible. The value of non-financial harm to victims can not be ignored since it legitimately increases weight of economic impacts. The value of these impacts is therefore much more at the lower end of real costs, because it is not yet possible to assess compensation for all the consequences that often occur with the passage of time.

The quantification of non-financial harm values with the help of long-term practice-proven and advanced methodology was already used by the British study in 2004. This knowledge strongly inspired this study, though it could be used only marginally. The British experience was modified for the research in the Czech Republic so that they could be used according to our current options to the extent necessary. It is undisputable that non-financial effects must be included to studies concerning consequences of emotional distress and human suffering caused by DV. The inclusion of emotional and human costs adds relevance to DV which should guide the professional de-

cision in the process of setting priorities and programs, particularly in areas where due to hidden nature of DV direct financial costs may seem low.

#### Costs estimated in the following chapters of this study:

- » Police
- » Public Prosecutor's Offices
- » Courts in criminal and civil proceedings
- » Offence proceedings
- » Social Services
- » Unemployment benefits paid
- » Health care
- » Sick payment
- » Disability pensions
- » Emotional costs of people at risk of DV

#### This study does not include:

- » Costs to the victims, family members
- » Cost of drugs, paid medical treatment
- » Cost of damaged property of victims
- » Cost of sick leave for employers
- » Indirect costs of all the involved institutions
- » Social benefits
- » Disability pensions
- » Other resources of non-profit organizations
- » Cost of legal services.

Each area, in which we estimate the economic impacts, applied variably different way of calculating the estimate. The difference in the approach to the calculation of the estimates is enforced primarily by a lack of uniform statistical data and by a different or non-existent method of calculating the cost of providing specific services. Our estimates are based basically on three sources: 1) the objective statistics on the prevalence of DV in individual areas, 2) expert estimates of the extent and costs carried by various cases of DV and 3) data from the survey, that was included in this study.



As objective we consider the official statistical data of individual ministries and representative survey that we conducted for the purposes of this study. Expert estimates are based on the description of several cases with the DV occurrence. They are not a representative sample, but at this moment the only accessible sources to estimate the costs associated with the individual cases of DV.

### 6.1 SOCIAL SERVICES

Cost incurred by the organizations providing social services were calculated from MLSA of the Czech Republic data and data of completed tenders for suppliers of social services in each region (the so-called individual projects to Increase quality of social services within each region). MLSA annually registers data on provided subsidies for all providers of social services. Individual providers report annual subsidies received from both the state budget and from other sources (regions, municipalities, donations, own resources, e.g. sale of products and services, Czech and foreign endowment funds and 15 % share from EU Structural Funds, in particular the ESF).<sup>18</sup>

For the estimate we used the review of grant applications in 2011 showing the cost of the services incurred by individual subjects (applicants) in 2010. We selected only those applicants (social service providers) who provide social services related to helping victims of DV. These are the following services: shelters, intervention centers, crisis intervention, professional social counseling, telephone crisis intervention and social activation services.

CZK 537 million (of which 44% from the MLSA funds and 56% from other sources) is the total amount selected organizations received for specific services in 2010.

Due to the fact that many social service providers focus on other groups of excluded people, it was necessary to determine the level of approximate utilization of the acquired funds to help victims of DV.

For this purpose, we conducted online questionnaire<sup>19</sup> among selected social

<sup>18</sup> 85% of funds are resources from the EU Structural Funds, in particular the ESF, the remaining 15% get an additional state funding within these European funds. Therefore, we count as an expense only 15% of financial resources.

<sup>19</sup> During the questionnaire in February 2012, we sent an e-mail to 181 selected subjects who can provide services to women at risk of domestic violence. The questionnaire examined the amount the organizations dedicated to providing services to these victims. 22 organizations responded to the questionnaire (12% of the polled organizations).

service providers. On the basis of it we have estimated that 35 % of the total amount of received financial resources go to the provision of DV victim services. CZK 188 million is the final amount determined for services for DV-affected people in 2010.

The MLSA data on subsidies do not include subsidies for intervention centers (IC) helping exclusively DV victims. IC activity in the years 2009–2012 received 15 % funding from public budgets and 85% from the EU Structural Funds, the European Social Fund.

In 2010, the total amount granted to IC activity was 16 million CZK and 15 % of it was the contribution from public funds. Public funds provided totally 2.4 million CZK in 2010.

The total amount for the area of social services is estimated at CZK 190.4 million in 2010.

## 6.2 POLICE, PROSECUTORS AND COURTS

DV victims often do not use their legal rights and protection afforded by the Czech laws. The reason for this is the fear of the aggressor, shame, fear of losing housing, fear that the victims - women lose their children, little or no financial resources for legal aid, etc. The police, prosecutors and courts consequently solve only a fraction of many DV cases occurring in our country. Most problematic process is particularly DV-related cases evidence processing because incidents happen in private, behind the door of an apartment or house, where there are not other witnesses and victim and aggressor often testify against each other.

Nevertheless, estimates of the costs of the police, prosecution and courts solving DV cases, are not negligible and they can be expected to grow steadily since number of DV cases being resolved, whether in criminal or civil proceedings, still increases with rising number of DV-informed victims who dare to deal with their situation.

### 6.2.1 Police

Police plays a very important role in solving DV. It is often the first representative of public authority victims come into contact with in an effort to resolve their situation.

As a point of departure for our analysis we use average gross hourly salary for

police work reported in the Average Earnings Information System (ISPV)<sup>20</sup> in “Police inspectors and commissioners.”

The gross hourly wage was CZK 190 in 4th quarter 2010.<sup>21</sup>

### Removal of the perpetrator from the home

January 1 2007, Act No. 135/2006 Coll., amending certain laws in the area of protection against domestic violence, came into force introducing the institute of removal. It gives police the power to remove a violent person for 10 days from the common dwelling. Since that year police statistics monitor the number of removals and since the same year, the indicator “domestic violence” is observed in the police and criminological statistics.

In 2010, the police in the Czech Republic carried out 1058 removals. 1,035 persons removed were men.<sup>22</sup> On the basis of these cases it is estimated that one removal means at least three hours work for the police, which means working at the site and related paperwork. The removal as such is carried out directly in the field by two policemen. One removal can be tantamount to a total of six hours of police work.

Table 17	
Number of men removed	1035
Duration	6 h práce policistů
Gross hourly wage	190 Kč
Total costs	1 179 900 Kč

### Examining and investigating

Once the police find any facts suggesting that a crime was committed, verification of these facts starts. If established facts indicate that a crime was committed and that it was committed by certain person, criminal prosecution is initiated. Thereafter, the accused is interrogated and the police under the supervision

<sup>20</sup> Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

<sup>21</sup> Hourly wage is expressed as a median.

<sup>22</sup> Information on implementation of measures for the introduction of interdisciplinary teams combining health, social and police assistance in detecting and prosecuting cases of domestic violence. *Home Office of Czech Republic*, reference number MV-113229/OP-2010 [online]. [Cit. 3. 3. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/dokumenty-kriminalita-informace-o-plneni-opatreni-pro-zavedeni-interdisciplinarnich-tymu-spojucich-zdravotni-socialni-a-policejni-pomoc-pri-odhlovani-a-stihani-pripadu-domaciho-nasilni-za-rok-2010.aspx>.

of the public prosecutor procures additional evidence on the basis of which it is decided whether the accused will be indicted or whether the matter will be decided otherwise (stopping prosecution, conditional suspension of criminal prosecution, assignment for offence proceedings or settlement).

“Domestic violence” is not legally classified by the criminal law. When verifying the DV cases, a number of facts this topic can be included under comes into consideration. Most often it will be the abuse of a person living in common dwelling (§ 199 of the Criminal Code). To get an idea of a wide variety of issues and DV-related behaviour variability the police deals with in connection with the DV, we can, among other facts, mention e.g. restriction of personal freedom (§ 171 of the Criminal Code), extortion (§ 175 of the Criminal Code), violation of domestic freedom (§ 187 Criminal Code), rape (§ 185 Criminal Code), sexual abuse (§ 187 Criminal Code), abuse of a ward (§ 198 of the Criminal Code), criminal damage (§ 228 Criminal Code), illegal possession of firearms (§ 279 Criminal Code), dangerous threats (§ 353 Criminal Code), stalking (§ 354 Criminal Code) and many others.

As police statistics do not show DV attribute by individual crimes, we consider verifiable only an indication of criminal proceedings by the police of the Czech Republic for the crime under § 199 of the Criminal Code Abuse of a person in a common dwelling, where it was found that for the year 2010 the Police launched criminal proceedings in 771 cases and criminal prosecution (possibly notification of suspicion) was initiated in 457 cases.<sup>23</sup> The exemplary list of offences which may be associated with DV and have been mentioned above, clearly shows how small proportion of DV cases and police work this study captures by including only this legal classification. In case of the number of cases dealt with by the police in 2010 the cost estimate is based on official statistics from the Police Headquarters.<sup>24</sup>

23 Information on implementation of measures for the introduction of interdisciplinary teams combining health care, social and police assistance in detecting and prosecuting cases of domestic violence. Home Office of the Czech Republic, No. MV-113229/OP-2010 [online]. [Cit. Third Third 2012]. Available from: <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/dokumenty-kriminalita-informace-o-plneni-opatreni-pro-zavedeni-interdisciplinarnich-tymu-spojucich-zdravotni-socialni-a-policejni-pomoc-pri-odhalovani-a-stihani-pripadu-domaciho-nasili-za-rok-2010.aspx>.

24 Information on implementation of measures for the introduction of interdisciplinary teams combining health care, social and police assistance in detecting and prosecuting cases of domestic violence. Home Office of the Czech Republic, No. MV-113229/OP-2010 [online]. [Cit. Third Third 2012]. Available from: <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/dokumenty-kriminalita-informace-o-plneni-opatreni-pro-zavedeni-interdisciplinarnich-tymu-spojucich-zdravotni-socialni-a-policejni-pomoc-pri-odhalovani-a-stihani-pripadu-domaciho-nasili-za-rok-2010.aspx>.



The approximate time a police officer needs for one such case to initiate criminal prosecution or to notify on suspicion was determined on the basis of a detailed study of specific topical police files. The police work consists mainly of interrogation and administrative tasks associated with screening. Part of the screening, and thus the individual case solving costs are also expert opinions, including the police vehicle cost. The average number of hours spent on a case was estimated at 200 hours.

Table 18	
<b>Number of prosecution / notification of suspicion in cases § 199</b>	457
Duration	200 h police work
Gross hourly wage	CZK 190
The total cost	CZK 17,366,000

Part of DV-associated cases are usually expert opinions. Their cost for one case is estimated at 30,000 CZK.<sup>25</sup>

Table 19	
<b>Number of prosecution / Communication suspicion in cases § 199</b>	457
Expertise Price	30,000 CZK
The total cost	CZK 13,710,000

From 1 January 2010, when the new Criminal Code came into power, the merits of stalking § 354 were incorporated and newly it was also observed in police statistics. In 2010, a criminal proceedings were initiated in 746 cases. Prosecution (or suspicion notified) was initiated in were 351 cases. Because there is no estimate on the number of DV-related stalking cases, we do not include this offence into our estimate of the DV economic impact.

Total estimated amount of the DV economic impact for selected police cost is CZK 32,255,900, after rounding: CZK 32.3 million.

## 6.2.2 Public Prosecutor's Office

As described above, after the accused receives the decision to initiate criminal prosecution, the police under the supervision of the prosecutor procures additional evidence. On this basis the decision is met whether the accused will be in-

25 According to § 16 of the Ministry of Justice Decree No. 37/1967 Coll., Implementing the Act on Experts and Interpreters as amended by later regulations, remuneration for an expert opinion is 100-350 CZK per hour according to its complexity and the degree of expertise necessary.

dicted or whether the matter will be decided differently (suspension of criminal prosecution, contingent suspension of criminal prosecution, referral to offence proceedings or settlement).

In 2010, prosecutors reported 836 DV-related cases.<sup>26</sup>

It was estimated that the supervision of the preliminary proceedings of the criminal proceedings and processing an action requires on average 25 hours of prosecutor and 5 hours of administrative assistant.

Prosecutor's remuneration was calculated from the average District Prosecutor salary (with practice until 9 years) which in 2010 amounted to CZK 56,000 gross per month and the gross hourly wage is CZK 350. Estimated work cost for one case is approximately CZK 8,750.

Administrative assistant gross hourly pay was 93 CZK in 2010. Estimated work cost for one case is approximately CZK 465.<sup>27</sup>

Duration	25 h of prosecutor's work
Gross hourly wage Prosecutor	CZK 350
Duration	5 hours of office worker work
Administrative assistant's gross hourly wage	CZK 93
Total costs	CZK 7,703,740

Total estimated amount of the DV economic impact for selected Public Prosecutor's Office cost is CZK 7,703,740, after rounding 7.7 million CZK.

### 6.2.3 Courts in criminal proceedings

Ministry of Justice official statistics track numbers of DV-related court cases, distinguishing between persons directly threatened by DV: woman, man, child or elderly.

In 2010, the courts recorded 434 DV-related cases, in 343 of which the victim of the crime was woman. We use this number to estimate DV costs for courts.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>26</sup> Infodata - statistics and reporting, Court and prosecutorial reporting [online]. Ministry of Justice, 2010 [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://cslav.justice.cz/InfoData/vykazy-soudu-a-statnich-zastupitelstvi.html>.

<sup>27</sup> Survey results for 2010, Average Earnings Information System [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

<sup>28</sup> Survey results for 2010, Average Earnings Information System [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

The court costs to handle DV-related cases are estimated on the basis of hours spent on the case. This does not include the expert evidence costs that are a normal part of court proceedings when evidencing DV and that we have already included in police costs, although they are sometimes made repeatedly or in the judicial process court proceedings.

The cost estimate distinguishes hourly costs of judge, higher court clerk and possibly administrative officer.

The expert assessment shows that a single case requires 20 hours work of judge, 5 hours of higher court clerk and 10 hours of administrative assistant.

To determine the work cost per hour we use amount derived from the monthly gross income of a district court judge (until 9 year of practice), as provided by Act No. 236/1995 Coll. In 2010, its amount was CZK 64,900 per month.

The gross wage cost for one hour of work derived from the salary of a judge represents CZK 406. Therefore, estimated cost of work is approximately CZK 8,120.

Higher court clerk gross hourly wage was CZK 139 in 2010. Estimated cost of work is approximately CZK 695.<sup>29</sup>

Administrative assistant gross hourly pay was CZK 93 in 2010. Estimated cost of work on a case is approximately CZK 930.<sup>30</sup>

Duration	20 hours work of a judge
Gross hourly wage of judge	CZK 406
Duration	5 hours work of higher court clerk
Gross hourly wage of higher court clerk	CZK 139
Duration	10 h of work of office worker
Gross hourly wage of administrative assistant	CZK 93
Total costs	CZK 3,342,535

The estimated amount of DV economic impacts with selected court costs in criminal proceedings is CZK 3,342,535, after rounding CZK 3.3 million.

<sup>29</sup> Survey results for 2010, Average Earnings Information System [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

<sup>30</sup> Survey results for 2010, Average Earnings Information System [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. [Cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

#### 6.2.4 Courts in civil proceedings

Civil law is characterized by equality bodies, but the victim-aggressor relationship is in any case not equal. Unfortunately, the civil courts handling DV cases pending in civil proceedings do not try to take this into account. We encounter very often the fact that the decision to divorce do not mention domestic violence or that decisions regarding the education and nutrition of minors give a large space to the aggressor.

##### Preliminary measures pursuant to § 76b of the CPC - the removal by court

Preliminary measures (“PO”) pursuant to § 76b of the Civil Procedure Code (hereinafter referred to as “CPC”) is specific form of PO used primarily in DV and stalking. PO has a “preliminary” (interim) character and serves to ensure the regulation of rights and obligations of the participants at the time the proceedings on the merits has not yet begun and thus provides at least preliminary protection of their rights. Court orders PO if the requirements of § 76b of the CPC are fulfilled, ie. when the conduct of the party against whom the application is directed, seriously threatens life, health, freedom and human dignity of the petitioner. If the court finds comes on the basis of the facts described in the proposal to the conclusion that there is a danger to life, health, freedom or human dignity, the proposal is approved. The court may issue a order against the violent person to temporarily leave the common dwelling and its immediate surroundings if he/she resides there, or to not enter into it, as well as to refrain from meeting or contacting the petitioner and or to refrain from undesirable observing and harassment of the petitioner in any manner. Court must decide about issuing a proposal PO promptly (within 48 from its submission). Court decides about PO without hearing the parties *only on the basis of documentary evidence*.

It has been found from the Ministry of Justice Statistics that 749 PO were issued according to § 76b of the CPC in 2010. In terms of a judge’s work a preliminary measure takes approximately 4 hours work to issue.

To determine the cost of one hour of work on the case we use amount derived from the monthly gross income of district court judge from 9th year of practice, as provided by Act No. 236/1995 Coll. In 2010, its amount was CZK 64,900 per month.

Hour of work derived from the salary of a judge is a gross wage cost CZK 406. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately CZK 1,624.

##### Divorces

Although divorce is socially undesirable phenomenon, we can say that in DV cases it is a necessary step. The thing is that marriage is so significant legal and factual bond that until it is canceled, the DV victim will be in various ways still confronted with the aggressor and his destructive behavior, and will have to bear the adverse impact of this status (eg mutual representation of the spouses in common legal operations, joint property of spouses (hereinafter JPS), the fact that the spouses in commitments within JPS act as solidary debtors).

Our family law knows uncontentious and contentious divorce. Contentious divorce is more frequent in DV cases where the aggressor does not agree to a divorce or agrees, but is not willing to agree on a post-divorce arrangement (education and nutrition of minor children, JPS division). Aggressor also does not want to surrender the victim, does not want to admit guilt, nor the idea that the victim could actually leave him. Uncontentious divorce in DV cases occurs as well, but rather in situations where the woman-victim is already on the brink of her forces and would rather sacrifice all property, only to have been divorced as quickly as possible and to avoid making traumatic allegations about her situation before the court as in case of the uncontentious divorce court does not investigate the causes of the breakdown. It happens especially in cases where there are no small children, and also where a woman can find housing independently of the money from the aggressor.

When deciding on the contested divorce court takes into account causes of marriage breakdown. Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic statistics<sup>31</sup> track these categories of marriage breakdown causes: 1) ill-advised marriage, 2) alcoholism, 3) infidelity, 4) ignoring the family (including the abandonment of cohabitation), 5) ill-treatment, conviction for a crime, 6) the difference in nature, opinions and interests, 7) health reasons, 8), sexual disagreement, 9), other causes and the last category is 10) “the court found no fault.” The statis-

31 Infodata - statistics and reporting, *Courts and public prosecutors' offices reporting offices – Statistical overview of judicial agendas, the first part, 2010* [online]. Ministry of Justice, 2010 [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://cslav.justice.cz/InfoData/statisticke-rocenky.html>; jsessionid = 932fb79fa6e8806b321fe26dd35b.

tics track no special category for DV as a major cause of marriage breakdown. It is an impulse modify to judicial statistics, where this indicator could be tracked.

The Ministry of Justice of the Czech annual<sup>32</sup> also shows that 29,730 marriages were divorced in 2010, of which 17,067 marriages with minors. So if we build upon the British study, we can assume that the situation in the Czech Republic is similar: the DV is underlying cause of up to one third of divorces per year.<sup>33</sup> We can therefore assume that DV could be the cause of marriage breakdown in up to 10,000 divorces in the Czech Republic.

We estimate one divorce case cost similarly as in the chapter on the costs of the courts in criminal proceedings, i.e. on the basis of an expert assessment and studying several specific DV-related cases. The expert assessment stated 10 hours work of a judge, 2 hours work of higher court clerk and 5 hours work of administrative assistant on one divorce case. The costs do not include the cost of expert reports, because they are requested less frequent in these cases.

To determine the cost of one hour work on the case we use the amount derived from the monthly gross income of district court judge from 9th year of practice, as provided by Act No. 236/1995 Coll. In 2010, its amount was CZK 64,900 per month.

Hour of work derived from the salary of a judge represents the gross wage CZK 406. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately CZK 4,060.

Higher court clerk pay was the gross hourly wage CZK 139 in 2010. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately CZK 278.<sup>34</sup>

Administrative assistant pay was gross hourly pay CZK 93 in 2010. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately CZK 465.<sup>35</sup>

32 Infodata - statistics and reporting, *Courts and public prosecutors' offices reporting offices – Statistical overview of judicial agendas, the first part, 2010* [online]. Ministry of Justice, 2010 [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://cslav.justice.cz/InfoData/statisticke-rocenky.html>; jsessionid = 932fb79fa6e8806b321fe26dd35b.

33 Walby, S. *The Cost of Domestic Violence* [online]. 2004 [cit. 15. 7th 2012]. Available from: [http://www.devon.gov.uk/cost\\_of\\_dv\\_report\\_sept04.pdf](http://www.devon.gov.uk/cost_of_dv_report_sept04.pdf), p 87th

34 Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. [Cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Ar-chiv/2010.aspx>.

35 Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Ar-chiv/2010.aspx>.

Table 22	
<b>Estimated number of divorces caused by DV</b>	10 000
Duration	10 hours work a judge
Gross hourly wage of judge	CZK 406
Duration	2 hours work of higher court clerk
Gross hourly wage of higher court clerk	CZK 139
Duration	5 hours work of office worker
Gross hourly wage of administrative assistant	CZK 93
The total cost of CZK 48,030,000	48 030 000 Kč

The estimated amount for divorces as a result of DV is CZK 48,030,000, after rounding CZK 48.0 million.

### Proceedings on relations to minors

Even if the child has not been direct victim of violent parent's attacks, it is always indirect victim, and the presence of violence in family can have very negative impact on its development.<sup>36</sup> Children exposure to violence in the family can have very serious consequences – especially in its development (child lags behind other peers), emotional (child can not understand attacks of one parent against the other and suffers from feelings of anger, sadness, shame and guilt), social (poor adaptability of the child and social competence) and behavioral (there is a higher risk of recurrence of the learned behavior in adulthood).<sup>37</sup> Unfortunately, Czech courts in their practice do not take the findings into account.

On the contrary, we encounter the term Parental Alienation Syndrome, where one parent intentionally instills unjustified or excessive resistance and criticism of the other parent in its child, thus contributing to the estrangement between the child and parent stigmatized in this way. Then, if the child refuses to see the violent parent he/she has fear of, it is interpreted in this way.<sup>38</sup> However, experts agree that it is a problematic term used without a deeper understanding of the issue and often misused to the detriment of children which are subject to the decision.

36 World Health Organization considers presence of children in domestic violence between parents as psychological abuse. Its reports show that children who witness domestic violence suffer from the same difficulties as those which are directly abused.

37 Čechová, J., Langhansová, H., Mrázková, Z., Oujezská, E. *Assistance to victims of domestic violence. A Handbook for Helping Professionals*. Part I. Brno: League of Human Rights, 2006, pp. 13 to 14

38 R. Gardner, a psychologist, was the first to describe this „syndrome“ in 80's of the 20th century. He himself says that parental alienation syndrome is applicable only if the parent itself did not give the child a reason to justifiable hatred.

If there are minor children in the marriage, the solution of their education and nutrition is condition before divorce. As already stated, 17,067 out of 29,730 divorced marriages in 2010 were marriages with minor children. Under the same assumption that was used in the case of divorce (that up to one third of divorces may be caused by DV), we estimate about 6,000 proceedings about education and nutrition of minors if the DV occurs between spouses. Due to complexity and fragility of children issue, expertises in the field of psychology and psychiatry are common in the case of these DV-related proceedings. Their price was estimated at CZK 30,000 for one case, but it is undervalued, because these reports are often repeated.

Work of judge was like in the case of divorce expertly estimated at 30 hours on a single guardianship proceedings. The work of higher court clerk was estimated at 5 hours and work of administration worker at 10 hours.

To determine the cost of one hour work on the case we use the amount derived from the monthly gross income of a district court judge from 9. year of practice, as provided by Act No. 236/1995 Coll. In 2010, its amount was CZK 64,900 per month.

One hour of work derived from the salary of a judge has the gross wage cost CZK 406. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately CZK 12,180.

Higher court clerk pay in 2010 was CZK 139 in gross hourly wage. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately CZK 695.<sup>39</sup>

Administrative assistant pay in 2010 in the gross hourly salary was CZK 93. Estimated cost of work on a case is thus approximately 930 CZK.<sup>40</sup>

39 Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Ar-chiv/2010.aspx>.

40 Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Ar-chiv/2010.aspx>.

Table 23

Estimated number of proceedings on relations to minor children in DV-caused divorces		6 000
Duration	30 hours work of judge	
Gross hourly wage of judge		CZK 406
Duration	5 h práce vyššího soudního úředníka/-ice	
Gross hourly wage of higher court clerk		CZK 139
Duration	10 h work of office worker	
Gross hourly wage of administrative assistant		CZK 93
(The cost of one expertise)		CZK 30,000
Total costs		CZK 262,830,000

The total estimated amount of DV economic impact on the selected court costs in civil proceedings is CZK 310 860,000, after rounding CZK 310.9 million.

#### Note to judicial proceedings for the settlement of marital property and the issue of housing

Costs of legal proceedings settling joint property conducted after the divorce, where the cause of marriage breakdown was DV, is one of the cost not included in the study. Nevertheless, it would form a considerable amount, especially on the side of the victims, whose ex-husband is very well-off. Property settlement can take many years and victim is then e.g. forced to live in a house with ex-husband or eke out a living in rented accommodation or with friends, because she can not get the monetary compensation she is legally entitled to.

Civil Code or any other Act provides that the JPS settlement should take into account the violent behavior of one spouse against the other. In fact, taking into account the proven violence in the family so that the victim had a better position during the JPS settlement would result in a) preventive function (property loss for violent offenders) and b) would be in accordance with good manners.

Original bill No. 135/2006 Coll took into account violent behavior during the JPS and co-ownership settlement and when solving housing issues under the Civil Code. Unfortunately, these provisions were deleted during the negotiation. All these originally proposed changes aimed to finally settle the estate and housing situation of DV victims (removal is only a temporary solution), so that the victim was favored against violent person. In the current legal situation this is unfortunately not the case.

### 6.2.5 Offence proceedings

Offence proceedings are a special administrative procedure which is governed by specific Act No. 200/1990 Coll. on offences, as amended (hereinafter the “Act on Offences”). According to § 52 Offences Act municipal authorities or special municipal authorities and also other administrative bodies stipulated by a special law (the customs authorities, financial authorities etc.) are enabled to deal with offences.

Offences which can be committed by a DV perpetrator are primarily offence according to § 49 (offences against peaceful coexistence - such as swearing, physical assault, wilful acts) and § 50 (offences against property).

Offences committed between close persons (which is always in the case of DV) are so called draft offences which can be dealt with only on the proposal of the affected person (for DV – the DV victim). Since these offences are of lower social hazard, also penalties for offences are less serious (reprimand, fine).

According to Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic statistics<sup>41</sup>, 12 799 cases were settled according to § 49, paragraph 1, point. a), c) and e) of Offences Act in 2010. The vast majority of the suspicions of committing an offence (11,776) comes from the Police, only a small portion from the affected persons (833), other bodies (322) and third parties (224).

To start the offence proceedings, it is necessary that the proposal for offence solution is submitted by the affected person. It is very complicated situation particularly in the case of women directly affected by DV. The need for the proposal submitted by the affected person is the main reason why only 1983 offence proceedings were initiated in 2010. The high number of suspended proceedings shows how complicated is DV evidence. Offence proceedings were terminated in 904 cases, final decision has been taken in 950 offences. For the sake of estimate of offence proceedings costs we work with 1983 offence proceedings for 2010.

Cost estimate is based on the labour costs of the urban and municipal authorities staff in charge of the offence proceedings. Labour costs were determined

41 Information on the performance measures for the introduction of interdisciplinary teams combining health, social and police assistance in detecting and prosecuting cases of domestic violence. *Home Office of the Czech Republic*, No. MV-113229/OP-2010 [online]. [Cit. Third Third 2012]. Available from: <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/dokumenty-kriminalita-informace-o-plneni-opatreni-pro-zavedeni-interdisciplinarnich-tymu-spojucich-zdravotni-socialni-a-policejni-pomoc-pri-odhalovani-a-stihani-pripadu-domaciho-nasilni-za-rok-2010.aspx>.

on the basis of an expert assessment of several cases of DV-related offences. Based on this analysis, it was found that the average number of hours spent on solving one offence reaches amounts 7 hours for all workers (offences office staff and administrative workers).

To determine the amount of the average wage, we used data from the Average Earnings Information System. State administrative worker’s average gross wage is CZK 140<sup>42</sup> per hour.

Table 24	
Duration	7 hours work of administrative worker
Gross hourly wage administrative worker	CZK 140
Number of offence proceedings under § 49, paragraph 1, point. a), c) and e) of Offences Act	1983
Total costs	CZK 1,943,340

The total amount of estimated DV economic impact on the selected offence proceedings costs is CZK 1,943,756, after rounding 1.9 million CZK.



42 Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. 15. 5. 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

## 7. Work and employment

### 7.1 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT

One of the other DV economic impacts is public expenditure for unemployment that results from these cases. The estimated total extent of DV-caused unemployment is based on data of the survey included in this study. Its results showed that 4% of women over 18 years lost work due to DV.

According to the Czech Statistical Office, the average retirement age of women was 60 in 2010. According to the Czech Statistical Office, there was total of 1.8 million employed žen in the Czech Republic in 2010<sup>43</sup>. This number is used as the basis for estimating the number of women who lost their jobs due to DV. 11% of women were DV victims in the last year and the last case mentioned in the survey was accompanied by information that 4% of women lost their job as a consequence of it. In total, it is possible to estimate that approximately 8000 women lost their jobs due to DV in 2010.

To estimate the amount of aid paid to this group of women we use data based on MLSA statistics on unemployment in 2010. The estimate was based on the unemployment data for the whole country. According to the MLSA, average amount of unemployment benefit paid in 2010 was 7,103 CZK.<sup>44</sup> To estimate the duration of unemployment benefits, we used rule of paying unemployment benefits to persons under 50 years for maximum period of 5 months.

To determine the duration of unemployment benefits were used MLSA statistics on the number of job seekers in 2010 registered up to six months (because the maximum duration of unemployment benefits is 5 months). Thsu defined number of applicants shows that the proportion of job seekers registered for maximum period of three months is 65% and the proportion of job seekers registered for 3–6 months is 35 %. Estimated number of 8000 women, who lost



<sup>43</sup> Survey results for 2010, *Average Earnings Information System* [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs [cit. May 15, 2012]. Available from: <http://www.ispv.cz/cz/Vysledky-setreni/Archiv/2010.aspx>.

<sup>44</sup> Statistical Yearbook of Labour and Social Affairs 2010 [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, 2011. [Cit. June 11, 2012]. Available from: [http://www.mpsv.cz/fles/clanky/11538/rocnka\\_2010](http://www.mpsv.cz/fles/clanky/11538/rocnka_2010).

their job as a result of DV and qualified to receive the unemployment benefit, has been divided by this number.

Estimate of the number of women unemployed due to DV by duration	Duration of average unemployment benefit paid in 2010 in the amount of CZK 7,103	Total amount of unemployment benefit paid
5,200	3 months	110,806,800
2,800	5 months	99,442,000
		10,248,800

The total estimated amount of unemployment benefits paid as a result of DV is 210,248,800 CZK, after rounding 210.2 million CZK.

## 7.2 SICKNESS BENEFIT

When estimating the costs incurred in connection with the temporary loss of ability to perform the work and with qualifying for sickness benefit, we used data from a representative survey, where it was found that 6% of women ended up having temporary incapacity for work due to recent DV incident.

Sickness benefits were paid starting from the 15. day of illness in 2010 (sick pay was not paid in the first days and up to 15. day the employee in working relationship with the sickness insurance was eligible for wage compensation provided by the employer. The compensation includes wages for working days, namely starting from the 4th working day in case of temporary incapacity for work). The basis for estimating the amount of paid sickness benefits are 2% of cases when the DV resulted in incapacity for work lasting at least one month or more.

To estimate the amount of sickness insurance funds, the maximum duration of incapacity for work was set at 30 days. The calculation of the daily unemployment benefit used MLSA data on average gross wage which was CZK 24,000 when rounded up in 2010.<sup>45</sup>

The daily unemployment benefit from 15. day of incapacity for work which amounted to CZK 426 per calendar day, was derived from the mentioned average gross wage.<sup>46</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Statistical Yearbook of Labour and Social Affairs 2010 [online]. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, 2011. [Cit. 11th 6th 2012]. Available from: [http://www.mpsv.cz/fles/clanky/11538/ro-cenka\\_2010.pdf](http://www.mpsv.cz/fles/clanky/11538/ro-cenka_2010.pdf).

<sup>46</sup> Calculation of sickness is carried out in accordance with Act No. 187/2006 Coll. on sickness insurance, as amended. Available from: <http://www.vypocet.cz/nemocenska-2010>.

Estimated number of women who drew sickness benefits in 2010 is based on the estimate of 1.8 million women employees. 11% of women were victims of DV in the past year and 2% out of them went on sick leave due to DV. It lasted one month or more. Estimation shows that approximately 4,000 women drew sickness in 2010. Duration of sickness benefits was set arbitrarily at 15 days for the purpose of the estimate, and namely from the 15 to 30 calendar day.

1,800,000	
<b>The number of women employees in 2010</b>	1,800,000
11% were victims of domestic violence in the past year	198,000
2% of the victims were on sick leave for a month and over	4,000
Number of days of paid sickness benefit	15
The daily benefit for each calendar day	CZK 426
Estimated amount of paid sickness benefits	CZK 25,560,000

The total cost of the DV economic impact on the selected costs incurred by the health insurance system for paid sickness benefits is CZK 25,560,000, after rounding CZK 25,600,000.



## 8. Health

Regarding the estimate of costs incurred in the health care system, the situation is more complicated. For fear and shame, DV victims are afraid to report their partner as the cause of their injuries or prefer to not see a doctor at all, so the actual cost of health care can only be estimated. Moreover, health consequences of DV are remain long after the abuse ends and they often result in chronic disorders, such as posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, alcohol dependence, gynecological problems, various digestive difficulties, eating disorders, immune disorders and insomnia. In our study, we therefore made use of the data that a total of 3.6 million aged 18-65 lived in the Czech Republic in 2010. As in previous chapters, we assume that 11% of women who experienced DV in the last year, and estimating the number of injuries we made use of the proportion of injuries confirmed by the respondent as a result of the last incident. 58% of women reported some injury or physical harm during the last DV incident. The basis for the calculation of DV costs is 230,000 women who were DV victims in the last year and also suffered at least one type of physical injury or psychological damage which could require medical, psychiatric or psychological help.

The survey found that only 32% of injured women seek medical help, and as regards the psychological consequences of the DV last case, 8% of women talk about them with a psychologist or psychiatrist. It is typical for DV cases that some women who could seek treatment for their injuries, eventually do not see medical advice. Therefore, we take into account only 32% of the total estimate in case of the type of injury which by its nature may not necessarily require medical assistance. In cases with psychological consequences of DV, we take into account only 8% of the total number of cases. To take into account the severity of different types of injuries, and assign adequate cost to them, we divide the total number of injuries into those requiring only outpatient treatment and those likely to require hospitalization. These cases are divided into 3% with outpatient treatment and 97% requiring hospitalization.

This division is based on the survey, in which it was found that 3% of women were hospitalized due to DV. The cost of each case were determined based on an expert estimate of the minimum extent of care to a particular kind of injury, and the resulting price. The price was estimated based on the performance reimbursement system used in the health care system.

Table 27

## Costs in health care

Type of injury	Estimated number of injuries/harm	Estimated number of treated injuries/harm	Estimated minimum cost of outpatient treatment	Estimated minimum cost of inpatient treatment	Estimated minimum cost for outpatient cases	Estimated minimum cost of inpatient cases
Injuries caused by suffocation or throttling	13,000	4,000	CZK 250	CZK 3,000	CZK 970,000	CZK 360,000
Stabbing or cutting injuries with knife or other object	4,000	4,000	700 CZK	CZK 22,000	CZK 2,716,000	CZK 2,640,000
Injuries as a result of rape, gynecological internal injuries	5,000	5,000	1,300 CZK	CZK 22,000	CZK 6,305,000	CZK 3,300,000
Broken bones	5,000	5,000	1,200 CZK	CZK 28,000	CZK 5,820,000	CZK 4,200,000
Teeth knocked out	4,000	4,000	CZK 300	-	CZK 1,200,000	-
Concussion	9,000	9,000	-	CZK 12,000	-	CZK 108,000,000
Spinal injury	4,000	4,000	-	CZK 90,000	-	CZK 360,000,000
Extensive bruising or slightly bleeding wounds (as a result of kicking, biting, punching, throwing object)	34,000	11,000	CZK 700	-	CZK 7,700,000	CZK 3,000,000
Burns, scalds	2,000	1,000	CZK 700	CZK 100,000	CZK 679,000	-
Scratches, minor bruises (due to nudging, slapping, hair pulling, dragging, immobilizing, pushing)	78,000	-	-	-	-	-
Psychological damage, emotional difficulties, sleep disturbances, nightmares, depression, loss of self-confidence, loss of confidence to people, limited contact with other people	167,000	13,000	3,000 CZK	-	CZK 39,000,000	-
<b>Total</b>					<b>CZK 64,390,000</b>	<b>CZK 481,500,000</b>

Total health care costs are estimated at CZK 545.9 million.

Total costs of DV economic impact incurred by the health care system amounts to 545,890,000 CZK, after rounding 545.9 million CZK.

## 8.1 EMOTIONAL HARM

The question: “What are the costs of human emotions“ can hardly be answered with a financial amount. This study dares to define the price, among other things, as two specific, unchanging constants beginning with I – Irreversibility and Irreparability. All experienced and desperate emotions are completely irreversible in case of any form of abuse. This fact can be also considered a valid axiom. Hardship of bullying, which always causes physical or psychological injury, emotional suffering, deprivation, traumatic disorders and many others, can not be reversed or completely erased. It has to be noted that emotional sensations of DV victims are mostly emotionally incommunicable experiences every victim will be left alone with until the end of her life. They can not be underestimated, because they often mean predisposition or acceleration of serious, sometimes even incurable diseases. Emotions, primarily manifested mentally, later develop into psychosomatic and somatic disorders. The most frequent are vascular, cardiovascular, metabolic or other serious illnesses.

The sad reality of irreparability is fully mirrored in the society. The health status of the victims, especially from the psychological point of view, can not be wholly reversed to its original state where experience of violence or abuse did not exist. Victims always bear variously deep wounds in their souls, which are indisputably immanent. Though outwardly healed, invisibly, inwardly their mental health is significantly and irreparably scarred. It is the price of negative emotions too. They continue to reflect on other generations, as the infinite vicious circle, because the DV cases have high presence of children.

Even the children, unfortunately, have to deal with these emotions, either directly participating in incident or behind the wall through which everything is evident, anyway: *The child then takes its share of suffering, and if it will not find a solution in itself, will act in similar way in the future. So there is a shift of hatred and destruction. The attacker, unable to restrain his unwholesome morbidity, transfers the hatred from the loathed partner onto the children who, in turn, become the target to be destroyed.* (Hirigoyen in Sochůrek 2009, p 136).

In addition to the serious consequences of violent behavior modeled by parent, children of these families have a range of psychological disorders, addictions, antisocial symptoms and increasingly lack empathy, including disturbed development marked by inappropriate phenomena. Every child witness of DV is seriously impacted by this experience. If we add hereditary predisposition and visible behaviour pattern there is a continuous cycle of generation which may have an ongoing tendency to further violence against the other.

If we consider the above two constants, we calculate that their constancy means significant and irretrievable impacts. They can not be precisely quantified, as it is not possible financially define the cost of health.

The questionnaire survey, which is part of the study, shows that surveyed women estimated financial consequences of their emotions at CZK 19 billion 250 million. However, this amount should be viewed only as the lower limit, and again only as an approximate value, especially because other and mostly continuous health consequences are not evident in the moment of the query. These consequences can appear after several years.

## 9. Conclusion

Realistic picture of the severity and impact of domestic violence on society and public budgets can be obtained by identifying costs where domestic violence is the hidden the cause and the solution is associated with higher expenses.

Based on estimates of the economic impact of domestic violence in the Czech Republic in 2010, we can say that health care system and civil court proceedings incur most of the costs.

Significant amounts associated with domestic violence are reported also in the provision of subsidies for social services and paid unemployment aid.

One thing that both above-mentioned areas have in common that there are no official statistics and case classification methods that would help detect DV hidden cases and thus precise estimates of the domestic violence cost in these areas.

If we based only on costs recorded and monitored in official statistics of police, public prosecutor's office, courts in criminal legal proceedings and offence proceedings, domestic violence could be easily and wrongly considered to be less important social problem. Costs in these areas are not insignificant, but show only a small part of the most serious cases of domestic violence occurring in society.

Overall picture of the significance and impact of domestic violence on society can be obtained if we include also the human and emotional costs which financially express hardship and suffering of DV victims.

Therefore, we recommend development and implementation of a uniform method to track domestic violence prevalence and to estimate the economic impact of the whole range of criminal or socially undesirable conduct brought by domestic violence. Based on these results it will be possible to set priorities and plan concrete action to improve the situation and to evaluate their effectiveness.

The model solution can be the system used in the UK which, among other,

shows the evolution of the economic impact of domestic violence between 2001 and 2008<sup>47</sup>.

Changes (total decrease) in estimated economic impact of domestic violence in the UK are related to a reduction in domestic violence, greater use of public services by people at risk of domestic violence due to their development, inflation and GDP growth.

Reduction of the incidence of domestic violence in the UK (by 53 %, while overall violent crime rate decreased by only 23 %) was achieved partly due to the change in media image, developing and improving public services, more frequent questions about the causes of injuries treated, the emergence of specialized health care centers focused on sexual violence.

Consequently, the costs of providing these public services not decrease but rather increase. However, the impact on the economy due to decreased economic activity of victims of and the impact on society as a whole expressed by emotional and human cost of domestic violence rather fall.

It is therefore possible to consider investment in public services aimed at reduction in domestic violence effective.

We recommend investing in the improvement and adaptation of public services, prevention and changes in media image, because, as the example of Great Britain shows, already in the short term of several years it is possible to reach positive results of these activities.

## Summary

### Objectives and benefits of the study

The study is the first survey of this kind in the Czech Republic. The study provides an estimates of the economic impacts of domestic violence and gives the opportunity to see this problem and its devastating consequences in other than in so far known perspective. The study is based on the fact that people at risk of domestic violence are overwhelmingly women and therefore it defines domestic violence as violence against women.

This study is also an important contribution to the implementation of National Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic Violence for the years 2010–2014, where the analyzes and studies are one of the priorities in the area of domestic violence in the Czech Republic. National Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic Violence is one step to systematic solution of this problem. The National Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, prepared by the Committee for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and approved by the Government of the Czech Republic, points out that the absence of conceptual solution of domestic violence has negative economic impacts on society, which are reflected primarily in the increased costs on health, social, justice system or work force.

The study defines the economic impacts of domestic violence as the costs incurred on the part of public administration office and public budgets. The estimates are based on the remuneration for the work of the staff of the institutions (police, judiciary, municipal authorities), on the amount of financial aid (unemployment benefit, sick benefit), on the amount of subsidies for non-profit organizations working with domestic violence and providing social services and on the cost of public health insurance system. The costs do not cover the funds necessary to ensure normal operation of institutions (energy costs, telephones, offices and other common costs).

Estimates of economic impacts also do not include costs that arise on the part of persons at risk of domestic violence, they do not include losses resulting from

47 Walby, S. The Cost of Domestic Violence: Up-date 2009 [online]. Gender Research, Lancaster University, [cit. 16. 7. 2012]. Available from: [http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/doc\\_library/sociology/Cost\\_of\\_domestic\\_violence\\_update.doc](http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/doc_library/sociology/Cost_of_domestic_violence_update.doc).

the restrictions of economic activities and they do not include costs incurred on the part of employers.

For these reasons must be presented estimates considered rather conservative and on the lower limit of the real economic impacts of domestic violence.

The estimated costs are based primarily on publicly available data for 2010 describing a situation which corresponds to the situation in 2010.

Pointing out the costs related to domestic violence, the study contributes to understanding of the importance of activities focused on prevention of domestic violence to society. From this point of view the preparation of measures, strategies and politics is supported on the base of relevant information.

### The survey on occurrence and impacts of domestic violence

In order to calculate the costs it was necessary to obtain relevant and new data which would make possible to define the rate of occurrence of domestic violence and its consequences. The survey for the study was worked out on representative sample of 3,000 women from the Czech Republic at the age of 18–65 years. Among the other data it was found out that 40% of the women were during their lives endangered by domestic violence and 11% of women were at risk of domestic violence in the last year.

Only 34% of women believe that sufficient assistance to women threatened by domestic violence is provided in the Czech Republic and only 22% of women agree with the fact that prevention of domestic violence is provided adequately in the Czech Republic.

## THE MAIN FINDINGS

### The amount of the economic impact of domestic violence

The total amount of the economic impact of domestic violence in the Czech Republic was estimated at 1.328,2 million CZK in 2010. This amount includes the cost of police, justice, hearing of infraction, subsidies to non-profit organizations (NGO) focusing on assistance to persons affected by domestic violence, unemployment benefits, sick benefit and the cost of providing health care.

The costs are divided between different areas in the following proportions:

**Police:** Police costs have been estimated at 32.3 million CZK per year and result from cases related to criminal act „Abuse of a person in a common dwelling” (§ 199, § 215a) and include the expulsion of violent persons from dwellings.

**Justice:** Costs related to the activities of the judiciary (courts and prosecutor offices) have been estimated at 321.9 million CZK per year and they have been derived from the costs of criminal and civil proceedings. The proceedings are criminal cases against persons charged of criminal act „Abuse of a person in a common dwelling“ and the costs include activities of the prosecution and the courts. Civil proceedings include the costs related to guardianship proceedings, divorces and preliminary measures serving to protect people at risk of domestic violence from a violent person.

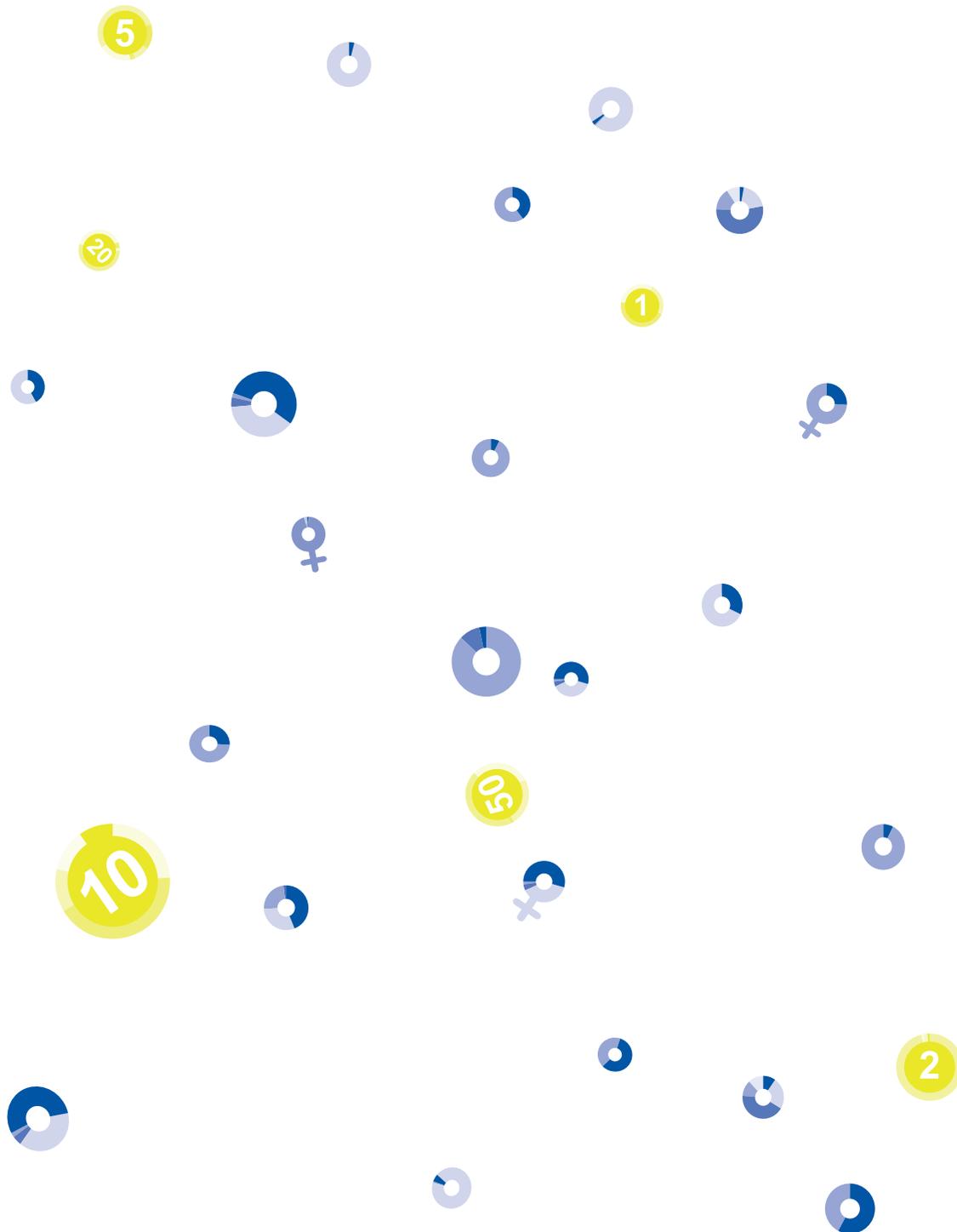
**Hearing of infraction:** Costs of hearing of infraction have been estimated at 1.9 million CZK. Hearings of infraction take place before the city commissioners or municipal authorities.

**Non-profit/non-governmental organizations subsidies:** The total amount of subsidies has been estimated at 190.4 million CZK per year and it includes contributions to the activities from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the European Union’s Structural Funds.

**Unemployment benefits:** Costs of unemployment benefits paid out have been estimated at 210.2 million CZK per year.

**Sick benefit:** Costs of sick benefit paid out have been estimated at 25.6 million CZK per year.

**Health care:** The costs of providing health care have been estimated at 545.9 million CZK per year. The costs include both outpatient and inpatient treatment of injuries, including psychological help.



**Additional item are human and emotional costs of domestic violence:** Women at risk of domestic violence experience hardship, pain and suffering, which is not included in the cost of services and institutions. The estimated amount is based on their indicated adequate financial compensation for the hardship they have suffered, and amounts to 19 250.0 million CZK per year.

After inclusion of all these costs on the public budgets and emotional costs, the total amount of the impact of domestic violence is 20 578.2 million CZK per year.

#### Sources and methodology

Data were obtained from official statistics of the Police Presidium, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice and they determine the number of cases of domestic violence cases handled in 2010 by various institutions. Information about wages, paid social benefits and subsidies for NGOs and social services organizations was obtained from public sources of Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. The amount of subsidy used to help women at risk of domestic violence has been estimated by combining information on the amount of obtained subsidy and the results of surveys among social services providers. The basis for the estimate of the time required to resolve individual cases in the police, the judiciary and in the hearing of infraction were collected by consulting seven specific cases in this area by judges, police officers or experts' offenses.

The number of women at risk of domestic violence and consequences of domestic violence (health, job loss, inability to work) is based on a representative sample survey of 3,000 women (18–65 years), which was included in this study. The costs of providing health care have been estimated by expert from Ministry of Health on the base of describing each injury mentioned in the survey by respondents.

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## ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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V roce 2000 ukončil studium na Fakultě sociálních věd univerzity Karlovy v oboru politicko-ekonomická sociologie. Od ukončení studia až do současnosti pracuje v oboru průzkumu trhu. Věnuje se marketingovým průzkumům a výzkumům veřejného mínění pro komerční firmy, veřejnou správu i neziskový sektor. V současné době pracuje ve výzkumné agentuře NMS Market Research a s organizací proFem spolupracuje na průzkumech o domácím násilí.

„Jedinečná studie, první v České republice, která otevírá problematiku domácího násilí z nové perspektivy a dokládá, o jak vážný společenský problém se jedná. Zcela nový pohled na domácí násilí ukazuje, jak velkou zátěží může být nedostatečně řešená problematika domácího násilí pro ekonomiku státu. Tento unikátní materiál rovněž nabízí řešení a opatření, jak situaci řešit v budoucnu. Děkuji autorskému týmu a organizaci proFem za tuto studii.“



Michaela Jílková, moderátorka

„Zajímavý materiál. Dopad domácího násilí na ekonomiku státu je evidentní. Svým způsobem alarmující čtení. Myslím, že tato studie by měla být signálem pro média věnovat více pozornosti sociálním tématům a pokusit se tím iniciovat změny. A to v podstatě v přístupech celé společnosti.“



Daniel Hort, New business developer, vydavatelství Economia

„Problematice domácího násilí se věnujeme od roku 2009 a neustále hledáme nové cesty, jak proti němu bojovat a zlepšovat postavení žen ve společnosti. Jakmile se objevila nabídka na financování této analýzy, ani na chvíli jsme neváhali a projekt finančně podpořili. Vzhledem k tomu, že domácí násilí je přehlížený problém, uvítali jsme možnost získat nekompromisní data, kterými lze argumentovat u politických představitelů a které můžeme využít v rámci naší kampaně zaměřené na prevenci násilí páchaného na ženách. Upřímně doufáme, že nám analýza pomůže vytvořit svět, ve kterém se každá žena bude moci cítit sebevědomá a sebejistá.“



Alena Pytlíčková, manažerka Avon Cosmetics

