Małgorzata Duda

*Violence in the family as a challenge for contemporary social work*

**Abstract**

The family is seen as a place where each member feels safe. This family harmony of peace and stronghold of security is demolished by a disturbing phenomenon of domestic violence. Violence has become an indispensable part of life in the functioning of many families. Until recently it was believed that violence relates mainly to dysfunctional families or to ones at risk of social exclusion. Recent years verified the existing stereotype. The author of the article, referring to the research in this field, shows that domestic violence is becoming an important and necessary challenge to face in today’s social work.

**Key words:** family, social work, domestic violence, interpersonal relationships, society, children