

We Are Dying Out – What Can We Do About It?

Childless or without children? It is important to make a distinction! There are naturally childless people who cannot have children. Then there are the childless who, although they cannot have biological children, can adopt. There's also the group of homosexuals who can have children, but obviously not with their partner. Finally, there are those who can have children but do not want to. This could be because they want to enjoy life or because they are afraid to bring a child into this chaotic world. It is also possible that the decision not to have children is influenced by the lack of public housing, the shortage of pediatricians, the high divorce rate (50 %), the accessibility of education, and so on. Let's call all of them intentionally childless.

If the nation does not want to die out, it should support those who have children (at least 2.1 children per couple). This is done, for example, through child allowances. However, this allowance does not even remotely cover the costs of raising a child. Therefore, logically, those who are allowing the nation to die out, even though they could have children, should pay for at least a partial increase in child allowances.

Another group contributing to the nation's extinction is women who, after becoming pregnant, go for an abortion without a serious medical or social reason (some don't even tell their partner). At least one in four women in the Czech Republic has had an abortion. Approximately 30,000 unnecessary abortions are performed every year in the Czech Republic. An abortion takes the life of a future child. This is in direct conflict with Christianity and with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights – which includes the right to life. By rejecting unnecessary abortions, our women could help stop the slow extinction of Czechs, Moravians, and Silesians, and also ensure more workers for the state and businesses. It would not then be necessary to accept risky migrants.

A statement from a student, quoted by Ivan Medek on July 12, 2005, on Czech Television's "Na plovárně" program: "I have no attachment to this country; I could live anywhere else," indicates that the author is an excessive optimist, self-centered, and underestimates the differences between certain mentalities. He wouldn't even have to move abroad; it would be enough to live for a few weeks in the Chánov district of Most or previously in Matiční street in Ústí nad Labem.

We all wish for the saying: "When we are at our worst – our country will surely help us!" to be true. However, this can only be ensured if our homeland (the Czech Republic) is strong and has enough permanent and hardworking people. And for this, young people must help their country by having "plenty" of children.

When we are young, healthy, and living comfortably, we usually don't think too much about our roots in life, and we don't seem to need them as much. But what if we are old, sick, unemployed, or our family is falling apart...?

Those who have and know their roots in life (who are aware of them and acknowledge them) have something to hold onto; they have someone to rely on when things are not going well.

The beech tree has deep roots and can withstand the wind. The spruce tree has shallow roots, and the wind will uproot it (especially when it is alone or weakened), and the tree will die. Roots represent anchorage. This can be either physical (living in a specific place) or spiritual (relationships with people, ancestors...). The more roots we have, and the deeper they are, the more stable we are and better able to overcome life's obstacles!

People who have shallow roots in life, or none at all, are easier to manipulate. That's what political parties, governments between elections, the media, and advertising constantly try to do. The strong can resist this.

Rooted people are more principled, self-confident, reliable, faithful, and live more comfortably than most others. They are more conservative, which also means they take fewer risks and do not make big mistakes.

The more children we have, the more roots of life we create!

The issue of national extinction should be addressed by MPs, senators, and government officials. For example, instead of a ten-hour unsuccessful debate on the agenda of the Chamber of Deputies. But this is "just" a long-term public interest issue, the resolution of which brings no immediate political gain.

Local councils could also address the problem of extinction.

Zdeněk Joukl

14. 11. 2024