The Family through the Prism of Saint Vasilii Veliki Nursing Home in Plovdiv Petya Petrova (Summary)

The following article focuses on the issue of the nuclear family and the way in which it is accepted by the extended family. Basing myself on observations and information gathered among the occupants of a nursing home, I suggest that the present situation brings forth the nuclear family consisting of a mother, a father and a child/children, but also including the grandparents who seek their place, part and status. Thus I investigate the transformation of the model according to which the children have always been obliged to look after their elderly parents according to the written or unwritten rules. I consider my interlocutors as members of a community very similar to the family based environment. In addition, I presume that this is partially connected with the dissent between the expectations of one of the generations and the possibilities of the other one. Further I analyze the idea of taking care within the family as well as the model of parent—child relations within the institution, stating that the latter is based on emotions like shame, fear and guilt.

Keywords: the present, family, generations, care, shame, fear, guilt

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