

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis deals with the issue of catering in the home for elderly people in Prague. The topic is reviewed from a socio-cultural point of view. The main objective is to penetrate the world of diet and catering of seniors living in a total institution, which is characterized by specific features affecting the rights and personal freedoms of its clients.

The home for elderly people is committed to comply with the statutory regulations of the Social Services Act as well as its own internal guidelines, while the compliance with legislation and various aspects of catering, including dining, eating, the environment in which food is consumed, as well as those participating in preparation and serving of meals is negotiated at a committee.

The relationship between the layers above is captured by an ethnographic study that gives an overall picture of the catering process with all its specifics.

Research has revealed that the catering process is becoming an individualized activity at many levels, enabling clients to make autonomous decisions about the process. Nevertheless, staff and clients are aware of limits that prevent individualisation.

Key words:

diet – meal – catering - senior – total institution - ethnographic study – individualization