

ABSTRACT

The impact of migration on the family is increasingly discussed in academic sphere in recent years. The form of the family changes during the migration process, mainly due to the feminization of migration. This phenomenon entails several problems, one of them is the phenomenon of „children left behind“ in the country of origin. Moldova, as the poorest country of Europe, has been struggling with the problem „children left behind“ for many years. Since this theme has been discussed many times in the literature, the aim of this paper is to shift the knowledge of the subject a little further. The aim of the thesis is to describe and understand how the parental emigration affects their children during the childhood and what is the influence of this experience on their own planning of the future in relation to migration. The research was conducted in the form of semi structural interviews, a qualitative approach that allows understanding of the issue in depth was used. The theoretical approach of this thesis is based on the theory of cumulative causation. Generally, this theory says that migration generates migration. I have only focused on the influence of parental emigration in this process. Plans are also linked to the orientation of values. Important is not only the opinion on the country in which person wants to live but also questions concerning family planning, marriages etc. "Push" and "pull" factors, advantages and disadvantages of migration from the persons point of view occurs during the decision-making processes, so the opinion of informants on the situation in Moldova was crucial. The sample of the research consists only from university students in Moldova, as the young population is very active in the process of migration, as well as these students carry a certain skill and knowledge during the migration and this can lead to brain drain. Based on my research, informants are not directly influenced by their parents' emigration. The Moldovan society is probably emigrating society, and this process is already „rooted“ in the society. While research results indicate a possible shift to post material values on a research sample, this shift is not essential.

Keywords: Moldova, qualitative research, youth migration, children left behind, transformation of values, potential migration