Abstract

The diploma thesis is entitled „New Media in Relation to Depressiveness and Suicidality in Adolescents“. The theoretical part of the work defines terms related to suicidal behavior and defines adolescence period, further addressses suicidal behavior in adolescents and its epidemiology, risk and protective factors. In the next part, the thesis focuses on adolescent depressiveness and the characteristics of new media. Internet addiction and relationship to depressive symptomatic or suicidal behavior are described in particular. The empirical part of the thesis describes a research project dedicated to examining internet addiction in relation to depressiveness and suicidal risk in late adolescence. The research sample consists of 201 students from various high schools in Prague. Data acquisition methods included the Questionnaire for Determination of Suicide Risk (FBS), the Scale of depressiveness Dolejší, Skopal, Suchá (SDDSS) and the Internet Addiction Test (IAT) questionnaire. The results confirmed that internet addiction is significantly correlated with both depressiveness and suicidal risk. Furthermore, business academy students have been shown to have significantly higher rates of depression than grammar school students. Significant gender difference was shown in the suicidal risk rate which was higher in girls.

Keywords

suicide, depressiveness, adolescence, new media, internet addiction