

## Dissertation evaluation

**Title of dissertation:**        **The Attitudes of Young Adolescents toward Their Peers with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Author of dissertation:**    **Hui-Wen Kuo**

**Evaluator:**                    **PhDr. Iva Strnadová, Ph.D.**

The importance of inclusion of people with intellectual disability (ID) is nowadays unquestionable in our society. Nevertheless attention is more commonly paid to people with ID, their families or educators than to their peers. The impact of attitudes of peers of children with intellectual disability on shaping self-esteem and learning outcome of students' with ID is indisputable, yet not enough investigated. I consider the topic of the dissertation from above given point of view as well-chosen one for research.

The submitted dissertation is logically structured into five chapters, bibliography and five appendices. You demonstrate the ability of sophisticated reflection of reviewed literature based on your practice. You have clearly defended your opinions.

Terms used in research are defined in chapter one. I would recommend here to use more up-dated definitions (e.g., definition of "attitude" from 1935!) as there is current related literature available. I would also expect at this part clear definition of adolescence as well as of intellectual disability including the explanation of your choice in the content of dissertation focus.

The objectives are well defined as well as research questions and hypothesis.  
*Suggestion for the viva: how would you explain interesting outcome of hypothesis four where the presumption that 9<sup>th</sup> graders have more positive attitudes toward their peers with ID than 7<sup>th</sup> graders was not confirmed?*

The aim of the research – to explore the attitudes of young adolescents towards their peers with intellectual disabilities in Prague – was successfully attained. The methodology – attitude questionnaire designed by the researcher – was appropriately chosen. The sample of 253 students (in terms of valid questionnaires) participating in the study is fully sufficient.

*You can explain at the viva the reason of allocating the 39 questions in Section II. in the way that more space has been given to the behavioral intention aspect and cognition aspect than the affection aspect.*

You have fully justified your conclusions in chapter five including suggestions for the future practice. Well Done!

I recommend the dissertation to be accepted to the viva.

**Evaluation: 1**

Prague, 6. 8. 2007



PhDr. Iva Strnadová, PhD.