

ABSTRACT

This thesis discusses the topic of siblings of individuals with disabilities and their position in the family. The theoretical part aims to define family and its functions, specifics of a parent-child relationship, different kinds of nurturing of a child and also discusses the role of an intact sibling in the family with a child with disability. The second part of the theoretical chapter talks about the place of the child with special needs in the family and in the educational environment, presents different attitudes towards inclusive education, defines the disabilities that are relevant for our further research and presents specifics of living with a child with disability from the point of view of the intact sibling. The main aim of the research was to find out how the siblings themselves reflect on the impact of living with a child with disability on their own development and their future. This thesis was based on literature analysis and qualitative research with elements of grounded theory. The main research technique was an analysis of literature and unstructured interviews with five young adult siblings of individuals with disabilities. This method enabled us to gain a complex view of the specifics connected to living with a child with disability. The answers provided us information about the subjective feelings of intact siblings concerning the functioning of their family, their childhood, and the impact on their development and future. The result of this thesis is a complex overview of the specifics connected to living with a child with disability in the family.

KEYWORDS

children with disabilities, family, family constellation, siblings