

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with the development of toddlers whose mothers have acute symptoms of depression. In the literary-overview part, which is split into four chapters, there is initially a description of the toddler period in terms of main developmental characteristics. The subsequent part of the work then focuses on describing early quality mother-toddler interaction, the changes in their relationship, and a definition of an emotional and social attachment. The next chapter deals with the depressive disorder, particularly describing the symptoms and changes in parental behaviour in depressed mothers. At the end of the literary-overview part there is a summary of selected researches dealing with the development of toddlers brought up by depressed mothers. The fundamental part of the thesis represents a suggestion for a research project. The goal of the research is to compare language development of toddlers brought up by depressed mothers and those brought up by mothers without acute symptoms of depression. Also, using the method of observation, the quality of mutual interaction will be compared between a depressed mother and her toddler, and a non-depressed mother and her toddler. The selected mothers will be divided into an experimental group and a control group using the Beck Depression Inventory for adults. Differences in speech development will be measured using the MacArthur-Bates Communicative Development Inventories: Words and Sentences. The Parenting Interactions with Children: Checklist of Observations Linked to Outcomes method will be translated into Czech language and then used to evaluate the quality of interaction. Statistical analysis will be conducted using a two-sample *t*-test.