

Abstract

The thesis describes the process of coming out in non-heterosexual people, its development and importance in heteronormative societies. It focuses on the overall inclusivity, destigmatization and detabuization of non-heterosexual people in the society as well as in the scientific research. The theoretic part presents firstly the original models describing coming out as a linear development with a clear ending and secondly the current concept perceiving coming out as a complex psycho-social-sexual process, not necessarily one-directional nor terminable. The key part of the secondly named approach are eight developmental milestones which in some way appear during the process of coming out in most non-heterosexual people. The empirical part focuses on coming out in Czech society, mostly on the search for common topics which can be found during its course and the description of their specific form in the participants of the study. Qualitative empirical design, specifically semi-structured in-depth interviews and thematic analysis were used for these purposes. The results partly correspond with the developmental milestones described in the theoretic part, but new topics – specific for the Czech society – appear as well.

Keywords

Coming out; Heteronormativity; Non-heterosexuality; Sexual identity; Sexual orientation