

## **Abstract**

This diploma thesis deals with the viewer's perception of approach to gender stereotypes in the *Sex Education* series. The diploma thesis also examines the viewer's approach to representation of LGBTQ+ community in the series. The first part of the diploma thesis deals with the theoretical basis of gender stereotyping phenomenon and LGBTQ+ representation in selected types of media. The thesis further focuses on gender matter and examines different approaches to gender. It also presents forms of gender socialization during childhood and adolescence.

The research took the form of in-depth interviews, and its aim was to help to understand how participants of different sex orientation perceive the series and how they reflect presented appearance, characteristic and social relationship between the characters. The research shows that male and female characteristics are positively perceived in general because of the wide range of characteristics, it shows the series works with stereotypes deliberately and it questions them. Lesbian and female bisexual characters were perceived inconsistently. It cannot be generalized whether the participants perceived them as stereotypically presented as far as their appearance or characteristic is concerned. Regarding gays and male bisexual characters, there was a predominated opinion, that they represented traditional stereotypes that dominates in the society. Mainly homosexual male participants were not satisfied with the characters' lacking variedness. Both male and female homosexual participants considered it harder to identify themselves with the characters whereas heterosexual respondents found it easier due to wider range of characteristics.