

Abstract

This thesis focuses on the mode in which climbing in Adrspach rocks accompanied by risk forms the Adrspach climbing body. Its aim lies in contributing to current knowledge of individuals voluntarily participating in risk taking through the eyes of anthropology of the body. The thesis is based on edgework (Lyng, 1990), social-psychological theory of risk-taking made by Stephen Lyng and the following researches of other authors (West and Allin, Brymer, Laurendeau) and it borrows the term of edge as the key concept of forming a risk-facing body. Such body is created on the anthropological basis of Nancy Scheper-hughes and Margaret Lock's mindful body, Thomas Csordas's somatic modes of attention and Marcel Mauss's habitus. The idea of Adrspach climbing body also derives from an already existing concept of climbing body of british „adventure climbers“ described by Neil Lewis. The intention of this approach is to connect these theoretical streams and in this fashion widen the current knowledge of human perception of risk-taking and the emotion of fear and to present the form of human body facing danger in relation with both individuality and social bonds. The findings about Adrspach climbing body are based on both ethnographical and autoethnographical research conducted in Adrspach and nine in-depth interviews with local climbers.