

## **Abstract**

The aim of this thesis is to present the effect of depression on experience and its transformation during a depressed state. To achieve this goal, I will look at the structure of experience as we experience it in a normal state. Husserl will give us the answer to the basic structure of experience through his concept of horizon and at the same time through his phenomenological reduction, which prompts us to reflect on this structure. Once the foundation of this structure is laid, I will introduce concept of existential feelings bases on the work of Matthew Ratcliffe, thanks to which we will be able to focus on the very transformation of experience during a depressed state. When we understand how the structure of the experience changes, we will be able to also focus on certain symptoms that are a part of the experience of depression and show what has changed from the original experience.

This thesis is divided into four parts. The first chapter aims to introduce depression itself and the reason why it is desirable to use a phenomenological approach, and why can be very helpful for current approaches to depression. At the same time, I will put forward phenomenological reduction and the phenomenological stance derived from it, which will show us the way, where and how to proceed. In the second part, we will get acquainted with the horizontal structure of experience. We will also look at existential feelings, which allow us to have all intentional emotions. The third part deals with the application of knowledge we have gained in the previous sections and its application to depression, while also discussing the three symptoms associated with depression, namely a change in perception of one's body, loss of hope for improvement, and finally an inability to act. In this section, using an example of the coronavirus, I will also point out how major life events can cause existential change. The final part then summarizes everything we have learned and tries to answer possible shortcomings that could occur.

## **Key words**

Phenomenology, Depression, Phenomenological reduction, Horizon, Existential feelings