

ABSTRACT

The rigorous theses represents an extension of the diploma thesis entitled „*Construction of Professional Identity of a Coach. Narrative point of View.*“. The first section of the theoretical part is devoted to the topic of identity. Identity is defined from a psychological and philosophical point of view, and psychological theories of identity development are introduced. Furthermore, professional identity is presented as a specific form of identity of an individual, which relates to their professional field, and recent research studies concerning professional identity are presented. At the end of this part, the topic of the crisis of professional identity and the concept of self - efficacy, which is related to the area of professional identity, are discussed. The second section of the theoretical part describes the contemporary image of coaching in the Czech Republic, its professional framework, and a brief history of the coaching method. Subsequently, the key competencies of a professional coach, differences from related disciplines, the context of coaching and psychology and ethics in coaching are described. The empirical part presents our own research, which was motivated by an effort to understand how the coach's professional identity is formed. Its basis lies in the qualitative analysis of data from interviews with study participants, which are adult men and women who have been engaged in professional coaching continuously for more than 2 years. Within the approach of interpretative phenomenological analysis, the participants' experience with the process of forming professional identity was mapped. Analysis of the data suggests that the process of constructing a professional identity consists of several successive phases, which are *the emerging professional identity, the phase of building and the phase of achieved professional identity*. Three main determinants through which identity is created were described: *motivation, activity and contribution*. Important topics that appear in the process of construction of professional identity are the *crisis* of professional identity, the *initiation* of a new professional identity and *supporting factors*, phases of the learning process in the profession (*from theory to practice, from craft to art*) and the benefits of coaching practice for personal life. The final part presents a comparison of research results with theoretical findings in the field of professional identity research.

KEYWORDS: identity, coaching, professional identity, construction of professional identity, crisis