

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis on the topic "How sibling constellations can be affected by health disadvantage" deals with mapping the influence of living with a sibling with a disability and the effect of the family environment and relationships on intact siblings in the field of career choice and attitudes towards planning one's own parenthood. Furthermore, it also examines the possible influence of the gender of the intact sibling on the aforementioned areas. The aim of the research investigation was therefore to find out whether intact siblings in adulthood tend to work in helping professions, specifically whether living with a sibling with a disadvantage led them to choose a profession with persons with disabilities and also whether it influenced their attitude towards their own parenting.

Qualitative research was used for the investigation, specifically the design elements of grounded theory. An in-depth, semi-structured interview with five respondents, adult siblings of persons with various types of health handicaps (autism spectrum disorders, Down's syndrome, cerebral palsy) was used to obtain data. The interviews were analyzed using open coding. The answers to the research questions are documented by verbatim citations of respondents' answers in individual categories.

Since only elements of grounded theory and only open coding were used in the investigation, the following broader theory emerged from the research. The inclination of intact siblings to occupations in the field of helping professions is influenced by the exception of a functioning family environment and relationships, as well as the gender of intact siblings. More women than men go to the helping professions. Living together with a sibling with a disadvantage does not deter intact siblings from planning their own parenthood.

KEYWORDS

Family, health handicap, mental disability, sibling constellations, work focus, family planning

