

Abstract

This Bachelor thesis focuses on the eating disorders in context of social work. The aim of this work is to analyze the support of social workers who are in contact with children having an eating disorder. The whole thesis is divided theoretical and practical part.

The theoretical part deals with basic definition of eating disorder and its division together with risk factors which can worsen the disease. In the following section there is presented social work and its applications when dealing with problem of eating disorder and the role of a social worker. The child's social functioning can be disrupted by an unexpected situation in a form of eating disorder, hence judging the health status by a social worker must be done to obtain needed results used for choosing appropriate intervention and the treatment. The second last chapter of the theoretical part is devoted to possible treatments. Finally, there is presented a list of institutions dealing with disorders in the Czech Republic.

The practical part presents the realization of qualitative research using semi-structured interview and participant observation, the main goal of which was to find out, how can a social worker support a child with an eating disorder during the treatment. The research was also enriched by a comparison of effects of social worker depending on the type of institution.

The results of the research imply that a social worker in inpatient facility is rarely in contact with the children hospitalized due to the serious health status caused by an eating disorder. On the contrary a social worker in the outpatient facility is very important which is mainly given by his or hers human approach and the support provided for children and the parents during the treatment, but also by allotted time, attention paid, the ability to lead an interview and also the empathy.