

**TITLE:**

The impact of Teen Challenge International on individuals endangered by an addiction or fighting with an addiction, or God as Hope

**KEY WORDS:**

Drugs

Addiction

Prevention

Cure

Teen Challenge International

Belief in God

**ANNOTATION:**

In my diploma I observe how cognition of God and belief in Him influences the process of prevention of addiction and the help provided for drug addicts. The theoretical part deals with the issue of drug addiction in the Czech Republic, with strategies fighting this phenomenon, and with various types of help which works, at least to a certain extent, with the spiritual dimension of a man. I focus on the Teen Challenge International Organization (TCI). In the practical part I examine how TCI works with the spiritual dimension of an individual, who TCI works with, what methods TCI uses, and why. The purpose of this examination is to discover how the people in our atheistic country respond to this offered form of help and what they can receive from being open for God. I use interviews, questionnaires and narrations of those who come to TCI for help and of TCI workers, too. At the end of my work I present new facts that arise from the examination results and I suggest how educationalists, especially those working with children and youngsters with special needs, can use them in their work.