

ABSTRACT

The main aim of this thesis is to describe and analyze the nature of relationships of the originally local community and see what impact online social networks have on these relationships. The local community in this study is represented by one class of selected pupils from the primary school Na Smetance in Prague 2. For the main analysis were used mainly qualitative research methods: survey questionnaires and structured interviews with members of the screened community. The results showed that the transformation can be seen not only in the fragmentation of the local community into smaller groups of individuals with strong ties, but also in the influence of online social network Facebook, where relationships among members of the originally local community are maintained. The analysis of strength relations between former classmates suggests that social network created by Facebook is essentially generated by weak ties, which are however indispensable for the creation of social capital. This thesis has contributed to the further understanding of the recent local community development.

Keywords: local community, online social networks, Facebook, locality of Prague 2, social capital