

Abstract

This thesis deals with the emotional dimension of intergenerational solidarity in elderly care. Caring for an aging family member is a difficult life situation for a caring person but also for the elderly. How they cope with the situation, largely depends on the quality of their relationship. The paper presents the theories related to emotional solidarity in elderly care, mainly the theory of V.L. Bengtson, on which is based the research and presents also contemporary Czech and foreign studies on this topic. Quantitative methods used in the paper are based on data from research of prof. Hynek Jerabek et al. "Family Cohesion 2010" and analyzes the mutual relationship between the one who cares and elderly family member who need help. To find the factors that affect relationships, is used linear regression analysis factors are currently being compared to the situation of home care and for care with help of the institutions. The conclusions of the analysis confirm the assumption that emotional solidarity is most often provided kind of help. Emotional relationships between caring persons and the elderly are characterized by relatively high degree of reciprocity, which increases when they are caring of their own mother, and if they had harmonic emotional relationships with senior in the past. The relationship is colder with senior's level of dependence and duration of care. The caring persons characterize emotional relationships through different dimensions of relationships, most often through love and family ties. But they also often characterize emotional relationships through their problems and negative emotions related with care. In these cases is the reciprocity in the relationship between the one who cares and the senior at the lowest level.