

ABSTRACT

The theme of this thesis is Computer games and Internet addiction among second grade pupils of elementary schools: a comparison of urban and rural populations. Its documents are the scientific literature and studies on the subject and the results of research conducted in the period from March to May 2012. The aim of this thesis is to find a prevalence of addictive behavior on the Internet and PC games among second grade pupils of elementary schools, to compare the prevalence of urban and rural population and to identify factors associated with this dependency behavior.

Theoretical part is divided into six chapters. There are briefly described addictive and impulsive disorders, and further described dependency theories on the Internet / PC games, diagnostic criteria and symptoms by which this dependence may be identified, for comparison with my results there are the results of prevalence studies of defects observed in comparable populations. The thesis also focuses on the characteristics of the target groups and character traits, which are described in the problem users of the Internet/ PC games, protective and risk factors for the emergence and development of addiction to computer games and Internet, as well as prevention and treatment of these disorders.

The practical part consists of a research methodology, research results, discussion and conclusion. The methodology section describes the research sample, the method of data creation (the questionnaire) and method of data analysis. The research results discover the prevalence of addictive behavior on the Internet and computer games and describe the differences of students in elementary schools in the city (the capital city of Prague) and rural (township with a maximum population of 5,000) population. There are also described factors that may be related to dependency behavior.