

Abstract

The topic of this thesis is adolescent boys with behavioral disorders and their ways of processing everyday stress situations. The starting point of the thesis lies in the assumption that adolescent boys with behavioral disorders show greater difficulties in coping with stressful situations and react differently from their peers that have no behavioral disorders. The target group of respondents is represented by clients of juvenile correctional institutions, specifically boys between 15 and 19 years of age. Their answers are compared with a comparison group of students from secondary schools that have no behavioral disorders. The strategies of coping with stress are examined through the use of two methods, a questionnaire “Strategie zvládání stresu SVF 78” and the semiprojective Rosenzweig Picture-Frustration Test. The results indicate that the group of adolescent boys placed in juvenile correctional institutions, shows the tendency to resign, as well as the tendency to try to escape from stressful situations with fighter frequently. Furthermore, the effort to gain control over stressful situations and individuals own reactions appears less often. Contrary to expectations, the predicted search for alternative activities to escape from stressful situations was not confirmed. Furthermore, neither the tendency for a behavior-oriented self defence nor ones` aggressive actions directed at the surroundings occurred. Contrary to our original hypothesis it was shown that adolescents placed in juvenile correctional institutions more often emphasize the prevalence of their needs, and a need to address it. At the same time they do not underestimate the seriousness of the situation. Results also showed that adolescents placed in educational institutions are less inclined to seek social support. A part of this thesis includes also proposals for intervention procedures based on the results of the assessment.

Key words: strategy of coping with stress; stress; stressful situation; adolescence; behavioral disorder; adolescent boys; juvenile correctional institution