

Abstract

This thesis examines the acculturation process of women immigrant to Czech cultural environment. Acculturation can be defined as adaptation to cultural environment other than the individual was born in. Just like the other phases of international migration, this process is gendered, i.e. influenced by roles, norms and patterns of behavior assigned to women and men by society. Experts have shown that women experience acculturation differently than men. Due to their reproductive role they are considered to be carriers and protectors of immigrant groups' cultural identity and are expected to transmit cultural values to the future generations. The acculturation process' assessment was based on theory of stress and coping. For qualitative research, two groups of immigrant women, from Ukraine and Arab countries, were selected. The main objective of this work was to determine whether the respondents from these countries were experiencing acculturative stress during their adaptation to new cultural environments, how they coped with this stress and also what influenced their acculturation in Czech environment. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with the respondents and were evaluated using qualitative content analysis.

Keywords: acculturation, culture, gender, Ukrainian women, women from Arab countries