Abstract

Gay clubs and their role within gay community have been chosen as the topic of this graduation thesis. Work gives the definition of terms “gay” and “gay club” as well as the survey of society’s attitude to the gay minority, both nowadays and in historic perspective. This information is followed by chapters dealing with history and presence of Prague’s gay clubs, their functions within gay community a society’s view on it. Practical part brings half-structured interviews with gays and seeks consensus that helped to set current functions of gay clubs, further to determinate factors influencing choice of the particular club and difference between a gay clubs and a regular night clubs. Furthermore, observations in two chosen Prague’s gay clubs have been conducted by the author as part of this research. When interviewing she also touched the darkroom issue, that is partly mentioned in her observation study. There have been quite significant changes happening nowadays comparing to the historic gay club’s functions. The only historic factor that managed to stay within currents ones is the sense of security, that gays feel in gay clubs comparing to regular night clubs in which they can’t fully manifest themselves. However majority of gays is visiting heterosexual oriented clubs nowadays at the same level as gay clubs, in some case even more frequently. In the end author concludes stating gay clubs are still of a fair importance for the gay community, although significantly smaller than in past.