

## ABSTRACT

The following thesis deals with psychological time, duration of time and primarily the subjective speed of time. In the theoretical part the theories of time perception and the theories of time acceleration with age are presented. In the empirical part a hypothesis about the acceleration of subjective time with age is tested. In contrast to popularly held view that time passes faster with increasing age, empirical data do not support this assumption. A questionnaire mapping the impressions of the speed of time was administered to a sample of 101 respondents from three age groups (adolescents, adults and seniors). The newly developed Subjective time speed inventory (ISRČ) and Zimbardo time perspective inventory (ZTPI) were also included. Most respondents agree with the statement that time seems to pass faster now than before and that time seems to pass fast. Testing the main research hypothesis about the acceleration of time with age, however, finds no significant differences in perceived speed of time along with age (Kruskal-Wallis test). Significant difference in relation to age was found only in the speed measurement by means of ISRČ (Kruskal-Wallis test). Adolescents achieved significantly higher raw score than adults and seniors by means of ISRČ (Mann-Whitney U test). This result implies that time passes the fastest to adolescents. At the same time adolescents feel the most time pressure compared to adults and seniors (Mann-Whitney U test). ISRČ results should be interpreted with limitation that it is not a validated instrument and therefore it could measure also other aspects of the perception of time than speed. The data partly support the time-pressure theory that time seems to pass quickly throughout adulthood. They indicate that time pressure already appears in adolescence at a high intensity.