

Abstract in English:

This diploma thesis is focused on parents coping with the burden of having children with autism spectrum disorder. Its goal is to analyze parent's strategy to cope with such burden in relation to taking care of a child with autistic spectrum disorder.

Thesis is constructed as an empirical qualitative research which also involves quantitative data. Data were acquired via half - structured interviews with parents of children with autism spectrum disorder. Furthermore, a questionnaire SVF 78 "Strategy of stress management" was used and filled out by the parents. The data were subsequently qualitatively analyzed and interpreted using content analysis. Finally, a comparison to specialized literature was performed.

The text of the thesis itself is composed of three parts. First part includes theoretical solutions that are based on both Czech and foreign literature concerned with autism theory and coping with stress of parents bringing up an autistic child. Second part is focusing on the methodology and data analysis procedure. The final third part is dedicated to the interpretation of interviews and discussion results, combined with results of available literature research.

The benefit of this diploma thesis is discovery of what helps to parents of autistic children to cope with the stress caused by taking care of a child with the autism spectrum disorder.

Key words: Parents, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Stress, Coping with Stress