Abstract

This thesis deals with veiling of Czech women who convert to Islam, those who were born here, were brought up here and have a full Czech sociocultural background. The thesis focuses on the reasons for veiling in the Czech milieu, the real possibility of veiling in the Czech Republic, the emotional side of those women and the change in their visual appearance itself. It also discusses the changes in the acceptance of conversion to Islam in informants' families after they began to veil themselves. The thesis focuses on problems of the employment and the possibility of veiling being contraproductive in the western society. The whole thesis is based on a qualitative research and supported by the personal testimonies and life stories of eleven key informants and testimonies of secondary respondents. Their statements have been linked with theories that deals with veiling and clothing from different scientific perspectives and are compared with studies among female converts in other European countries, USA and Canada.

Keywords: religion, Islam, conversion, hijab, veiled women, Czech, Muslim