Abstract

This thesis "Occupational prestige from 1995 to 2013" analyses changes in evaluation of occupational prestige within the era of post-socialistic transformation (1990s) and period of knowledge economy (after 2000). It focuses on latent structures behind prestige evaluation and if these latent structures are influenced by evaluator's social position. A secondary analysis of data from public opinion surveys (IVVM/CVVM) from 1995 to 2013 was carried out. Structure of occupational prestige scale had consolidated from the late 1990s into these groupings: public servants, manual occupations, professional positions important for the society, other non-manual professions and security forces. Further, the author aims to verify the validity of Like-Me hypothesis (people judge occupations that are, according to their class position, similar, as more prestigious than others) and the shared prestige hypothesis (class position doesn't differentiate the evaluations, the notion is rather widely shared). Other factors that have influence on the occupational prestige are analysed, specifically some sociodemographic factors (gender, education, residence size), subjective living standards of households and primarily the historical period (the socialization cohorts) when the person entered the labour market. It was revealed that the effect of the shared prestige is highly predominant, however the effect of Like-Me has some influence mainly at the end of the 1990s at the utmost class categories. Its effect after 2004 has decreased. The influence of the socialization cohorts of the 1960s and the 1970s was proven on the evaluation of manual workers. Furthermore, there is class and cohort interaction effect (after 2004): the highest prestige of manual occupations is attributed by manual workers who enter the labour market within the 1970s. Generally, in the Czech society we do not witness any pronounced class biased evaluation of occupational prestige.

Keywords: occupational prestige, social stratification, Goldthorpe class scheme EGP, Like-Me hypothesis, the prestige hypothesis, age-period cohorts