

ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis explores the area of sexuality of older people, summarizes previously published theoretical knowledge in this area and is complemented by empirical research. It deals with aging and outlines the changes that may occur in humans during this process, especially in terms of development and transformation of sexuality. This thesis also pursues the perception of senior sexuality by his surroundings and the general public. This thesis also partially covers the issue of institutional care for the elderly.

Objective: Mapping of senior population's behaviors and attitudes towards sex and their comparison across genders.

Methods: Research conducted by a quantitative survey. Processing and interpretation of data regarding to the relevant age groups, which are based on a survey of sexual behavior carried out in 2013 and guaranteed by Prof. PhDr. Petr Weiss, Ph.D. a Doc. MUDr. Jaroslav Zvěřina, CSc. from the Institute of Sexology, 1st Faculty of Medicine at Charles University,

Results: More than a half of the senior population in the Czech Republic does not feel the need to sexually realize themselves. For women this phenomenon is represented more strongly than for men. If older people are living in a stable relationship, they are more likely to keep active sexual life. The average frequency of sexual intercourse is four times a month. Both sexes prefer vaginal intercourse to other options. This practice is also the preferred way to achieve orgasm. Majority of men regularly masturbate, but only a fifth of females. More than two-thirds of men and the vast majority of women do not suffer from any sexual disorder. In terms of attitudes towards prostitution, pornography, masturbation and homosexuality are seniors relatively benevolent. On the other hand, both sexes dismiss group sex. Women and men differ significantly in opinions on extramarital and incidental sexual encounter.

Conclusion: Sexuality of seniors is a distinct component of their personality, whether it is actually manifested or latent in their life history. The findings of this thesis are useful for deeper understanding of the issue of sexuality of seniors and can be used to educate the public, physicians and medical staff and others that come in close contact with the elderly.

KEY WORDS

Sexuality, senior, older people, ageing, relationship, intimacy, taboo, familial care, institutional care.