

ABSTRACT

The aim of this thesis is to present an unusual view on depressive disorder from the perspective of evolutionary psychologists. Recent studies which are engaged in a positive impact of sad mood and depressive disorder on social cognition are presented. These studies are followed by our own quantitative research. Research group of patients with primary diagnosis of depression (n = 41) and control group (n = 41) were examined by Montgomery and Åsberg Depression Rating Scale, Beck Depression Inventory, Schwartz scale and two original methods, that were created for the purpose of this research. Methods include two videotapes – True or False and Speed Dating which focus on the ability of participants to estimate the given social situation. There was no statistically significant difference between the research and the control group in tasks focused on social cognition. The performance of both groups is comparable.