Abstract

This master thesis is dedicated to an acculturation process and its relations to life satisfaction. In the theoretical part the concept of acculturation is presented and conceived as changes accompanying migration to a foreign country. Different acculturation strategies are described, as well as some of the factors that affect the complex process of acculturation. One of the chapters is dedicated to a Czech milieu and its legislative and social conditions for immigration, and describing two main third country migrant populations – Ukrainians and Vietnamese. Theoretical part is wrapped up with an introduction to subjective well-being and life satisfaction, with a focus on intercultural context.

The empirical part consists of a description and results of a quantitative questionnaire survey among immigrants originally from Vietnam and Ukraine (N = 162) and it is based on Acculturation Scale (Cortés, Rogler, Malgady, 1994), Satisfaction With Life Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsen, Griffin, 1985) and Bicultural Identity Integration Scale (Chen, Benet-Martínez, Bond, 2008). Most of the respondents adopted integration strategy, however there wasn’t a significant difference in life satisfaction among acculturation strategies. The data analysis found several significant variables which participate on life satisfaction of migrants. In particular, it is subjectively perceived discrimination, participation on host culture, age of immigration to the Czech Republic, presence of migrant’s family in the country, and Czech language knowledge. By contrast, factors like income or type of employment were found relatively insignificant.

Keywords: acculturation, migration, life satisfaction, subjective well-being, bicultural identity