

ABSTRACT

This work focuses on ethnographical research carried out in „Dům světla“ (House of Light), which is an asylum house for HIV positive people. The aim of this work was to find out whether the employees and volunteers of this asylum house are affected by the stigmatization which is connected to AIDS disease and how they, in case of need, cope with it. Contemporary, concepts of “risk” groups and “risk” behaviour, shame, fear or “difference” are connected to this topic. That is why another aim of this thesis was to find out how volunteers perceive their work in Dům světla, what meanings it has to them and how they interpret this activity. For answering these questions I made a two-year lasting participative observation as volunteer there and carried out informal and in-depth interviews. In context of this thesis I also focused on shorter analysis of preventive materials published by The Czech AIDS Help Society to learn the concepts used by the organization itself.