

Abstract

This thesis is focused on the stigmatization of gifted children with the emphasis on situation in the Czech republic. The research of this topic is not much covered in Czech environment, foreign literature offers a few studies, but they do not have sociological focus. Therefore the author of this thesis aims to approach this topic from a different point of view. She uses the Erving Goffman's theory of stigma and also information from pedagogical and psychological literature about gifted children. The research is based primarily on six interviews with the parents of the gifted children but also partially on the information gained during two conferences.

In the research part, the author focuses on stigmatization through three types of identity that Goffman defines in his theory. The author uses these types of identity to show how and when the stigmatization takes place, how the gifted children and their parents use the stigma management to influence the information they give to others and how the gifted children feel about their stigma and which advices are given to them in this matter. The analysis of the data indicates that the stigmatization of the gifted children does happen, but the process is different for every child and every social environment.