

Abstract:

The thesis aims at the specific issues of health-related behaviour among the contemporary Czech youth, with particular emphasis on a socio-geographical dimension of the phenomena. In particular, it aims at identification of selected demographic, social, and contextual factors underlying the inequalities in risky substance use among the Czech adolescent population in its complex multilevel perspective. By applying the advanced methodology of multilevel modelling, the author reveals an integral nature of these factors in space and time, and thus contributes to a deeper knowledge on the structures and processes determining the selected forms of risk behaviours. In addition to an integrative multilevel approach, the author derives recommendations for an effective planning and implementation of preventive measures in agenda of the Czech drug policy as well.

Key words: adolescence; substance use; prevalence; socio-geographic inequalities; multilevel analysis; Czechia