

## **ABSTRACT**

The diploma thesis deals with religious conversion and changes that accompany this turn of man. Specifically, it deals with the conversion to the Roman Catholic Church and the change of self-efficacy. The goal is to answer the questions of how converts describe themselves as active agents in life before and after conversion, and what role does faith in God and the perceived relationship with him plays in this description. Furthermore, how the self-efficacy has changed due to religious beliefs - that is, how converts perceive themselves as capable of influencing their lives. In the broadest sense, the work should contribute to the understanding of man, his motives and experience, also by using his spiritual component.

The research was made qualitatively, in the form of semi-structured interviews with ten converts, who for some part of their lives considered themselves to be unbelievers, then they went through the experience they call a religious conversion, got baptized and joined the Roman Catholic Church. They are now practicing believers.

The results show that due to the belief gained, there are changes in several areas, such as belief in the lack of competence to manage one's own life, the feeling capability and activating an individual in a particularly pro-social direction despite awareness of one's own limits, then subjectively better coping difficulty situations and different sources of self-efficacy. Also related to these findings is a change in the description of one's active or passive role of individual, for example in the conversion story.

## **KEYWORDS**

religious conversion, personality change, self-efficacy, the Roman Catholic Church, psychology of religion