

ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis was focused on the study of integrity, its aspects, forms and resources in seniors, which we have identified as persons with a high degree of integrity based on established criteria. The aim of this work was to capture and understand the unique life experience of these seniors. The work consists of a theoretical and empirical part. The theoretical part consists of explanation of concepts of integrity and old age, in particular we focus on Erikson's conception of integrity and concept of successful aging. The empirical part consists of qualitative research aimed at finding sources and manifestations of integrity in three unique life stories of seniors aged 75-91. We obtained data for our research in a home for the elderly through semi-structured interviews, which we then analyzed using the method of interpretative phenomenological analysis. The results are presented from two perspectives. The first is an analysis of the experience of individual seniors, the second represents the perspective of themes that are important for integrity and appeared in most of our respondents. These themes are: Activity, Moral Integrity, Trust - Acceptance - Surrender, Ways of Living, Modesty, Relationship Orientation and Spirituality. We also created a category for unique qualities, which appeared very significantly in individual respondents. These themes are: System, rules, order, Humor, fun and positive attitude, Unconditional "motherly" love. In the discussion, we connect all these themes with existing concepts, theories and researches.

KEYWORDS

integrity, old age, wisdom, life story, successful aging, seniors, interpretative phenomenological analysis