

This thesis deals with the evolution of the meaning of life after a suicide attempt.

The purpose of this study was to find out what the experience of meaningfulness looks like prior to and subsequent to a suicide attempt. The theoretical aspect is divided into two sections: the meaning of life and death. These primary topics have been described, defined and placed in a context, which includes other important issues. The meaning of life deals with the aspects of behaviour, movement, suffering, logotherapy and existential analysis, and in conclusion defines the psychological methods for studying the meaning of life. The second part focuses on the perspective of psychologists and philosophers regarding the definition and classification of suicides, suicide as a psychological phenomenon, crisis and therapy, and on psychological research into suicidal behaviour.

The empirical part of the study is based on qualitative methodology in which both qualitative and quantitative methods are employed. Three comparative studies have been utilised. This part contains the actual research data with descriptions of the individual studies, the research methods and an interpretation of the results. In conclusion, outcomes are discussed and possible directions for further examination are suggested.

Keywords: meaning of life, meaningfulness, logotherapy, existential analysis, death, suicide attempt