

In the last forty years interdisciplinary interest in environmental behaviour has grown together with broad attention aimed to environmental conditions. Normative research in the field has developed hand in hand with environmental education, whereas descriptive research, which deals with description patterns of human experience and behaviour, has been overshadowed. This imbalance has influenced the current practice: despite the variety of techniques and theories concerning support of proenvironmental behaviour, the knowledge of human experience and behaviour in environmentally-relevant situations remains rather limited. Similar imbalance exists in the terminology.

The presented thesis mainly deals with the descriptive study of experience and behaviour towards nature with special interest in the so-called relationship toward nature. We present definitions of environmental behaviour and proenvironmental behaviour in introductory chapters and examine, which groups of factors influence environmental behaviour. Relationship toward nature represents one group of these factors. We cover overview of the concepts, which are associated with description of relationships toward nature, and distinguish between one-dimensional approach (concepts of alienation human towards nature, biophilia hypothesis and environmental literacy) and multidimensional approach (environmental inclusion, environmental identity variations of KAB model). Key chapters pursue overview of knowledge about personal relationships toward nature and formulate a terminology for a description of this issue, which is summarised in the authorial concept Characteristics of personal relationships toward nature.