

Abstract

This thesis is focused on the identification of emotional expressions in the human face. The theoretical part includes an introduction to the issue of emotions, the history research on the identification of emotional expressions, the description of the various expressions of basic emotions and their recognition followed with the characteristics of the group of hearing-impaired.

In the empirical part the research on the recognition identification of emotions in the face from the portraits is described. The aim of this thesis is to compare the accuracy of identification of emotional expressions among the groups of hearing, deaf and hard of hearing, and their development across all age categories. In my research I focus on the seven basic emotions (fear, anger, sadness, surprise, happiness, disgust and contempt) and one social emotions (shame).

The research did not confirm my assumptions. No statistically significant difference among the three groups in the overall identification of emotional expression was proved. The only difference was in the recognition of disgust which resulted in favor of the hearing. In the general comparison of ages between the hearing impaired (the deaf and the hard of hearing together) any significant differences were not discovered, either. Nevertheless, within each age group the following significant findings in the identification of individual emotions appeared: in the category of 20-30 years the sadness was for the benefit of the hearing impaired, while the disgust was for the benefit of the hearing, in the group of 30-40 years the sadness and the contempt were significant for hearing and the 40-80 years old hearing were significantly better in the recognition of the contempt.