

Abstract:

The author in her diploma theses deals with the problem of elderly suicide rates in the helping professionals' point of view in the district of Karlovy Vary. Her two key focus areas are personal experiences of the helping professionals with this particular topic and their knowledgeableness of it. Furthermore, the author validates whether the helping professionals are supported adequately enough to be able to deal with this phenomenon appropriately.

In the theoretical part of the study the author presents basic introduction into the issue of suicide itself – briefly outlines the history of suicide rate and the most common motive, causes and forms of suicidal behavior. Moreover, she sketches the specifics of suicide rate among seniors and ways of working with this particular target group. Last but not least she drafts possible preventive techniques of suicide behavior among seniors.

In the empirical part of the study the author explains the research methodology and briefly describes the district of Karlovy Vary. Most importantly the author presents findings concerning experience and knowledgeability of suicide rate among seniors by helping professionals gathered by research consisting of semi-structured interviews. She also thoroughly examines the professionals' point of view on individual elements of their work support. Finally, the author sums up also other interesting findings from the research that are however not crucially linked with the key research goal.