

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis is focused on the social aspects of women's oral hormonal contraception in the lives of two generations of women – daughters and their mothers. The theoretical part introduces the fundamental concepts of contraception research based on gender perspective. It also highlights the important historical milestones related to so-called birth control pill. Furthermore, the development of the contraceptive behavior of the Czech population since the 50s of the 20th century is analyzed.

The empirical part of this thesis includes the description of methodology and the analysis of semi-structured interviews with ten women – mothers who were born in the 1960s and their daughters born around the turn of the 80s and 90s. The aim of the analysis is to discover how a generally accepted theory about contraception as the emancipation mechanism that helps women to control their own body and decide about their own reproduction is expressed in the lives of interviewed women. I ask the reason why, when and under what conditions these women decided to use birth control pills and the role of other circumstances in their decision-making. Moreover, I focus on the way how the birth control pills affect the relationship to own body and self-esteem of my respondents. And also, how birth control pills affect their relationships with men and sex life in general. I examine the mentioned issues with regard to possible generational differences and their causes.