

## Abstract

This thesis focuses on the meaning of violence within groups of Roma youth. It discusses questions regarding how they understand, verbalise and reflect on violence. Answers to these questions presented in the work are based on long-term communication with Roma teenagers visiting a low-threshold club, where I worked. Afterwards, the research was carried out outside the club, in their private space and also in a boxing club. The Roma teenagers formed a fixed group, identifying themselves with a particular Prague district. The dialogues revealed an interesting topic of “fights” among Roma groups coming from different Prague districts. The aim of the thesis is to provide answers to the questions what teenagers are actually saying when they are talking about “fighting” one another, how they assess such behaviour and what meanings it carries for them. The theoretical part presents definitional frameworks concerning the term of violence as well as the concept of physical violence appearing in different socio-scientific contexts. In literature, violence is often referred to in connection with young people, gender, masculinity, social exclusion and honour. Furthermore, this part concentrates on defining the Roma minority and outlining their situation in Prague and the Czech Republic. The theoretical and methodological framework used in this work for analysing the data is the theory of cultural models. This method allows the examination of the perspective of teenagers, the metaphors related to violence and the meaning of violence in their speech.

Key words: Roma people, physical violence, teenagers, group, peer group, cultural models, gender, masculinity, honour