

Abstract

This MA thesis focuses on gentrification of Prague's Karlín district. It examines the issue through the optics of original residents and deals with the following questions: How do original residents perceive the change of their district? What is the impact of gentrification on their everyday lives? In order to answer these questions, qualitative research was used. The data was collected through interviews and participant and non-participant observation. The thesis provides an overview of leading theories of gentrification (such as Smith's Rent gap theory, Ley's consumer explanation theory, and Florida's creative class theory), which are applied to the obtained data. The theoretical chapter of the thesis summarizes these theories. This part also includes a brief history of the Karlín district and provides an overview of the existing research on Karlín's gentrification. The topics that appeared in the interviews with original residents form a structure of this chapter; these interviews are also quoted directly.

Keywords: gentrification, Karlín, original residents, displacement