

ABSTRACT

The topic of this bachelor thesis is the importance of a partner's presence at childbirth. It is divided into theoretical and practical part.

The theoretical part is focused on three main areas. The first section describes the period of pregnancy and the male role in this period. The second section deals with the birth itself and with the issue of the future father's participation in the birth. The third area of the theoretical part of this work describes the period after childbirth and possible psychological consequences for the father. It deals with factors which influence the father's emotional attachment to the child.

The main goal of this bachelor's thesis is to find out how significant is for men their own presence at the birth of their child in the environment of czech maternity hospitals. How do they prepare for this event and to what extent. How do they perceive the environment of the maternity hospital and its staff. It also researches the role and help of the partner during the birth and the impact of the experience on the partner's psyche and the couple's relationship. In order to achieve the goals mentioned above, quantitative research in the form of an online questionnaire was used. The research involved men who were present at the birth of their child or children.

The research part of this work showed that most of the interviewed men were involved in the course of pregnancy and preparation for childbirth. The research also shows that partner's participation in childbirth was in most cases the partner's own initiative and childbirth was a positive experience for them, even though they experienced negative emotions during delivery of the child itself. Another finding was that the men felt accepted in the delivery room, however the lack of empathy and weak support was shown from the hospital staff towards them. Most of the men fulfilled their role in the delivery room and proved to be helpful. Most of the men said that the birth significantly affected them and improved their relationship with their partner. The negative experience of men occurred sporadically or to lesser extent, which can be prevented in the future by psychoprophylactic training focused not only on a woman but also on the partner. The welcoming and encouraging approach of the staff at the hospital, as well as the mutual communication of the partners is important.

keywords: partner, childbirth, father's role, pregnancy