

Abstract

This diploma thesis is focused on professional carers, who are trained experts employed in specialised institutions that take care about more than one person with dementia in one group. The professional carers are under pressure during this time and there is a certain tension between reaching the maximal possible high quality care and growing number of clients in institutions specialised in dementia and dementia discourse, in which framework especially negative connotations are highlighted. It is just an approach of the carers that plays an important role in this issue. The work with dementia discourse and dealing with the above mentioned issue from the side of carers has a considerable impact on functioning, health condition and quality of life of individuals with dementia. Their dealing with the issue can influence strongly and steer the running an institution and the quality of life of such an institution clients. A difficult situation of professional carers also influences the carers themselves, their concepts of this illness and concepts of their own ageing. This diploma thesis is aimed at an analysis how the pictures of dementia are constructed by professional carers who take care about clients with various forms of dementia in the long term. In the framework of this thesis, their subjective approach towards people with dementia is surveyed as well as towards their specific profession which includes the care about such people. In this context, the thesis is focused on how a mutual relationship works between professional carers and clients in specialised centres, based on their experience. The diploma thesis is put in context with contemporary concepts of ageing and the fourth age, social imagination of the fourth age and a moral imperative of the care. It specifically focuses on Paul Higgs' and Chris Gilleard's vast theoretical concepts and studies.