

Abstract

This bachelor's thesis examines ways in which first-time mothers reflect their corporeality during pregnancy, childbirth and early motherhood within one year of childbirth. Theoretical framework of the research is grounded in anthropology of the body from which it borrows key concepts: gender, body image, subjectivity and bodily capital. The thesis is based on the research that uses qualitative research strategy, the data was generated using a semi-structured interview method with 10 actors. The analytical procedure involved data transcription, segmentation, analysis and interpretation of the data in relation to the established theoretical concepts. From the analysis of the interviews, four themes emerged that play a key role in women's corporeality in the defined period. These are motherhood, femininity, physical capacities and partnership. Each of these themes has a different salience at different stages of the maternal experience and their prominence in corporeality generally overlaps. Within each theme, viewed as a level of subjectivity, women reflect social norms through body image, the experience of the body through embodiment, and the practice of body functioning through bodily capital. In particular, the dominant role in corporeality is given to the dimension of motherhood. The different levels of subjectivity largely overlap in their influence on corporeality and interact with each other - either contradicting and displacing each other, or reinforcing and working alongside each other.