

ABSTRACT

The Bachelor thesis focus on the experience of imposter syndrome in first-generation college students. The aim of the thesis is to explore their experience of possible feelings of insecurity and to explore how being the first members of their family to pursue a university degree affects them. The thesis also aims to specify the extent to which unwanted feelings affect their mental health and academic achievement, in addition to seeking to map their motivational domains with respect to degree completion. The theoretical part deals with the characteristics of first-generation students, the importance of the role of parents in relation to their studies, the definition of imposter syndrome and the identification of the obstacles encountered by these students.

The empirical part describes in detail the entire research process, including the definition of the research problem, objectives and questions, selection of participants, data collection method, analysis, interpretation and presentation of results. The research sample consists of six first-generation female students aged 20-22 years old who are full-time undergraduate students at university. The data was collected through semi-structured interviews and analyzed and interpreted through reflective thematic analysis. The research revealed the respondents' strong attachment to their identity as first-generation college students, which emerged as one of the main factors contributing to intense feelings of insecurity, inadequacy and deceitfulness. Moreover, family was an important motivation for students to complete their studies and played a key role in their decision to enter university.