

Abstract

This thesis addresses the topic of psychological interventions for the Deaf from the perspective of Deaf clients and professionals working with Deaf clients. The aim of this thesis is to explore how psychological interventions are experienced by the Deaf and by professionals. The theoretical part discusses the Deaf as a linguistic and cultural minority, the mental health of the Deaf, and the challenges they face. It also covers interventions for individuals with disabilities and those with different cultural backgrounds. Another chapter focuses on presenting various types of psychological interventions. The last chapter of the theoretical part is dedicated to psychological interventions for the Deaf.

The research part involves a qualitative study conducted through semi-structured interviews with five Deaf individuals and five professionals. Through thematic analysis, key themes were identified for both groups regarding their experiences with psychological interventions. On the side of the Deaf, four main themes were identified: the personal need for a specific intervention approach, the importance of the professional's qualities, the role of the interpreter in the intervention, and barriers in the interventions. On the side of the professionals, five key themes were identified: the diversity of professional paths, the interpreter as a partner, specifics of interventions with the Deaf, barriers to effective intervention, and possible ways to improve interventions for the Deaf.

This thesis is one of the first studies mapping the situation of psychological interventions for the Deaf in the Czech Republic and provides insights that can help improve psychological interventions with Deaf clients or improve the situation of Deaf clients.

Klíčová slova

The Deaf; deaf; psychological intervention; sign language; minority.