

## **Abstract**

The thesis focuses on the attitudes of parents and paid caregivers towards sexuality of people with intellectual disabilities (ID), their mapping, comparison and verification of the influence of determinants on these attitudes. The theoretical part summarizes the current knowledge about sexuality of people with intellectual disabilities and attitudes towards this issue, including persistent stereotypes and myths.

In the research part we present and interpret the results of a questionnaire survey measuring attitudes towards sexuality of people with ID. The research sample consisted of paid caregivers (N = 139) and parents (N = 109). The ASQ-GP (Cuskelly & Gilmore, 2007) was used to determine attitudes, and the ASQ-ID (Cuskelly & Bryde, 2004) was used to determine attitudes toward sexuality of persons without ID and persons with ID, respectively. The results showed that there were differences in attitudes towards the sexuality of people without ID and people with ID in both sample groups, with respondents reporting more liberal attitudes towards the sexuality of people without ID than towards the sexuality of people with ID. Furthermore, differences were found between parents and paid caregivers in attitudes towards the sexuality of people with ID, with paid caregivers tending to have more liberal attitudes than parents. In both groups, the most liberal attitudes were taken towards the factor of masturbation and the least liberal towards the factors of parenting and sexual feelings. There was no confirmed relationship between age and attitudes toward sexuality of persons with ID, nor was there a relationship between religiosity and attitudes toward sexuality of persons with ID. The relationship between education and attitudes toward sexuality of persons with ID was found only in the paid caregiver cohort.

**Key words:** intellectual disability; sexuality; attitudes; parents; paid caregivers