

# Abstract

This thesis examines the specifics of the contemporary Czech rave subculture, focusing on providing a safe space for authentic self-expression and challenging social norms. It analyzes the factors contributing to the sense of security at raves and identifies the sources of demand for this feeling. The thesis is structured into three parts: the first part introduces the basic concepts, the historical background of rave, and relevant theoretical frameworks; the second part addresses the research methodology; and the third part presents the data collected and situates it within the previously introduced theoretical frameworks.

The conducted ethnographic research shows that raves provide participants with a space for community gatherings, a sense of belonging, and an inclusive, non-judgmental environment. The rave subculture thus offers a significant social and emotional „safe space“ in an alienated modern world characterized by strong influences of neoliberalism, individualization, and the weakening of traditional social structures. At the same time, it serves as a means of relaxation, thereby helping to alleviate the anxiety associated with existence in modern society.