ABSTRACT

The thesis deals with the topic of implicit theories of wisdom in the context of the developmental period of adolescence. It is guided by the research intention to gain a deeper understanding of the conceptualization of wisdom from the perspective of adolescents. The first part of the thesis is devoted to the theoretical grounding of the concept of wisdom, while the subsequent part deals with the presentation of the research itself and its results. Data for the research part were collected through semi-structured interviews with 11 respondents aged 17-18. Based on the qualitative processing of the data, 5 main themes were constructed, which include additional sub-themes, and in one case a follow-up sub-theme. The adolescents' ideas about wisdom were represented by the following themes: the stereotype of the wise old man (subthemes of everyday wisdom, experiences and their reflection + subtheme of the potential of crisis), self-determination (subthemes of active self direction, self-control), pragmatism (subthemes of perspective of the future, practical life issues), self-transcendence (subthemes of prosociality, open-mindedness) and inner resonance. The common themes were further enhanced with individual wisdom profiles for each respondent to provide better insight into inter-individual differences in perceptions of wisdom. The specifics of the identified conceptualization in relation to the developmental stage of adolescence were further situated in the context of the available literature. Agreements and differences with existing findings on implicit theories of wisdom were also discussed.