

Abstract

I focus on the nature of the discourses of the birth themselves and on the form of their controversies, which are tied to their confrontations in Czech web articles. I examine the discourses and their strife in the articles of active participants of the dispute and on the most popular website in the articles dedicated to (future) parents. The discourse of the actively medically controlled delivery, perceives a birth as an inscrutable risky phenomenon which is medically necessary to keep always in a hospital with a staffing and material background to deal with possible complications. This discourse criticizes the births that are led outside hospitals. The discourse of the natural birth sees a birth as a natural part of life, during which usually no complications occur, if there is present a trained expert, who does not interfere in the natural process of labor, except any required medical reasons. A natural birth can be taken place in home. The reader are warned by this discourse on the improper routine care in Czech hospitals, which is inconsistent with the needs of the mother and the child, and on complications of a birth caused by the active medical leading of labor. The articles on the popular website are mainly influenced by the discourse of the actively medically controlled birth. These articles encourage pregnant women to always go to the hospital immediately after the beginning of a labor and to subordinate in the matter of the form of a maternity care to a judgment of a doctor. And the behavior outside this norm is described as an irrational and irresponsible self-inflicted threat to the life of women and children. The discourses in the Czech web articles creates two norms that put pressure on pregnant women, how to act, but these standards are contradictory, and women cannot meet this norms in the Czech conditions.