

Abstract

The main objective of the thesis is to explore the issue of stigmatization of people with dominant sexual interest in children. It aims to map the attitudes of the Czech population and to examine how they differ depending on age, gender, education, and whether one is a parent or not. The research part explores the opinions of adults living in the Czech Republic. The research was conducted in a quantitative form using the Stigma Inventory. The questionnaire was distributed anonymously online and was completed by a total of 305 respondents. The data was then statistically processed to test the defined theories. The analysis found a significant association between gender and the dimensions of dangerousness and anger. Furthermore, a significant association was found between education and the dimensions of dangerousness, pity, anger, and social distance. Additionally, a significant association was found between age and the dimensions of dangerousness, anger, and social distance. Lastly, the association between being a parent and the dimensions of compassion, anger, and social distance was found. The results of the thesis may contribute to the expansion of knowledge about the stigmatizing attitudes of the Czech population towards persons with dominant sexual interest in children, which could be a good starting step for research on future anti-stigma interventions.

Key words: pedophilia, attitudes, stigmatization