

Abstract

This thesis focuses on the motivation of social workers to professional work with people with intellectual disability. The aim of this thesis is to identify and describe the motivation of social workers to professional work with people with intellectual disability. The thesis is divided into theoretical and practical part.

In the theoretical part, the thesis describes social work and its characteristics related to the target group of people with intellectual disability and social workers. Furthermore, there is described intellectual disability and the characteristics of people with intellectual disability and their position in society. The thesis then focuses on the description of motivation and the specificity of motivation to social work. Finally, there is provided a summary of existing knowledge about the motivation of social workers.

In the practical part, there are introduced the research objectives and questions. Then, the methodology is described, which includes qualitative research using semi-structured interviews. Subsequently, the entire research process is presented, including its preparation, implementation, data analysis, and evaluation. Finally, a discussion is provided, covering the strengths and limitations of the work, interpretation of data, and comparison with research mentioned in the theoretical part.

From the processed data from semi-structured interviews, it is found that the motivation of social workers can be as follows: helping people and society; doing what they enjoy and find internally fulfilling; pursuing what they have studied; working in an environment that provides opportunities for all people; addressing some of their own life situations and contributing to the small advancements of clients.