

This work deals with the collective and social identity of the Prague deaf. It is based on the presumption that the deaf can be regarded as a social group with specific characteristics which are interesting from a sociological perspective. The aim of this work is a description and understanding of the mode the deaf relate to each other and the way the social mechanisms are used for this purpose. The crucial chapter deals with the social categorization as a key mechanism for building and maintaining the social identity of the deaf. The following part is devoted to the collective identity, where two ideal types of the deaf collective identity are presented. The work is based on the qualitative research, which was conducted through semi-structured interviews with the deaf, simultaneously translated into Czech. From a methodological point of view, the presented study is based on the principles of the Grounded theory.