

Abstract

The dissertation thesis deals with socio-cultural problems of suburbanization with a focus on green widows as a phenomenon of contemporary society. Green widows are defined as a specific group of suburban inhabitants and most often they are characterized as “wives of wealthy businessmen living in detached houses in the suburbs, their husbands leave every day for work in the central part of town and women stay alone in the green on the outskirts.” The main benefit of the dissertation thesis is a summary of available knowledge about green widows and creating a comprehensive view on these issues associated with ongoing suburbanization processes; foreign research and knowledge are also reflected in the work. The most important finding is that phenomenon of green widows - in the sense of how the term "green widow" is generally defined - is perceived within the Czech Republic as a problematic topic mainly of the media. Phenomenon of green widows is not accidental, but it is currently overcome in the context of the Czech Republic, according to the author. Gradually disappears, and if really exists, so only to a limited extent, than to be described as a major socio-cultural problem of contemporary Czech society. The main part of the dissertation thesis is a qualitative research carried out in 2017 and focus on problematic of everyday life of specific group of women (green widows) living in suburbs. Specifically, they were asked about the issues concerning their relationship to their place of residence in general, to local community, experience and feelings of living in the area, for daytime or leisure. There were realized 10 structured interviews with women, who live in the suburbs (satellite towns). The condition of the interview was to live in a satellite and also that the respondent is not employed at the time of the interview. Except qualitative research thesis contains a personal diary performed in the specified time mode, when the author has tested daily life on her own in the satellite town of Zdiby for three months (record of the year 2015). Further, the dissertation thesis describes the suburbanization process in our country and its connection with the phenomenon of the green widows; part of it is defining the most important socio-cultural problems of this process. Last but not least the dissertation thesis is based on the results of the Internet survey made by the author in 2009 and repeatedly in 2014, and comparing the findings of what the general public is aware of who is (according to respondents) green widow. The result of the investigation were in particular the predominant link of the green widows with luxury and well-being, in which, according to respondents, these women live, but there has also been a connection with life in suburban locations.

Key words: Sociocultural problems, suburbanization, green widows, suburban lifestyle, subculture.