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Abstract of the doctoral dissertation “Determinants of the socio-occupational development of female teachers of speech therapy in biographical narratives”,
prepared under the supervision of Dr. Mirosław KOWALSKI, Prof. UZ

The subject of this dissertation is the individual biographies of female speech and language teachers together with their developmental conditions.

Every person's biography is formed from the moment of birth in a particular family. Its shape, the relationships between individual members, their personalities, involvement in the educational process, emotional and psychological condition model human development. No less important than the family of origin, are the relationships with significant others, who initially have the greatest influence on the newly formed biography.

As one grows older, the influence of parents and siblings recedes in favour of the peer group and others who inspire admiration and the desire to emulate them.

The changes that people experience affect their personal lives as well as their professional lives. A special professional group are female speech and language teachers who, while practising a helping profession and undertaking various therapeutic interventions towards their charges, have been inspired or encouraged to practise this profession. Analysing the biographies of the respondents, it is possible to see the influence of various factors on both their personal and professional lives. Therefore, the main aim of this research is to analyse the biographical determinants of female speech therapist teachers. In order to understand what factors influenced the individual biographies of the female teachers surveyed, the following questions in particular were analysed:

- 1) How was the narrators' socialisation/education (including extra- and informal), social coexistence and functioning in their family of origin and educational institutions?

- 2) How do the narrators describe their relationships with other female speech therapists, school teachers, the local community, representatives of educational and further education institutions and the local government?
- 3) What model/teaching style/activity forms (action strategy) do the narrators identify with?
- 4) How do the narrators describe their role as teacher-phogotherapists
 - in terms of moral principles, hierarchy of values and duties - obligations - responsibilities resulting from their roles in the educational environment?
- 5) How do the female narrators describe their purpose and meaning of their socio-professional activity? What reflections do the narrators have in relation to their own past and their expectations for their socio-occupational future?

In this dissertation, a dispositional narrative interview method was chosen. The content obtained was then transcribed and analysed in terms of factors influencing personal and professional biography.

The first chapter describes how the profession of speech therapist evolved from a social and historical perspective and what its beginnings were. Also included are issues related to the course of the teacher's professional advancement, the process of acquiring speech therapy education with the choice of a speech therapy specialisation and the role of the speech therapist in the diagnostic and therapeutic process.

The second chapter is a description of the determinants of the professional development of the teacher - speech therapist, with particular attention paid to the importance of the role of: authorities in life, especially in professional work, motivation in making various choices, which is linked to self-esteem and self-confidence, professional work in the context of personal development and its impact on the individual in psychological and pedagogical aspects, and self-education, which allows the individual to obtain the necessary competencies.

Chapter 3 presents the research methodology with a description of the research organisation process, the characteristics of the research area and research group, and the research selection criterion.

Chapter 4 is a presentation of the results together with their interpretation.

The dissertation concludes with generalisations and conclusions.