

Summary of the Ph.D. Thesis

Name of the author of the thesis: Sandra Brzeska-Zagroba

Academic title of the doctoral supervisor of the thesis:

dr hab., prof. APS Maciej Tanaś

Name of the auxiliary promoter:

dr Agnieszka Kolek

The title of the thesis: Media and pedagogical therapy of children and adolescents with autistic spectrum disorder

Key words phrases: media, media pedagogy, autism spectrum, pedagogical therapy

Abstract:

The objective of this thesis is to analyze the media-driven implementation of pedagogical therapy for children and adolescents with the autism spectrum disorder (ASD), as well as to conceptualize a theoretical on-line therapy plan for students with autism spectrum disorder, and to explore possibilities for teachers and therapists to use the Internet programs and applications to conduct pedagogical therapy with children and adolescents with autism syndrome disorder. The research question is to conduct assessment of usability of the afore-mentioned media in pedagogical therapy for children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder.

What inspired me to conduct research in the area of media application in the pedagogical therapy was digital transformation and changes in the approach to education, mostly caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first chapter of this work presents a theoretical overview based on the literature on the spectrum of autistic disorders from the definition, classification, etiological, diagnostic and therapeutic perspective. This chapter also introduces the subject of media education and media literacy of a modern teacher and the possibilities of the application thereof. The second chapter consists in the methodological assumptions of the research, indicates the subject, goals, problems and research hypotheses. It summarizes the features of the focus group, as well as organization and area in which the research process is conducted. The third chapter of this paper is devoted to the presentation of research results

and a description of a case study revolving around performance of an autism spectrum child while working remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chapter four contains conclusions on the dependencies that influence the use of media by teachers and therapists in therapeutic work with children with ASD and compares my own research with the scientific research of recent years that relate to the research topic of this thesis. The sixth chapter includes a theoretical description of a proprietary curriculum of on-line therapeutic classes.

The conducted research determines the scope in which on-line media can be used in the therapy for children and adolescents with ASD. It also explores positive impact and opportunities created by the usage of media in the therapy directed towards people with ASD. An original and proprietary curriculum of on-line therapeutic classes was also formulated for practical use by teachers and therapists working with people with the autism spectrum disorder.