

Image of Maternity and Paternity and Parental Attitudes in the Youth

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The article analyzes theoretical approaches to understanding the process of the development of image of parenthood. It reveals the gender differences in the ideas of maternity and paternity, and also in parental mindset and expectations. The research sample group consisted of 60 respondents (30 young men and 30 girls age 20-24 years). The complex of methods has been used: modified version of diagnostic method for interpersonal relationships by T. Leary, adapted by L.N. Sobchik modified by R.V. Ovcharova, PARI method by E.S. Sheffer and R.K. Bell adapted by T.V. Nesheret, modified by T.V. Arkhireeva, method by R.G. Ovcharova "Idea of a perfect parent", and methods of comparative analysis. These methods allowed to point out the fact that maternity and paternity for the youth are abstract not fully comprehended notions. Both the young men and girl show stereotypical attitudes to maternity and fraternity based on the superficial ideas of parents' functions, family role, and education of children. Applied aspect of the problem under research may be put to practice in counselling practice of psychological services.

Key words: family, parenthood, attitudes, expectations, ideas, maternity, paternity, youth.