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YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELATIONSHIP AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE EDERS

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Abstract
In this paper, I discuss the relationship of young people to old age and their own ageing, with respect to their education, work experience, social convoy, and inclination to media. It is based on assumptions of social constructionism, which represents one of the foundations of Grounded Theory. The research is aimed at determining how the social construction of ageing appears among young people. I have carried out the survey among young female students aged 19 to 24 years through a questionnaire, and processed the data by using a quantitative methodology. The study has confirmed the existence of a more positive trend of young people's relationship to the elderly, and the attitude of young people to their own ageing is explicitly positive, which will result in a healthier and happier broader society.

Keywords: Social construction of ageing, young people, ageing, relationship to old age, social constructionism

INTRODUCTION

Demographic changes represent one of the key challenges of the future because of the fast growth of the elderly part in the society. Elderly are becoming an important social group which influence the development of humanity and society. The social meaning of old age and ageing isn't defined only by the age limit but by relationships between young people and elderly. Because of the society ageing phenomena we will in the future more often have to deal with questions of cohabitation; this is why it is necessary to change the relationship to elderly in the society. In this paper I have been researching the relationship of young people to old age and their own ageing, with respect to their education, work experience, social convoy, and inclination to media. The research is aimed at determining how the social construction of ageing appears among young people. I have been researching its theoretical basis and checking what researches on ageing construction show.

In the case study of the young people's relationship to old age and ageing, I am dealing with assumptions of social constructivism, which represents one of the foundations of Grounded Theory /**1**/. This theory is focusing on creating notion frames or theories by building inductive analyses from gained data /**2**/. The essence of constructivism is that social groups are together creating knowledge about the world by creating a specific group of artefacts which have a common meaning. Social constructivism is a theoretical perspective which presumes that people are creating social reality with individual and collective actions /**3**/.

In the research participated young people, aged between 19 and 24. With the questionnaire I have measured projection of their ageing process. With it I want to contribute to the explanation of social construction of ageing among young people and find out where it originates. I have predicted to confirm all the hypotheses. Gained negative samples of young to elderly have been many times scientifically confirmed, and in the modern research period is the trend of young people's relationship to elderly turning in a positive direction.

Theoretical origins
Relationship to elderly and ageing is partially a thing of images and explanations but it is

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also influenced by the position which elderly in the society structure have /**4**/. He thinks that we have to understand the social context which forms this relationship in order to understand the general relationship to ageing and elderly and the relationship of elderly themselves. Moulaert and Biggs /**5**/ critically handle topics which are in the context of demographic changes connected to work and retirement. They find out that active and productive ageing is important which is based on mature identity of an individual. Individual's autonomy is the main key to all the reforms for active ageing. Kinsella and Phillips /**6**/ say that productive and healthy ageing is important for a successful ageing. They state that the word »active« means continuing the participation in the social, economic, cultural, spiritual and public sphere, and not only physical and economic activity. Gergen /**7**/ has set the thesis that the theories of human social behavior are above all a reflexion of the every time historical moment. He states that the phenomena in the sociology do not exist by themselves and that human behavior about them isn't recognition of objective existing reality but its social construction. Social constructivism has been developed by the psychologist Vygotsky /**8**/. Despite the fact that he was a cognitivist he rejected the presumption that learning can be separated from the social context. He asserted that all the cognitive functions origin from social interactions and that learning isn't only an assimilation and setting of new knowledge but a process with which students are involved in the society of knowledge /**9**/. Vygotsky's theory of social learning has spread on numerous theoretic and researchers. Edwards /**10**/ thinks that thinking and inference aren't categories which exist by themselves – like biologically given – before language. In reference to Vygotsky this direction supposes that already the children's early cognitive development is importantly determined by cultural elements and language, so that culture doesn't only influence individual's mind but also creates it. Human behavior is a construction which can always be different but only in the range of reality. About social construction of personal history and its consequences for the development of adults discusses Pasupathi /**11**/ in his

article. He studies speech reconstructions of former experience as possible mechanisms with which people social construct their past and their worlds through their entire life and from these resulting consequences for understanding adult's development. He states that autobiographic memory is socially constructed and that talks about past can influence the identity development in adulthood. Socially constructed reality or common measurement, as McNamee /**12**/ names it, is a complex and sophisticated process of continuous building. He states that in the perspective of constructivism is knowledge in the world among people built on relation processes. He also thinks that knowledge is valid and is preserved for so long, until people agree that it is valid and has to be preserved. He believes that language is the mean through which relation processes go, this is why language changes cause new meanings which bring new knowledge. Shortly, we are with our everyday interaction creating relation reality, in which we live. McNamee /**13**/ also states that by researching social construction the researchers aren't neutral but full of ideologies and interests. The research decisions have been made based on "wide spectrum of doubts including the pragmatic things to which the researched people are reacting to, which research forms are mostly compatible with the participants and etc." /**14**/. When people feel old, researched Ward /**15**/, who states that only 20 % of Americans, aged between 60 and 69, determined themselves as old, in the group between 70 and 80 years determined themselves as old 66 % of people. Bennet /**16**/ has already 40 years ago researched the relationship to ageing and ageing. In a general research she was finding out the young people's relationship to elderly, young people's contacts with elderly and the effort to change the relationship of the young to elderly. She has found out that as well elderly as young believe in negative images of the reality, that elderly's life is difficult and that there are exceptions to this rule. Allan and Johnson /**17**/ have been checking how young people fear of ageing influences the young people's relationship to elderly. They have found out that knowledge and contacts with elderly indirectly influence the ageing stereotypes, and directly

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influences them fear of their own ageing. Bailey /**18**/ has been studying what knowledge elderly and young adults have about normal ageing and their positive relationship to elderly. He has found out that young and old adults do not differ by knowing normal ageing. The elder adults have had a slightly but not essentially more positive relationship to elderly. Young women have even had a more positive relationship to elderly than young men. Oberg and Tornstam /**19**/ have made an empirical research among 1250 Swedes, aged between 20 and 85 years, on general relationship of young to ageing. The results have shown quite a positive relationship to ageing, mostly among young and middle-aged people. One of explanations is that the consumption society, with its new chances and roles for elderly, can positively affect this relationship. Arh Sevšek /**20**/ has made a research on the example of 50 high school students in Slovenia, aged between 17 and 18 and found out that young have a lot of respect for elderly, aren't afraid of old age and ageing, and even think that old age can be very pretty. Phillips, Ajrouch and Hillcoat-Nalletamby /**21**/ state that the way of working of the social network and social support in the life of an individual, handles the Convoy theory. The convoy of a person is made by the important others. These are people who stimulate individual's maturity and offer him support when he needs it. With a comprehensive research have Bousfield and Hutchison /**22**/ found out that among elderly and young is the most important thing quality and not the frequency of intergenerational contacts. The quality of intergenerational contacts is namely positively connected with the opinions of young and their behavior towards elderly.

On the social level we see bigger and bigger changes in relationships between generations because the period of youth is getting longer. Ule /**23**/ states three youth periods which have a typical sequence:

classical youth (14 – 18 years): young have mostly the status of high school pupils, apprentices;

prolonged youth (19 – 24 years): period of college and university study;

pre-adult period (25 – 29 years): period of getting economically and socially independent.

To young people is the period of college a special school for life which finally determines their value system of educated young people, also political affiliation, bigger life broadness and a more tolerant attitude to the world /**24**/.
An intercultural comparison of opinions and attentions for elderly care, have among 256 Australian and 204 Chinese students of health care made Shen, Dongxia Xiao and Paterson /**25**/. They have compared factors which influence their attention for elderly care. The percentage of students who would prefer to take care of the elderly was significantly higher in the Chinese group (72,1%) than in the Australian group (45,3%) which is connected to the collectivistic culture. They have found out that young with more work experience have more positive relationship to the work with elderly. The population ageing has been the discussion topic in the last few decades. How this topic is represented in the media have been founding out Lundgren and Ljuslinder /**26**/ . Elderly have mostly expressed the need for care and services. They have found out that ageing is most of all a political and economic question and not only a problem of elderly themselves. They have found out that elderly are represented in stereotypical and marginal roles, and this is why the society is negatively handling them also in the "real life".

Based on theoretical origins and theoretical model I have formed the following hypotheses:

H1 »More educated young people have no fear of ageing.«

H2 »Young people with more work experience have a more positive relationship to ageing.«

H3 »Young people living with their grandparents have a more positive relationship to ageing than the ones who don't.«

H4 »Young people afraid of ageing have a negative relationship to ageing.«

H5 »Young people not inclined to media following (listening, reading, watching) have a negative relationship to ageing.«

H6 »More educated young people have a more positive relationship to ageing.«

I assume that with the research I will confirm all the hypotheses.

In the theoretical model are presented the independent and dependent variables which I

will research. The independent variables are: education, work experience, living with grandparents and media inclination (listening, reading, watching). The dependent variable is the young people's relationship to ageing. The variable fear of ageing is dependent and independent. It is a dependent variable while finding out the connection of education influence and it is independent variable while finding out the connection of young people's relationship to ageing.

Methodes

For research working I have used quantitative methodology. I handled the data with the description statistic method with which I have calculated the frequencies of answers; where reasonable also the arithmetic mean, median, modus and standard deviation. While checking individual hypotheses I have used the statistical program SpSS with which I have made the testing of variables connection with Spearman coefficient of range correlation and hi square test. I have also made the t-test of independent variables for determining differences between the groups.

SAMPLE

In the paper I have been researching the young people's relationship to old age and their own ageing. The aim of this paper is to find out how social ageing construction among young is being created, this is why the sample has been limited to young people between 19 and 24. I have measured the projection of their ageing process with a questionnaire. The population is represented by listeners in the chosen class of a part-time study. I have distributed the questionnaires among the listeners at the High school for Pharmaceutics, Cosmetics and Health in Ljubljana. Interviewees age from 19 to 24 was set in advance, this is why all the people elder than 24 years had to be eliminated. The selection narrowed from 20 high school students to 11 female high school students of the part-time study who fulfilled the criteria for questionnaire handling. This is why the questionnaire got only the selected listeners of the researched class. The first question complex involved the demographic data: education, occupation, sex, years of service, employment, age and people living in their community.

Table 1: Demographic data

Topic	Category	Frequency	Frequency in %
EDUCATION	less than vocational school	0	0
	vocational school	0	0
	high school	10	91
	institution of higher education	0	0
	college	0	0
	college or faculty	1	9
	master	0	0
	doctorate	0	0
OCCUPATION	cosmetic technician	1	9
	secondary school graduate	6	55
	graduate designer (Design college, Lj.)	1	9
	/	3	27
SEX	male	0	0
	female	11	100
YEARS OF SERVICE	0 years	10	91
	2 years	1	9
EMPLOYMENT	regular job	1	9
	part time job	1	9
	unemployed	2	18
	student	7	64
AGE	19-24	11	100
WITH WHOM DO YOU LIVE IN THE COMMUNITY	grandparents	3	27
	parents	11	100
	brothers/sisters	5	45

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other relatives	0	0

In the research have participated only female interviewees aged between 19 and 24.
9% have finished college and have two years of service; other 91% have finished high school and have no years of service. More than a half of the interviewees (55%) are secondary school graduates, 9% are cosmetic technicians and 9% are graduate designers. Others didn't write their occupation. The most interviewees (64%) are students, 9% have a part time job and 9% have a regular job. Expected was also the fact that all 11 (100%) listeners still live with their parents, among them almost a half (45%) lives with their brothers or sisters, 27% also with their grandparents.

Table 2: Middle values of young people's age

median	modus	modus frequency	smallest variable value	highest variable value
21,0	20,0	4	19	24

From Table 2 is evident that median is 21 years, and that modus is 20 years.4 young people were 20 years old, which represents the modus frequency. Minimum age was 19 years and maximum age was 24 years.

INSTRUMENT

In the research I have used interviewing with the help of questionnaire with which I have measured projection of young people's relationship, age between 19 in 24, to their ageing process. They have had to express inclination to all five statements of the questionnaire. I have gained data in five compounds. The questionnaire has been given to the students of doctoral study of social gerontology as material of the subject Social ageing construction. It has been formed to determine the young people's relationship to old age and ageing and it had opened and closed type questions. The first question compound included demographic data: education, occupation, sex, years of service, employment, age and people living in their community. In the second question compound I have been checking, when young people think the elderly are old, considering the chronological age and the age to which the young interviewees would like to live. In the third question compound the interviewees marked their inclination to listening, reading or watching twelve particular media on the Thurston's 5-level scale. The scale span was from 1 (rarely) to 5 (often). The variable is interval. In the fourth compound was a closed type question. The interviewees had to state reasons why they wanted to live as long as they have written. In the fifth question compound have the interviewees marked inclination to twelve statements on ageing process. The interval on the Thurston's 5-level scale had the span from 1 (rarely) to 5 (often). The variable is interval.

The interviewing was completely anonymous; this is why there were no ethical dilemma and restrictions while researching.

RESULTS

In the second question compound I have checked when young people think the elderly are old, considering the chronological age and considering the age to which young interviewees would like to live.

Table 3: Old age years, at which elderly are according to young people old

When are people old?	N	Frequency	Frequency in %	Cumulative frequency in %
50	10	1	10,0	10,0
55	10	1	10,0	20,0
60	10	2	20,0	40,0

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65	10	4	40,0	80,0
70	10	2	20,0	100,0
Total		10	100	

The research show that 40% of people aged between 19 and 24 said that the age of 65 marks people as old, which represents the highest number of statements. The least young people (10%) has the opinion that age 50 and 55 determine old people.

Table 4: Variable statistics of when people are old

N	Valid	10
	Missing	1
Arithmetic mean		62,50
Median		65,00
Modus		65
Standard deviation		6,346
Minimum		50
Maximum		70

Table 4 shows that according to young people's opinion 62,50 is that average age which determines people as old. The standard deviation which shows deviation from the average year estimation and determines people as old is 6,346 years. Standard deviation shows that the deviation among young people's answers has been relatively small because it doesn't exceed the third of the arithmetic mean value. Among the stated years according to which young people determine old age, was the middle value (median) 65 years and this is the value of which the half of unites is under the middle value and half above it.

The most frequent age statement, which marks the old age (modus), was 65 years. The lowest age statement, when people are old, was 50 years and the highest age statement was 70 years.

Table 5: Expected age

How long do you wish to live?	N	Frequency	Frequency in %	Cumulative frequency %
70	11	1	9,1	9,1
75	11	1	9,1	18,2
80	11	2	18,2	36,4
85	11	3	27,3	63,6
100	11	4	36,4	100,0
Total		11	100	

The research shows that most young (36,4 %) said that their expected age is 100 years. The least interviewees (9,1%) stated as the expected age 70 years and the same percentage also the age of 75 years.

Table 6: Expected age variable statistics

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N	Valid	11
	Missing	0
Arithmetic mean		87,27
Median		85,00
Modus		100
Standard deviation		11,037
Minimum		70
Maximum		100

The expected age variable statistics show that the expected age was 87,27 years. Standard deviation which shows deviation from the average estimation was 11,037 years. Standard deviation shows that deviations among the answers of young people have been relatively small, because they don't exceed the third of the arithmetic mean value.

Among the stated years which present the expected age was the middle value (median) 85 years. This is why this year is the value, of which the half of the years is under the middle value and half above it.

The most frequent age statement which determines the expected age (modus) was 100 years.

The lowest age statement of the expected age was 70 and the highest 100 years.

In the question compound about media I have been researching the inclination of young people, aged between 19 and 24 years, to listening, reading and watching particular media. Inclination estimation has been given on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means rarely, 3 neutral and 5 an often inclination.

With the question on inclination to individual media is connected:

- hypothesis H5 »Young people who are inclined to media following (listening, reading, watching) have a negative relationship to ageing.«

With hypothesis checking I have used a correlation coefficient and variables:

frequency of listening, reading and watching a particular media,

relationship to ageing.

Table 7: Correlate coefficient of checking the hypothesis H5

		Relationship to aging (common)
popular magazines	Correlation Coefficient	,136
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,689
	N	11
expert magazines	Correlation Coefficient	-,208
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,539
	N	11
scientific magazines	Correlation Coefficient	-,250
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,458
	N	11
daily – journal	Correlation Coefficient	,016
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,963
	N	11
weekly – journal	Correlation Coefficient	,158
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,642
	N	11
internet	Correlation Coefficient	-,164
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,631
	N	11
social networks on the internet	Correlation Coefficient	,221

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	Sig. (2-tailed)	,513
	N	11
local radio	Correlation Coefficient	,476
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,139
	N	11
national radio	Correlation Coefficient	-,045
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,896
	N	11
local TV	Correlation Coefficient	,091
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,790
	N	11
national TV	Correlation Coefficient	-,047
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,890
	N	11
other media	Correlation Coefficient	-,486
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,130
	N	11

Table 7 shows that there is a negative connection between the frequency of listening, reading or watching a particular media and the relationship to ageing which is in six of twelve cases in compliance with the set hypothesis H5. Connections aren't statically typical and because of that I have rejected hypothesis H5.

In the fourth compound was a closed type question. Interviewees stated reasons, why they wanted to life as long as they have stated.

Table 8: Old age reasons: Why do you wish to live as long as you have stated?

Old age reasons: Why do you wish to live as long as you have stated?	YES	YES Frequency in %	NO	NO Frequency in %
I don't wish to upset people around me with my incapability and bad health when I get old.	5	45	6	55
To the age I have stated I wish to become wiser and experience as much as I can.	10	91	1	9
My productivity will be lesser to that extent that I will get completely ineffective.	1	10	9	90
Life will lose its meaning.	/	/	10	100
There will be no joy in my life anymore when I get old.	1	10	9	90
I will be lonely in old age.	/	/	10	100
I think that in the future space will have to be left for young people.	8	73	3	27
Other people's relationship to me, when I get old, will be negative and I won't enjoy their presence anymore.	1	10	9	90
When I get old I will change and won't see my role in the society anymore.	/	/	10	100
When I will see myself in the mirror looking old and wrinkled, I will be sad and it is better that I go.	/	/	10	100
I don't wish to live so long that people will see me as an old person.	/	/	10	100

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In the table 8 we see young people's main reasons why they want to live as long as they have stated. Interviewees are 100% unified that the meaning of life won't get lost in old age and they believe that they won't get lonely in old age. They also in 100% said no, so they think that will still have their own role in the society and that the picture in the mirror won't make them sad when they get old; this is why they want to live so long that others won't see them as old. Young mostly agree (90% answerers were affirmative) that their explanation of the reason for the expected age is that to the marked age they want to become wise and experience as much as possible. With 73% affirmative answers young people expressed that the reason for the stated expected age is to leave space for the younger generation. The least unified where young people regarding the statement, that they don't want to upset people around them with their incapability and bad health when they get old, because 45% of young agreed with the statement, and 55% didn't agree. With the research of the reasons why young aged to 24 years want to live as long as they have stated is connected the hypothesis H1 »More educated young people don't have fear of ageing.«

Table 9: Contingency tables and hi square test

		Less educated and more educated			Pearson Chi-Square
		Less educated	More educated	Total	
I don't wish to upset people around me with my incapability and bad health when I get old.	yes	6	0	6	,251
	no	4	1	5	
	total	10	1	11	
To the age I have stated I wish to become wiser and experience as much as I can.	yes	2	0	2	
	no	8	1	9	
	total	10	1	11	0,621
My productivity will be lesser to that extent that I will get completely ineffective.	yes	8	1	9	
	no	1	0	1	
	total	9	1	10	0,725
Life will lose its meaning.	yes	9	1	10	
	no	0	0	0	
	total	9	1	10	*
There will be no joy in my life anymore when I get old.	da	8	1	9	
	ne	1	0	1	
	total	9	1	10	0,725
I will be lonely in old age.	yes	9	1	10	
	no	0	0	0	
	total	9	1	10	*
I think that in the future space will have to be left for young people.	yes	3	0	3	
	no	7	1	8	
	total	10	1	11	0,521
Other people's relationship to me, when I get old, will be negative and I won't enjoy their presence anymore.	yes	8	1	9	
	no	1	0	1	
	total	9	1	10	0,725
When I get old I will change and won't see my role in the society anymore.	yes	9	1	10	
	no	0	0	0	
	total	9	1	10	*
When I will see myself in the mirror looking old	yes	9	1	10	*

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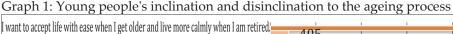|					
and wrinkled, I will be sad and it is better that I go.	no	0	0	0	
	total	9	1	10	
I don't wish to live so long that people will see me as an old person.	yes	9	1	10	
	no	0	0	0	
	total	9	1	10	*

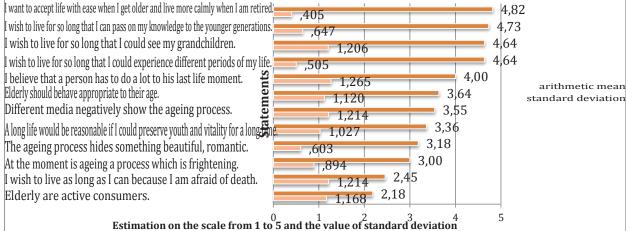* sig. cannot be calculated because all of the interviewees answered only with yes.

With checking the hypothesis H1 I have used the following variables:

fear of ageing which has been measured based on the statements regarding the reasons for stating the expected age, education (more educated/less educated). The variable education had been prepared this way that I have instead of the primary eight levels of education (less than vocational school, vocational school, high school, institution of higher education, college, college or faculty, master, doctorate) prepared two education classes which have been: less educated (into which were following levels included: less than vocational school, vocational school, high school) and more educated (included: institution of higher education, college, college or faculty, master, doctorate). I have started checking the hypothesis based on of contingency tables and the hi square test. The research shows that significances where they can be calculated exceed 5% trust interval

(p > 0,05) with all of the statements. So with the expressed fear of ageing there are no statistically important differences among young who are more educated and those who are less. Based on this fact I rejected the hypothesis H1: »Young people who are more educated don't have fear of ageing.«

In the last question compound they have had to mark the inclination or disinclination to the ageing process with (x). They had to mark an interval on the scale from 1 to 5 which best suits their judgment and consider that 3 is a neutral interval. The graph 2 shows that young people expressed by the estimations of the inclination to the ageing process that they mostly want to accept live with ease when they get old and live calmly when they get retired (AS =4,82, SD = 0,405). Right behind is the statement that they want to live so long that they can pass their knowledge to the younger generations (AS = 4,73, SD = 0,647).

Graph 1: Young people's inclination and disinclination to the ageing process

This has been followed by checking of the hypothesis H2 »Young people with more work experience have a more positive relationship to ageing«.

The checking of hypothesis H2 has been made based on of the following variables:

work experience,

relationship to ageing which we measured based on the inclination or disinclination the ageing process.

The connection between the variables couldn't be calculated because only one person answered the question regarding years of service, aged 24. This is why I have rejected the hypothesis H2.

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Hypothesis H3 »Young people living with their grandparents have a more positive relationship to ageing that the ones who don't.«

Checking the hypothesis based on the t-test of independent samples with variables:
relationship to ageing (common),
life in community with grandparents.

Table 10: Group statistics of the relationship to ageing regarding the life in community with grandparents

Group Statistics

	ZS_grandparents	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Relationship to ageing	Yes	3	3,5833	,57735	,33333
	No	8	3,7188	,35056	,12394

The research shows that young people to 24 years of age, living in a community with grandparents, stated a lower average estimation of a positive relationship to ageing (AS = 3,72) than the young people who don't live together with their grandparents (AS = 3,58). The statement is in contradiction with the set hypothesis H3.

I have also checked if stated is statistically important.

Table 11: T-test of independent variables with checking hypothesis H3

Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means					95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	Lower	Upper
Relationship to ageing (common)	Equal variances assumed	1,715	,223	-,486	9	,639	-,13542	,27885	-,76623	,49539
	Equal variances not assumed			-,381	2,577	,733	-,13542	,35563	-1,37985	1,10901

The first table part shows that the significance is higher than 0,05 which means that the variances are the same in the groups and in the second table part we are looking at the first line. The significance is 0,639 (p > 0,05) which means that there are no important differences in the relationship to ageing regarding young to 24 years who live in the community with grandparents and the once who don't. I have rejected hypothesis H3.

With checking hypothesis H4 »Young people afraid of ageing have a negative relationship to ageing.« I have used two variables:
fear of ageing and
relationship to ageing.

The variables relationship to ageing is prepared this way that there are instead of 12 statements regarding the inclination or disinclination to ageing, only one common variable of all the average answers.

Table 12: Correlation coefficient with checking hypothesis 4

		Relationship to ageing (common)
Relationship to ageing (common)	Correlation Coefficient	1,000
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.
	N	11

I don't wish to upset people around me with my incapability and bad health when I get old.	Correlation Coefficient	,126
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,712
	N	11
To the age I have stated I wish to become wiser and experience as much as I can.	Correlation Coefficient	,122
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,721
	N	11
My productivity will be lesser to that extent that I will get completely ineffective.	Correlation Coefficient	,186
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,608
	N	10
Life will lose its meaning.	Correlation Coefficient	.
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.
	N	10
There will be no joy in my life anymore when I get old.	Correlation Coefficient	,186
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,608
	N	10
I will be lonely in old age.	Correlation Coefficient	.
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.
	N	10
I think that in the future space will have to be left for young people.	Correlation Coefficient	,387
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,239
	N	11
Other people's relationship to me, when I get old, will be negative and I won't enjoy their presence anymore.	Correlation Coefficient	,186
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,608
	N	10
When I get old I will change and won't see my role in the society anymore.	Correlation Coefficient	.
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.
	N	10
When I will see myself in the mirror looking old and wrinkled, I will be sad and it is better that I go.	Correlation Coefficient	.
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.
	N	10
I don't wish to live so long that people will see me as an old person.	Correlation Coefficient	.
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.
	N	10

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* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The table shows that there is a positive connection between the statements: fear of ageing and relationship to ageing but the connection isn't statistically typically of the connection between the variables fear of ageing and relationship to ageing with none of the variables combination (p >0,05).

So I have rejected the hypothesis H4: »Young people afraid of ageing have a negative relationship to ageing.«

Hypothesis H6 »More educated young people have a more positive relationship to ageing.«

Table 13: Spearman correlation coefficient between the variables relationship to ageing and education

Correlations

			Relationship to ageing (common)	Education
Spearman's rho	Relationship to ageing (common)	Correlation Coefficient	1,000	,164
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	,631
		N	11	11
	Education	Correlation Coefficient	,164	1,000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	,631	.
		N	11	11

The correlation coefficient shows that there is a positive and weak connection between the variables relationship to ageing and education (r = 0,164), which means that the higher the education level, the more positive relationship young people have to ageing. Connection isn't statistically typical (p > 0,05). This is why I have rejected the hypothesis H6.

DISCUSSION

In the paper I have been researching the young people's relationship to old age and their own ageing. The research results have shown that young people don't have the same opinion about the question on when a person is old. Their images about this are very diverse. They also have different perspectives regarding the length of life because most of them would like to live to their 100 years, minority to their 70 or 75 years. None expected age doesn't deviate with greater majority which points to the fact that young people don't have a worked out image of old age but every young person has their own image. Surprisingly I have had to reject all the hypotheses. Regarding the fact that in the hypothesis 1 I have presumed that more educated young people don't have fear of ageing and in the hypothesis 6 that more educated young people have a more positive relationship to ageing, this means that education doesn't influence neither fear of ageing nor a positive relationship to ageing. Also more work experience (H2) and living with grandparents (H3) doesn't influence a more positive relationship to ageing. Joyful is the fact that young people afraid of ageing (H4) and with inclination to following the media (H5) don't have a negative relationship to ageing.

For a positive public image of a qualitative old age and active ageing people must be informed and interpret old age as something positive. We are obsessed with youth and full of fear of old age and ageing. It is not allowed to get old because media demands a face without wrinkles and a shaped body. Elderly are for advertisers interesting only when they are creating a mythos on prolonging youth with new anti-ageing means. By individualizing and making our society younger we have lost a lot of its richness and sources, this is why more and more people are living in an emotional and psychological poverty and emptiness.

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The sample smallness represents a restriction on generalizing the findings of the presented research, but we can still create at least an approximate image of the direction of young people's thinking in relationship to old age and ageing. That is also the aim of the research made and the contribution to explaining social ageing construction among the young people.

On a bigger sample the results would have been even more practically useful. The research has also confirmed a more positive trend of young people's relationship to elderly. There are more reasons for a more positive relationship of young people to elderly. In old age elderly want to pass on their life experience to the next generation and are also an example of spending one owns age. Satisfied elderly show with their example to the young generation that life in the third and fourth life period makes sense. This has also been confirmed in this research because all the young people from the sample believe that the meaning of life won't get lost in old age. Regarding the stated fact that young people don't have a worked out image of old age, but imagine it differently, it would be interesting to research this point of view in the future.

Elderly know what is important in life and what is not, what is hiding behind the notions like honesty, sincerity, loyalty, friendship and love. They know the truth and they know life. Young people are still learning and creating their own experience which will lead them to the truth of life.

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ODNOS I KOMUNIKACIJA MLADIH PREMA STARENJU

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Sažetak

U ovom radu, rasprevljen je odnos mladih ljudi prema starosti i vlastitom starenju, s obzirom na obrazovanje, radno iskustvo, društvene običaje i sklonosti medijima. Istraživanje je temeljeno na pretpostavkama socijalnog konstruktivizama. Istraživanje je usmjereno na određivanje kako se društvena konstrukcija starenja pojavljuje među mladim ljudima. Provedena je anketa među mladim studenticama u dobi od 19 do 24 godina kroz upitnik, a podaci su obrađeni pomoću kvantitativne metodologije. Studija je potvrdila postojanje više pozitivnih trendova mladih prema starijim osobama, te je stav mladih ljudi prema vlastitom starenju eksplicitno pozitivno, što će rezultirati zdravijim i sretnijim društvom.

Ključne riječi: socijalna konstrukcija starenja, mladi, starenje, odnos prema starosti, socijalni konstruktivizam