

ALEXANDRA HAJDÚ-PUKÁNSZKY:

**The study of gender-related expressions and the historical change in their usage in
the Finnish language**

Abstract

The aim of this dissertation is to present how natural gender can be expressed in the Finnish language and what changes can be observed in its usage from the 1600s to the present day. The dissertation includes three original corpus-based studies, two of which examine gender-related word usage from a historical perspective, while the third focuses on current, contemporary language use. The first analysis compares the gender-related vocabulary in five Finnish translations of the Gospel of Luke (1642, 1776, 1938, 1992, 2020) to reveal long-term trends in linguistic change. The second study analyzes gender-related word usage in two Finnish translations of Grimm's fairy tales (1946, 1999). The third study, which investigates spoken language use, focuses on the everyday manifestations of gender expression in occupational titles and on the attitudes of native Finnish speakers toward inclusive, gender-neutral language.