Evaluation of Bachelor Thesis *Caroline Henderson's Letters from the Dust Bowl: A Window Into An Intercultural Dialogue on Federal Relief for the 1930's Environmental Disaster in the Great Plains* by Elizabeth Meine Wasilewska.

Elizabeth M. Wasilewska's Bachelor thesis deals with an analysis of egodocuments (i.e. letters) of Caroline Henderson, who was a farmer living through the Dust Bowl in 1930s. The main goal of the research is to analyse Henderson's agency, emotions, and values in regards to federal relief efforts in her community. According to the researcher, these three points "reveal the ways in which Caroline Henderson grappled with the complex and contradictory meanings that the policies revealed to her" (P.3). It is also argued that this "individual-centered approach demonstrates that New Deal policies acquired complex and diverse meanings when implemented at the local level, which often contrasted the broader forms of the narratives surrounding the same policies" (P.3). Thus, the objectives of the research are well-articulated and clearly structured.

The bachelor thesis provides a strong theoretical and methodological research frame. I.e. the researcher deals with individual history, history of everyday life etc. She also applies microhistorical approach, comparative history approach, analysis of egodocuments etc.

The relevant primary sources and data collection strategy are clearly identified. These primary sources (i.e. Henderson's letters to friends, relatives or government etc.) were published and organized by Alvin Turner in the book *Letters from the Dust Bowl* (2003). The researcher also uses relevant digitized primary sources, which are accessible online (such as online sources of the U.S. Government information webpages (www.govinfo.gov), which is a service of the United States Government Publishing Office (GPO), f.ex. the researcher analyses relevant documents of the United States Senate, digitized congressional records of that period and many other relevant sources).

I consider the bachelor thesis as excellent, presenting high quality of analysis and interpretation as well as sound reasoning.

For the final grade I recommend "A" ("excellent").

18th of June, 2019, Prague   Mgr. Alena Marková, Ph.D.