

Abstract

This work has been given the title "The Search for Female Identity" because its core question is: what constitutes female self-identification? This search is carried out by searching literary traces, since self-identification can be deconstructed by analyzing the texts. Texts by an Austrian and a Soviet-Russian writer were chosen as the basis for this deconstruction. In a comparison of their two writings, the difference between the two socio-political systems in terms of their possible influence on self-identification could also be crystallized.

The theories used (mainly poststructuralist) together with the interpretations help to extract the pre-discursive nature of the texts and to decipher the image of femininity. The analysis carried out showed that in both societies this picture is full of myths, however, they were developed and implemented differently. In the course of this development the individualistic Western culture encounters the limits of its individuality, which also affects women and influences their unity in themselves. Meanwhile, the post-Soviet society striving for all-round collectivism fails to control the construction of identity, since it does not offer enough playground for self-determination and overwhelms especially women with the imposed standards.

Key words: female identity, self-identification, the image of women, literary deconstruction, women in literature, western and eastern self-identify