

## **Abstract**

Submitted bachelor thesis confronts the issue of racism against African American athletes in the USA at the time of the Berlin Olympic games in 1936. The assignment's goal is to provide a critical analysis of American social attitudes to the participation of African American athletes in the national team and reactions after their wins in the Olympics. The author covers the status of African American athletes through the destiny of Jesse Owens. He focuses his attention on the divided opinions between professional body and general public and draws a comparison of reactions between the Olympic games in Berlin and Los Angeles in 1932. He undertakes the study of newspaper reviews of African American athletes as well as the impact of the boycott movement on the athletes participation in the Olympics. Last but not least, he compares lives of African American athletes before and after the Olympic games. Sources of information for the research have been historical newspapers & documents, facts of personal matters, academic studies and published findings.

## **Key words**

1936, racial politics, olympic games in Berlin, Jesse Owens, segregation in sport