

## **Abstract**

This thesis examines the period of the Greek military junta through the lenses of then-children's reminiscences. These children, grew up dominantly in Athens, the capital and most likely place where events took place during the junta. Their family, and cultural memory serve as the key component to examining and analysing their collective memory of the Greek junta. The period of the quasi-dictatorship from 1967 until 1974 is to this day regarded as one of the darkest in the modern Greek history. During the colonels' era, political opposition and nonconforming citizens were either persecuted and imprisoned, or exiled to islands. Cultural and political freedom and personal rights were strictly limited. Despite the interviewees being merely children attending primary school, their social circles, families, cultural events, and subsequent years enabled them to create memories, as if they directly witnessed most of the events associated with the junta. The first part of the thesis encompasses theory of collective memories, second and third parts focus on modern Greek history since the end of the Civil War, and on the Greek military junta. The last three sections include the analysis of three concepts which pervaded each interviewees' memories, being the symbolism in education, fear of communists, and giving the junta a meaning. Neither of the interviewees' families were directly affected by the colonels' regime, yet all of them despise junta and have mostly negative memories for the colonels.