

Abstract:

The bachelor thesis explores the issue of guilt and memory in Brazilian literary works *K.* by B. Kucinski and in Michel Laub's *Diary of the Fall*. Theoretically, in terms of guilt, it is anchored in the approaches of the German philosophers Karl Jaspers and Hannah Arendt, and in the case of memory in the work of the French sociologist Maurice Halbwachs. The aim of the thesis was to analyse guilt and its experience by the main characters in both books, as well as to identify the most prominent forms of guilt in the works as conceptualised by Karl Jaspers and Hannah Arendt. Memory as a link between guilt, the Holocaust and the Brazilian dictatorship was also analyzed. The protagonists of both works are prisoners of their memory, especially through the influence of their metaphysical guilt, although each approaches it differently. For the characters in both works, the events associated with their own guilt represent turning points after which their lives are no longer the same. Both literary works underline the important role of collective memory in shaping individual memories, especially against the historical background of the Holocaust and the Brazilian dictatorship.