

ABSTRACT

The diploma thesis *The legacy of Wilhelm Reich and its reflexion in the work of the founders of Bioenergetics, Biosynthesis and Biodynamic psychology* is devoted to a comparison of the most important theoretical concepts and therapeutic techniques of Wilhelm Reich with the methods of the founders of selected psychotherapeutic approaches that draw from his work. These are the founder of Bioenergetics Alexander Lowen, founder of the Biosynthesis David Boadella and founder of Biodynamic Psychology Gerda Boyesen. These authors created distinct therapeutic approaches based on Reich's concepts that significantly shaped the field of the Body-Psychotherapy. The first part explains the technique of Character-Analysis and Vegetotherapy, the Orgasm Theory (the role of sexuality in the etiology of neurosis), a typology of Character structures, the Orgonomic Research and principles of the Orgonomic Functionalism, which Reich defined and used in practice. There is briefly introduced the history of the development within the Neoreichian movement (Reich pupils and followers) in the second half of the 20th century. The vast majority of the second part of the thesis is devoted to reflection on Reich's work in the selected body-psychotherapeutic schools and the way they work with his legacy. The Bioenergetics is described by the diagnostic method based on posture and non-verbal communication in Bioenergetic Analysis. The Biosynthesis is described by the concept of the Dynamic morphology of the body, the concept of the polarity of Character structure and Motoric Fields. The Biodynamic Psychology is described by the concept of the Psychoperistaltis and its relationship to self-recovering mechanisms of the organism. These chapters result in a final comparison of the influence of Reich on selected body-psychotherapeutic approaches and the relevance of Reich's work to contemporary neuroscience.

Key words: Biodynamic Psychology, Bioenergetics, Biosynthesis, Body-Psychotherapy, Vegetotherapy, Wilhelm Reich.