

Abstract

A professional life of secondary school teachers of Czech gymnasiums (rough equivalent of British grammar schools) in so called normalization period is presented in this thesis using autobiographical recounting, contemporary documents and archival materials. The author mentions the choosing of their careers, their studies and ensuing start of their teaching practice that took place in late sixties. Author puts emphasis on mapping of the leading role of the Communist party of Czechoslovakia in the workplace during the so called normalization period and how it was perceived by the teachers themselves. Author shows the role of the communist party using teacher's reviews, entrance examinations and complex assessments. Later on, author elaborates the mechanisms used to keep school "socialistic" up to the year 1989: controls, deliberations and meetings, schoolings, school phraseology, material provision, anniversary celebrations, voluntary works, skiing and defense courses, sister trips and teacher's role in society. In the end, the thesis maps a downfall of communist party's leading role at schools and the transition to a democratic education after the year 1989.