

Abstract

The diploma thesis „Early Methodists Social Work against the background of social and political-economic history of England“ deals with the causes of the origin of Methodism, and most importantly it deals with the description of John Wesley’s social activities. He tried to confirm the thesis that the social feeling of Methodists at that time also was, besides other things, a reaction to the relationship of the Church of England to the needy and suffering ones.

The first part is about the social, political and economic history of England during the 16-18th centuries, which are instrumental in looking into and understanding the social conditions of that time.

The second part, and the pivotal one, briefly introduces the causes of Methodism as well as it slightly mentions John Wesley’s motivations of his social feeling and actions. The major part of the chapter relates to individual social activities that Wesley considered to be significant ones and that he applied in practice with other Methodists.

It is evident that Wesley’s social work was strongly driven and determined as well as it was rightly directed towards its aim at the needy ones. The Methodists laid the foundations of organized social care. The work of John Wesley was influential in the further development of social work, and also it is influential nowadays.