

## **ABSTRACT**

The thesis entitled *Sensitive topics in childhood and youth literature* deals with one of the main tendencies of contemporary Francophone literature for children and youth, which is the inclusion of sensitive topics in children's books. The thesis tries to find answers to these questions: *Since when did these topics start to appear in children's and youth's literature? Which topics do we consider sensitive? How do the authors handle these difficult topics and what is their place and objective in children's literature?*

The introduction of the thesis generally outlines the specifics and functions of literature for children and youth and subsequently tries to answer the defined questions. As such, the introduction is followed by the chapters examining the history of the children and youth genre, taboo and sensitive topics in children's literature, which will help answer these questions. The thesis carefully focuses on the topics of death, illness and disability, racism and diversity and difficult family situations such as divorce, adoption or homoparentality.