

Abstract

The purpose of the research work was to discover and describe the main characteristics of young people's ideas about the collapse of the USSR and the 1990s in Russia as well as to define the specific features of opinion and attitude formation. The time frame of targeted historical period is between 1991 and 1999/2000, from the Soviet coup d'état attempt in 1991 to the time when Boris Yeltsin Russian president of that time appointed Vladimir Putin as his successor in 1999/2000.

In order to achieve this goal, more than 30 interviews with young people from Moscow, Kazan, and Novosibirsk were collected and analyzed.

As a result, several types of images of the collapse of the USSR and the 90s were formed; the role of school, family and media in the process of image formation were described, some historical myths were identified, and four types of historical opinion formations of young Russians were structured and named.

Keywords: memory studies, collective memory, history mythologization, Soviet Union Fall, nostalgia, historical attitude formation, Russian youth attitude, opinion formation