

ABSTRACT

The aim of this diploma thesis is to describe the teaching of history in the 70s and 80s of the 20th century. It focuses on the Mělník region. At the same time, it introduces the reader to the situation in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic during the period of so-called Normalization and the situation in the Mělník region during the same period. Literature, periodicals, primary sources, and especially the memories of witnesses - students and teachers – have been used. The thesis is divided into 7 chapters. The first chapter describes the methodology of my research and describes the way I conducted and evaluated my interviews. The second chapter describes the situation in Czechoslovakia after August 21, 1968 until the Velvet Revolution. The third chapter outlines the situation in the Mělník region during the same period, focusing mainly on the town of Mělník itself. The fourth chapter deals with the situation in education in general. The fifth chapter presents the form of the subject of history during this period and focuses on the teachers of this subject. The sixth chapter is devoted to the didactics of history, outlines what the history lessons looked like and analyzes period textbooks. The seventh chapter deals with the methodology of history. It characterizes the methods and forms of teaching and it also presents typical teaching aids of this era. I interviewed twenty-two witnesses – ten with students and twelve with teachers. On key issues, such as the extent to which the regime has influenced history teaching, the witnesses mostly agreed. On the more marginal issues, such as the use of teaching aids, the statements were more different.

KEYWORDS

teaching history – didactics of history – so-called normalization – history of teaching – the Mělník region – oral history