

Abstract

This bachelor thesis is focused on the English monarch Richard III., the last king of England of the Plantagenet dynasty. The thesis presents discursive analysis of selected literature of English and American provenance, focusing on the research of Richard III. and creating its own historical constructs. Such historical construct is in the given context understood as the author's interpretation of proven and verified facts, whether with an imaginary positive or negative evaluation label. These constructs differ significantly in the case of Richard III. The thesis is trying to find out whether these differences may be related to Richard's alleged physical deformation, one of Richard's frequently mentioned physical attributes, and consequently whether the authors of analysed literature let themselves be influenced by subliminal prejudices connected to the perception of physical differences or physical handicaps. The findings of this analysis are then compared using the comparative method. The thesis then uses the results of this comparison to answer the main research question – does alleged fact of physical disability have an impact on historical interpretations of Richard III.?

Key words

England, Richard III., Anne Neville, Edward IV., duke of Clarence, War of the Roses, Titulus Regius, disability