

Abstract

The phenomenon of political correctness is a fairly complicated phenomenon which creates a lot of controversy and draws a lot of attention. Despite the fact that political correctness was in the United States discussed mainly in the 1980s and 1990s, it does not mean the topic of political correctness is already out of public life. The author asks why political correctness is criticized, focusing on the question of education and through literature research – both secondary and primary – comes to the conclusion that it is mainly due to unintended consequences of the phenomenon, chiefly through limitations imposed on the freedom of speech – either real or perceived, and also generally having a chilling effect on public discourse or lack of tolerance towards dissent. At the same time, cultural polarization of American society manifests itself quite strongly in the debate about universities. The polarization keeps the debate in a stalemate as neither side of the debate – liberal or conservative – seems to be willing to reconsider its position.