

NEDĚLE, 3. ÚNORA 2013

UNIVERZITA KARLOVA – FILOZOFICKÁ FAKULTA

ÚSTAV ANGLOFONNÍCH LITERATUR A KULTUR

Posudek Magisterske Prace(Vedoucky Report): Turn Their Lights Out,Change the Channel:Depiction of Media in British Dystopian Fiction

Report on Master's Thesis(Supervisor's Report): TURN THEIR LIGHTS OUT,CHANGE THE CHANNEL:DEPICTION OF MEDIA IN BRITISH DYSTOPIAN FICTION

Vedoucí Diplomová práce: Colin S Clark MA

Oponent: Pavla Vesela PhD

Zpracoval : Pavel Bakič

Turn Their Lights Out,Change the Channel:Depiction of Media in British Dystopian Fiction

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General Remarks:

This thesis is a solid attempt to grapple with a fascinating issue in modern British Writing and it employs a raft of theoretical interrogative strategies to do so. The theory employed is explained clearly from the outset as are the limitations of the student's area of concern. What the student then embarks upon is a detailed and thorough reading of the three major texts under consideration : George Orwell's *Nineteen*

Eighty-Four, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* and H. G. Wells's *When the Sleeper Awakes* -all three undeniably classics of dystopian literature.

This thesis then completes a sustained and detailed analysis of the relationship of historicity and totalitarianism and its triple structure before further analyzing the stages of emergence into eternal post-eventism(this is an intriguing concept and one which has clear theoretical links with a number of theorists of the modern world and concepts of modernity)

The later stages of the thesis discuss, quite convincingly, the position of printed media and the formations of a canon, and the final deposition or libel of electronic media and the different methods used by Orwell, Huxley and Wells in their depictions of future state societies.

This thesis has the assiduousness and tenacity of a much more advanced work and demonstrates clear ability on the part of the student to pursue a theme and, moreover, intellectual curiosity and an independent enquiry which is most impressive. There is very little which is not explored here and the material under consideration is exposed to considered and useful analysis. I have little doubt that this work could form the basis of a thesis at PhD level and that the student is quite capable of proceeding in that direction.

Structurally and there are only minor formatting issues here and none worthy of particular note. The thesis has a logical structure which is used to best effect in a logical and well-executed work.

Recommendation

Bearing in mind the foregoing comments, I would recommend that this work should be passed at a grade of 1 (Vyborne) and I commend it for consideration at that level .

Colin S Clark MA

