

Abstract

The thesis examines connection between issues related to psychiatry and historical period of first half of 20th century, more precisely, the thesis focuses on issues of normality and pathology....

The concept of pathology is explored from psychiatric point of view, it regards everything which is understood as un-normal in terms of mental health. The main aim of the thesis is to find out how the society had delimited itself towards people with mental illnesses. Critical discourse analysis of chosen texts is used in order to explore these issues in more depth. A list of the most important psychiatrists is also included in the thesis in order to deepen knowledge of the historical period.

Furthermore, the thesis deals with other relevant issues, such as concept of brain activity or Czechoslovak laws which were very important when defining mental health of the examined group of people. The thesis also explores relationships between society – and an individual or a patient – and a doctor, which give better insight into the societal climate. The main inspiration was drawn from the work of Michel Foucault, who understood history from a similar point of view.