

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with family memory of 1950s Czechoslovak political prisoners. Its two major questions are: Is there a well preserved story in an actual family memory of a family ancestor who was politically persecuted and imprisoned in the period after 1948 and is his story preserved without significant shifts from reality? Given topic is being analyzed throughout a story of three particular families – those of Bedřich Fučík, Ladislav Jehlička and Karel Procházka. These three political prisoners died already, therefore were the subject of examination records of three generations of their descendents. Primary sources for this thesis are thus personal interviews with these family members. Both archive sources and original texts written by Bedřich Fučík and Ladislav Jehlička were also used. Individual interviews have shown that a story of their ancestor is well preserved in family memory, but every particular family or narrator have their own specificities. Some narrators have shown major shifts from reality, whereas others have not.

Key words

political prisoners, 1950s, family memory, communist regime, oral history