Abstract

This bachelor thesis analyzes the causes, course, and consequences of the race riots in Great Britain at the end of the 1950s. The text concentrates on the conditions of immigration to the British islands after the World War II, especially immigration from the British West Indies, citizens of which dominated the immigration of the so called New Commonwealth in the 1950s. Attention is focused on growing antipathy of the majority of society against Caribbean immigrants whose presence was linked to a range of problems, particularly in the area of housing. In this and other areas of life in Britain, the immigrants were encountering prejudice, discrimination, and physical attacks. Main emphasis is laid on the escalation of tensions during the summer 1958 and the course of the race riots in Nottingham and Notting Hill at the turn of August and September 1958 which shook the whole Britain. The final part of the bachelor thesis analyzes the reaction of British society to the race riots and their impact on the Caribbean community.