

Abstract

The goal of this thesis is to provide a comprehensive view on the person and work of Richard Hoggart, with emphasis on his contribution to media studies. It should at least partially fill the gap in Czech environment, because until this point only minimum attention had been paid to Hoggart. This paper interprets Hoggart's view of the influence of media on society, outlines the changes in society caused by the influence of mass media, examines mass and popular culture and the differences between them. Special attention is devoted to television broadcasting, from its beginnings in the UK, the debates over its meaning, to its importance and the influence of television production on the late twentieth century society, all primarily with regards to Hoggart's thoughts. This thesis provides an excursion into the working class of the first quarter of the twentieth century and into Hoggart's childhood, through his probably most important work, *The Uses of Literacy* (1957). It also briefly investigates Hoggart's participation in the *Pilkington Committee* and assesses his role of a defence witness in the trial concerning the book *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.