

POSUDEK DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

KATEDRA ANGLICKÉHO JAZYKA A LITERATURY PedF UK

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Název práce: Question of Immigration in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah* and Chris Cleave's *The Other Hand*

Vedoucí práce: PhDr. Tereza Topolovská Ph.D

Rok odevzdání: 2016

Rozsah práce: 69 stran bez příloh

Posudek: Oponenta

Autor posudku: Bernadette E. Higgins MA

Posuzovaná oblast	Zvažovaná kritéria	Zvažovaná kritéria Body (0-5)
1. Odborný kontext	Orientace v pojednávané problematice, odborné zázemí a širší přehled o disciplíně, znalost a uplatnění odborné terminologie, reprezentativnost a aktuálnost použité odborné literatury, variabilita odborných zdrojů a schopnost jejich syntézy	3
2. Výzkum	Stanovení a splnění cílů, formulace hypotéz, vhodnost a relevance metod a zvolených postupů, jasnost formulace a interpretace závěrů práce	3
3. Struktura a forma	Přehlednost struktury, členění, řazení a proporčnost kapitol a oddílů, návaznost a provázanost textu, konzistentnost úpravy práce, odpovídající rozsah práce, poznámkový aparát, adekvátnost a provedení příloh, odpovídající úroveň citační praxe	3
4. Jazyková úroveň	Celková úroveň jazykového projevu, přesnost, rozmanitost a čtivost formulací, absence gramatických, lexikálních a pravopisných nedostatků, úroveň odborného stylu	4
5. Věcná správnost a přesvědčivost	Hloubka a kvalita provedených analýz, faktická, věcná a obsahová správnost, podloženost, aktuálnost přístupů, schopnost argumentace a kritického myšlení, schopnost náležitě formulovat a interpretovat zjištění	3
6. Originalita	Přínos práce, samostatnost zpracování, původnost myšlenek, kreativita a zaujetí danou problematikou, možnosti dalšího rozvíjení, celková náročnost a pracnost, potenciál práce (navázání na výzkum či aplikace jeho výstupů v praxi)	3

Celkové zhodnocení práce (včetně kritických výhrad):

The thesis deals with an extremely interesting and very topical theme – immigration – and, on the whole, the author deals with the issue well and with clinical clarity. She focuses her exploration of immigration on an analysis of two novels, Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah* (2013) and British author Chris Cleave's *The Other Hand* (2008). There are a great many strengths in the work, not least the extensive knowledge of immigration issues displayed in the theoretical part of the thesis and the wide-ranging secondary material used to support her exploration of the theme. The author's style is also clear and generally lacking in grammatical faults.

In the theoretical part the author briefly characterises the work of Adichie and Cleave, explores basic facts surrounding legal and illegal immigration and looks at organisations supporting African immigrants. She ends the theoretical part with a very brief chapter on feminism and the role of women in Nigerian post-colonial society. One and a half pages is obviously too little to devote to such a broad topic, and the result is rather superficial and unsatisfactory, e.g. she mentions a 2002 protest by Nigerian women protesting against the Chevron Texaco oil company and writes that the method they used 'may seem uncivilised, as women's

impact in this situation is based on ancient myth and superstition, rather than on exhibition of their competence as negotiators' (p. 21) and it seems an odd, and rather patronising example to use to characterise women's political activism in Nigeria (nude protests have been made in a number of western countries). In the practical part of the thesis the author seems set to look more deeply at some of the issues she introduces in the theoretical part, though this promise is not always fulfilled. For example, on p. 28 she writes that 'At this point two concepts of American society can be explored. The first one is a concept of a "salad bowl" In contrast to this concept there is another one that is called a "melting pot", which refers to the idea that heterogeneous society that consists of immigrants from all over the world becomes more homogeneous..', but she doesn't explore this key divide between assimilation/multiculturalism at all. The longest and most interesting section of the practical part is the chapter on language, which incorporates not only reflections on bilingualism and the relationship of language to identity, but also the language used by the media when reporting about refugees. Again, a brief discussion of gender is tacked on at the end, though not really integrated so fully into the analysis of immigration. On the whole, there are many interesting points raised by the author in her analysis of the two novels and I am happy to recommend the work for acceptance, though there is a disappointing lack of in-depth analysis of some of the key issues relating to identity in a globalised world.

Témata a náměty k diskusi při obhajobě:

Does the author see anything problematic in the ending of *The Other Hand*, i.e. 'Little Bee' happy to be sacrificed as the white child, Charlie, is portrayed (on a beach full of Nigerian children) as the hope for the future?

"I smiled down at Charlie, and I understood that he would be free now even if I would not. In this way, the life that was in me would find its home in him now. It was not a sad feeling. I felt my heart take off lightly like a butterfly and I thought, *yes*, this is it, something has survived in me, something that does not need to run anymore, because it is worth more than all the money in the world and its currency, its true home, is the living. And not just the living in this particular country or in that particular country, but the secret, irresistible heart of the living. I smiled back at Charlie and I knew that the hopes of this whole human world could fit inside one soul. This is a good trick. This is called, *globalization*."

How does Cleave's focus on 'globalization', connect with the discussed theme of immigration? Does the author share his optimistic view of the phenomenon?

Práci tímto: doporučuji

Datum: 09.09.2016

Podpis:

1. Bodové hodnocení na škále 1-5 (5 bodů maximum), 0 bodů z jedné či více posuzovaných oblastí automaticky znamená, že práce není doporučena k obhajobě. vedoucího práce oponenta
2. Výsledná známka zahrnuje hodnocení posudku vedoucího práce, hodnocení posudku oponenta a hodnocení výkonu studenta v průběhu obhajoby. doporučuji nedoporučuji k obhajobě