

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with the topic of politicization of sexuality in South Africa in relation to sexual violence against children. Using qualitative content analysis the paper examines, how the "baby rape" phenomenon is described in South African media production and how it relates to the new democracy in the post-apartheid South Africa. Likewise, attention is paid to the issue of virginity testing, which is interpreted as a reaction to the "moral crisis" of the newly formed democratic nation. The examined issue is viewed in the wider context of social relations, therefore using an intersectional approach. The analytical aspect of the analysis includes the categories of race, gender, and sexuality. The intersectional concept analyzes the role of media representation in designing individual social categories and thus strengthening certain forms of oppression. The theoretical background of the work is based on black feminism and the Stanley Cohen's theory of moral panic. With analysing media representation it is examined the way the gender, sexuality, and race are studied and represented in order to answer the thesis question of how Western discourse intersects through these analytical categories.

Keywords: media representation, qualitative content analysis, intersectionality, politization of sexuality, moral panic, sexual violence, Republic of South Africa