

This diploma thesis analyses and compares two categories of Disney fairy tale films. On one side we have the animated films from the 20th century, on the other side their modern live action remakes. This thesis focuses on the portrayal of gender and social interactions, and examines whether there has been any change in these aspects from a feminist perspective.

Fairy tales play a significant role in gender socialization of children and are a reflection of the contemporary societal ideals of femininity and masculinity. The theoretical part of the thesis introduces the concept of gender and how it is learned, how feminism views gender and society, and the development of the feminist movement. It explores fairy tales, their role as socialization agents and the theory of feminist critique of fairy tales. It also focuses on film adaptations of fairy tales and more specifically on Disney studio and the criticism of it.

The examined films were subjected to analysis based on the method of grounded theory. During the research a significant advancement was discovered in the portrayal of female and male heroes, romantic love, patriarchal society in fairy tale worlds and in the representation of race and sexual minorities.