

Abstract

This paper focuses on the discussion concerning legalization of the right to abortion on demand during The First Czechoslovak Republic. It uses the approach to discourse of Norman Fairclough and analyzes the discursive types that were present in the discussion, with giving special attention to the communist discourse. Heterogeneity of the communist discourse is revealed as well as the considerable change which took place after banning of abortions in Soviet Union in 1936. The analysis specially focuses on the role of arguments about individual human rights, specifically the right to make decisions about one's own body. It concerns further with the approach to the developing human life as well as women's sexuality and the role of women in the reproduction of the nation.

Key words: abortion, communist discourse, Rozséváčka, The First Czechoslovak Republic