

Abstract

This thesis discusses the conception of power relations and gender stereotypes in Gabriela Preissová's literary masterpiece - *Gazdina roba* and *Její pastorkyňa*. The analysis employs the concept of power as an analytical category and draws on Michel Foucault's theories. The thesis further examines the discourse in which the main characters find themselves. The analysis of male and female characters focuses on the position of the main character and also on the ways in which female protagonists become influenced by their male partners. Selected characters are also interpreted by using Foucault's concept of bio-power and a special attention is paid to the subject type of homo oeconomicus. The thesis attempts to answer the question, whether the discussed literary characters are "disciplined bodies", or whether they embody a subversion of the (gender) system. Part of the text is also dedicated to the comparison of male and female characters in both Preissová's works as to whether they do or do not comply with traditional images of "masculinity" and "femininity" (and related gender stereotypes), or how many of them represent resisting or (in the case of some female protagonists) collaborating entities. Possible interpretations of the characters' inner drive in this regard are also offered.

Key words: discourse, Gabriela Preissová, gender stereotypes, Michel Foucault, power relations, subject