Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

POSUDEK OPONENTA DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: Učitelství anglického jazyka a literatury pro střední školy (dvouoborové)

Název práce: Traumatic Events: A Linguistic Perspective

Autorka práce: Bc. Eliška Krejčová

Vedoucí diplomové práce: Mgr. Jana Kozubíková Šandová, Ph.D.

Oponent diplomové práce: Mgr. Petr Kos, Ph.D.

Short characteristics of the thesis

The thesis examines how people who have had some traumatic experience talk about such experiences. The work takes an interdisciplinary approach combining linguistics, psycholinguistics, and psychology. From the linguistic perspective, the author analyses the testimonies of victims of some traumatic events from the discourse, narrative, coherence, and conversational maxims angles. The theoretical description is applied on specific cases from the database of the ECHR.

Overall assessment

Firstly, I appreciate the choice of the topic which is original and difficult at the same time as it requires an interdisciplinary approach.

The topic appears to be highly relevant beyond linguistic research as the thesis deals with phenomena that primarily fall under psychology, and it explores how these primarily psychological phenomena are manifested in language by the use of linguistic tools. The outcomes of the linguistic analysis may be instrumental in modifying the perception of the victims in some legal cases.

The text of the work demonstrates a high level of coherence.

Unfortunately, the work does not provide any "state of the art" of the research, i.e., a description of any previous research on the topic, so it is not clear whether the discussions are based on the author's work linking separate sources from psychology, psycholinguistics, and linguistics, or whether it is already based on some previous research of the same or a similar nature.

Also, the descriptions of individual aspects are on a rather general, theoretical, level. I believe that the work would be stronger if it included examples from primary sources and quotations from secondary ones (the work includes references to these sources only). The described phenomena would then be elucidated in a more profound way, and the whole research would be better grounded.

The language of the work is of very high standard, with extremely rare mistakes only and with an occasional use of rather informal formulations (e.g., "it plays a big role").

Despite my comments above, I believe that the work is of a high standard and fully meets the requirements for a successful master's thesis.



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