

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Tereza Matysová
Název bakalářské práce: Novels That Changed History: *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *The Jungle*
Vedoucí bakalářské práce: PhDr. Christopher Koy, M.A., Ph.D.
Oponent bakalářské práce: Mgr. Renata Janktová, M.A., Ph.D.

I. Cíl práce a jeho naplnění: 2. Cíl práce byl naplněn s drobnými nedostatky

II. Struktura práce: 2. Přiměřená

III. Práce s literaturou: 2. Velmi dobrá práce s adekvátními prameny v patřičném rozsahu

IV. Formální stránka: 1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům

VI. Jazyková úroveň práce: 3. Dobrá

VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu: 3. Střední

Vyjádření vedoucího bakalářské práce:

The author's literary context is a faultless way to start instead of the all-too-common biographies of the authors. In this way, we learn of the literary context from which Beecher Stowe and Sinclair came to command in their writing styles and contexts about their subjects: the most wretchedly poor and exploited slave laborers in America. With one author a Christian and the other a secular socialist, the author might have discussed how the moral sources of their indignation about oppression exert different sorts of „impact“ on the modern Czech reader since both Christianity and socialism hold little appeal in this country these days.

The author shows how characters in both works, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *The Jungle*, are revealed as performing roles in the effort to deliver „propaganda“ since both authors aimed to persuade their respective readerships of „evil“ in their midst.

As to criticism of this effort, I think rather than retell the plot, you might have tried to explain Stowe's POINT in killing off Eva and Augustine from the plot, not just killing off Tom.

Why did she do this? What was Stowe's point? There might have been more explanations besides mere plot review and character analysis in examining the motivations or characters and critiquing how realistic the extreme moments are. I do not see much of your own opinions. On p. 22 in the Historical Impact subchapter (2.3) there is a radical change in the writing as the author suddenly writes „I“ repeatedly: „That is not what I have in mind. I mean...I'm writing about... I am writing about...“ It seems rather odd after keeping „I“ out of the rest of the thesis.

Ona is raped by her superior at work, Connor (the author sometimes spelled his name Conor). Yet sexual compelling of females appears in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and the similarities and differences should have been noted (even though Sinclair is a naturalist, the rape is set „off stage“, so to speak). How successful was this sensitive issue handled by Sinclair? The criticism in a bachelor thesis should also reconsider how successful the novel speaks to us today, 115 years after it was written. A weakness is the lack of criticism by the author on these and other matters; the retelling the plot and characterizing the protagonist / antagonist and side characters are solidly done, though more on motivation might have been revealed – interpreted.

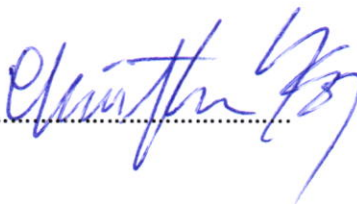
Práce splňuje základní požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná známka: velmi dobře

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. You argue in your character analysis that characters come out as having propaganda value (Christ figures or socialist literature types). Do you nevertheless find the characters interesting? Do you regard these novels as mere propaganda or do they have aesthetic value too?
2. What do you think Topsy represents for the abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe?
3. Do you feel Jurgis altering from an oppressed worker to a socialist back to oppressed and then into a socialist realistic to you? The criticism in a bachelor thesis should also reconsider how successful the novel speaks to us today, 115 years after it was written.

Podpis vedoucího bakalářské práce:.....



Datum: 20. 5. 2021

*nehodící se škrtněte