

ABSTRACT

The bachelor's thesis focuses on the description of the personality of Klement Gottwald, the first communist president of the Czechoslovak Republic. Despite the obvious importance of this historical figure, he has not been sufficiently researched by the scientific community. This research is an attempt to contribute a deeper analysis of Gottwald's personality to the scientific community. It is a psychobiographical study using qualitative methodology. The research aim was to explore the motivations that led to Klement Gottwald's ideological leaning towards the communist movement. Also, to his choice to follow a political career path. The description and interpretation of the personality was conducted as desk research by studying primary and secondary sources. In particular, Gottwald's own texts from the period 1919-1928. These included a collection of personal correspondence and articles from his time as a journalist in Communist Party journals. Based on the analysis of these texts using axial and selective coding methods, five analytical categories for describing Gottwald's personality emerged. The interpretation, which aimed at answering the research questions, was done by applying Kohut's Self theory. The result of this thesis is a description of personality structure based on the selected theory and an answer to the research questions. Through the application of the theory, a possible vertical split in the personality structure was discovered. The theoretical part of the thesis deals with the introduction of the method of psychobiography, its possible contributions to psychology and science in general. Furthermore, the research subject is introduced and a description of the time period of his life, i.e. the first half of the 20th century.