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**Tři typy dystopických románů: My, Konec civilizace a 1984**  
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### Z á s a d y p r o v y p r a c o v á n í :

Práce porovná tři dystopické romány Jevgenije Zamjatina, Aldouse Huxleyho a George Orwella se zřetelem k dobám jejich vzniku, postavení v díle autorů a v rámci dějin žánru. Pozornost bude rovněž věnována vedle ideologie také k literárním technikám.

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Prohlašuji, že jsem tuto diplomovou práci vypracovala (pod vedením vedoucího práce) samostatně a uvedla jsem všechny použité prameny a literaturu.

V Hradci Králové dne 23. června 2015

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## **Poděkování**

Tímto děkuji panu prof. PhDr. Bohuslavu Mánkovi, CSc., vedoucímu mé diplomové práce, za trpělivost, ochotu a cenné rady během vedení mé diplomové práce.

## **Anotace**

PAVELKOVÁ, Klára. Three Types of Dystopia: We, Brave New World and 1984. Hradec Králové: Pedagogická fakulta Univerzity Hradec Králové, 2015. 61 s. Diplomová práce.

Práce porovná tři dystopické romány Jevgenije Zamjatina, Aldouse Huxleyho a George Orwella se zřetelem k dobám jejich vzniku, postavení v díle autorů a v rámci dějin žánru. Pozornost bude rovněž věnována vedle ideologie také k literárním technikám.

Klíčová slova: utopie, dystopie, George Orwell, Aldous Huxley, Jevgenij Zamjatin.

## **Annotation**

PAVELKOVÁ, Klára. Three Types of Dystopia: We, Brave New World and 1984. Hradec Králové: Faculty of Education, University of Hradec Králové, 2015. 61 p. Master's Degree Thesis.

The thesis will confront the dystopian novels by Yevgeny Zamyatin, Aldous Huxley and George Orwell in their historical contexts, within the works of their authors, and in the tradition of the genre. It will pay attention both to their ideas and literary techniques.

Keywords: utopia, dystopia, George Orwell, Aldous Huxley, Yevgeny Zamyatin.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

The main topic of the thesis is a study and analysis of dystopian literature. Three most prominent works of this genre in the 20th century have been selected. The novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* by George Orwell, *We* by Yevgeny Zamyatin and the novel *Brave New World* written by Aldous Huxley. All novels share the same theme - the world dictatorship.

Nowadays, there are many dystopian fictions written or made. Contemporary teenagers and young people find these novels interesting: *The Giver*, *The Hunger Games* or *Divergent*.

The beginning of the thesis defines terms utopia and dystopia. Then it discusses from what the authors got the ideas to write this type of literature. The main aim of this thesis is to introduce individual dystopian novels that are analysed. Another aim is also to draw a comparison between novels above-mentioned, find similar and different features, prove their currency and present their possible legacy to the future. The main features are also recorded into tables. The thesis is based mainly on primary literature - dystopian novels. All analysis is derived from the novels *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, *Brave New World* and *We*.

Yevgeny Zamyatin used to be transcribed in English as Eugene Zamiatin but nowadays the transcription reads usually Yevgeny Zamyatin. It is transcribed from the Russian ЕВГЕНИЙ ЗАМЯТИН. Because I have used the book edited in 1955 where the old transcription is used, I use this transcription just for the quotations of the book. The rest of the thesis contains modern and more famous transcription: Yevgeny Zamyatin.

## 2 ORIGIN OF UTOPIA AND DYSTOPIA

At the beginning it is necessary to define the terms utopia and dystopia that are closely connected. Although the first utopias arose already in the Antiquity, Sir Thomas More is considered to be a founder of utopia. "*He coined the word 'utopia' from the Greek ou-topos meaning 'no place' or 'nowhere'. But this was a pun - the almost identical Greek word eu-topos means a good place.*"<sup>1</sup> Oxford dictionaries explains the term utopia as: "*An imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect.*"<sup>2</sup> According to these definitions, utopia is an ideal place where everything perfectly works for its inhabitants. However, this place and society does not exist in reality because of many reasons and it is almost impossible to believe this place could ever really exist. This word can be used in a positive or a negative meaning. The positive meaning deals with an effort of people to create better and perfect world. To the contrary, the negative meaning is mainly about too bold thoughts that are exaggeratedly optimistic and their aim is not feasible.

Typical features of utopia are government that do not use people only for its own good, freedom and equality for citizens or no wars.

The book *Utopia* by Sir Thomas More was first published in 1516 where More describes the fantastic Island of Utopia, especially the society.<sup>3</sup> The story was put into fictive space-time and that is why More could criticise contemporary England. This period was influenced not only by social conditions, maritime travels, and expansion of humanism, interest in natural sciences but also by conflicts, huge social contrasts, corruption and economic problems connected with capitalism. Sir Thomas More inspired many other authors. Thoughts of More's work became a part of thinking and literature up to the present.

When we consider utopias of previous centuries, thoughts do not have to be so utopian. These thoughts result from dissatisfaction at contemporary society; the thoughts are also a revolt against present system and propose a motion to change this situation. Karl Mannheim describes utopias as social ideals that precede mass

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<sup>1</sup> British Library. *Utopia* [online].

<sup>2</sup> Oxford Dictionaries. *Utopia* [online].

<sup>3</sup> The Biography.com. *Thomas More* [online].

movement. Thanks to this mass movement these social ideals should be realized (Mannheim, 1991, p. 239).

Another famous writer of utopia is Tommaso Campanella who wrote *The City of the Sun* in 1602. In this book, people perceive nature as an expression of God. Campanella thought that the utopian world is the opposite of the real one where is inequity and violence.<sup>4</sup> Campanella lived in a period of suffering because of ingoing capitalism in Italy. Campanella did not see any option how to change this situation and that is why he created his own perfect state.

Herbert George Wells inspired Yevgeny Zamyatin by his utopian novels. H.G. Wells wrote science fiction that precisely predicted development of the future modern technology and threat of new destructive weapons. His famous utopian novels are *Modern Utopia* (1905) and *Men Like Gods* (1923). Wells criticises the present and tries to convince us of impossibility to create technological utopia without social utopia. Technical developments make their job easier and they are not misused for bad reasons, such as wars. Thanks to his predictions for the future, he was nicknamed as "the Father of Futurism" or "the Father of Science Fiction".<sup>5</sup>

The term dystopia is the opposite of utopia. Dystopia is: "*An imagined place or state in which everything is unpleasant or bad, typically a totalitarian or environmentally degraded one.*"<sup>6</sup> This term describes a place, society or situation where the conditions are extremely bad for living because of terror or deprivation. A typical feature of dystopia is a controlling government, class divisions and banning of the independent and free thinking. The main hero usually attempts to fight against the regime and the authority but his effort is in most cases pointless. In the end, the main protagonist accepts all conditions and submits to the authority. The word dystopia consists of the Greek preposition dys- that means "bad" + utopia.<sup>7</sup>

The term dystopia was first used by British MP John Stuart Mill in 1868.<sup>8</sup> Famous dystopian novels are *A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess or *Fahrenheit*

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<sup>4</sup> The European Graduate School. *Tommaso Campanella - Biography* [online].

<sup>5</sup> The Biography.com. *H.G. Wells* [online].

<sup>6</sup> Oxford Dictionaries. *Dystopia* [online].

<sup>7</sup> Oxford Dictionaries. *Dystopia* [online].

<sup>8</sup> Huffpost Books. *The Evolution Of Dystopia In 9 Books* [online].

451 by Ray Bradbury but the most famous dystopian novel is probably *Nineteen Eighty-Four* written by George Orwell. Orwell was mainly inspired by Zamyatin's novel *We*.

Dystopian literature as a genre began to develop at the end of the 19th century when authors started to react on utopian works. This kind of literature was popular because it was fictional and dystopian authors warned against a modern trend, the threat of oppressive regimes, wars and perspectives on problematic social and political practices.<sup>9</sup> The main aim of dystopian literature is obviously to frighten a reader and force him to think about the future.

Sometimes, the terms utopia and dystopia are overlapped. It means that a novel can be utopian for some people and dystopian for the rest. It depends on the point of reader's view. *Brave New World* (further referred to as *BNW*) by Huxley is a perfect example of such novel. For somebody it can represent a perfect world without worries and poverty but other people can protest that it is obvious dystopian book because people have no option to choose the way of their life. For this reason we are going to consider it as a dystopian novel.

Because Orwell's and Zamyatin's novels warn against totalitarianism, it is necessary to introduce and define this term: "*Totalitarianism refers to a political system in which all authority is in the hands of the state. In a totalitarian society, all control of public and private life are government run*".<sup>10</sup>

Among strategies how to implement totalitarianism is mentioned ruling through fear, only one ruling party, censorship of media, propaganda, secret police forces and no criticism of the state.<sup>11</sup> Famous totalitarian leaders were Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini or Adolf Hitler. Nowadays, totalitarian regime can be found in many countries, for instance, China, North Korea, Vietnam, Burma, Cuba and many others.

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<sup>9</sup> Questia. *Dystopian Literature* [online].

<sup>10</sup> YourDictionary. *Examples of Totalitarianism* [online].

<sup>11</sup> dtto

## 2.1 Biography of authors

I mention a biography not only of George Orwell, Aldous Huxley or Yevgeny Zamyatin, but also of Herbert George Wells because Zamyatin was inspired by his works while Huxley and Orwell were inspired by Zamyatin's novel *We*.

### 2.1.1 H.G. Wells (1866-1946)

Herbert George Wells was a historian and one of significant writers of science fiction who was born in Bromley, England, in 1866. His father was a professional cricket player. Wells learnt to read at the age of five. Since then he read many books because his health was very poor. He studied at the Commercial Academy for Young Gentlemen to be a shopkeeper or clerk. In 1888, Wells moved to London where he wrote about science in newspapers. One year later, he became a teacher.<sup>12</sup>

Wells wrote mainly stories and in 1895, he published *The Time Machine* that then became a best-seller. Wells even coined the term "time machine". His other works are, for instance, *When the Sleeper Wakes* (1899) or *The First Men in the Moon* (1901). In 1901, Wells also published *Anticipations* that became his first non-fiction best-seller, and in 1905, he published *A Modern Utopia*.<sup>13</sup>

He wrote many fiction and non-fiction works about democracy, society or politics. Zamyatin was inspired by Wells' science fiction *Men Like Gods* (1923) where a utopian parallel world exists.<sup>14</sup>

Herbert George Wells died in Regent's Park, London, in 1946.<sup>15</sup>

### 2.1.2 George Orwell (1903-1950)

Eric Arthur Blair, whose pen name is George Orwell, was a British writer who was born in India in 1903. Orwell incorporated his own experiences into the novels.

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<sup>12</sup> The European Graduate School. *Herbert George Wells - biography* [online].

<sup>13</sup> The Literature Network. *H.G. Wells* [online].

<sup>14</sup> Amazon. *Men Like Gods* [online]. [cit. dne 2015-06-23].

<sup>15</sup> The Literature Network. *H.G. Wells* [online].

Orwell wrote *Burmese Days* (1934) where he used his experiences from being a member of the Indian Imperial Police in Burma. His first book *Down and Out in Paris and London* (1933) covers Orwell's poverty after leaving Burma. His other famous novels are *A Clergyman's Daughter* (1935) or *Homage to Catalonia* (1938) where he wrote about his volunteering to fight in the Spanish Civil War.<sup>16</sup>

Since 1938, Orwell suffered from tuberculosis. He tried to recover but there was no effective treatment at that time. In the 1950s, Orwell wrote his most famous novels *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949). The novel *Animal Farm* is an anti-Soviet satire where the main protagonists are pigs. The characters of the pigs refer to Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky. The figures of Stalin and Trotsky are also used in the novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. Besides the novels, Orwell wrote also many essays.<sup>17</sup>

In 1950, George Orwell died of tuberculosis in London.<sup>18</sup>

### 2.1.3 Aldous Huxley (1894-1963)

Aldous Huxley was born in England in 1894. His family was successful in various fields such as science, literature or education. When Huxley was sixteen years old, he suffered from an eye disease that had injured his sight. After completing his studies at Eton and Balliol College, Huxley became a teacher at Eton. One of his pupils was Eric Blair. Huxley was also an editor of the journal *Athenaeum* or he contributed to *Vanity Fair* and *Vogue*.<sup>19</sup>

In 1916, Huxley published his first collection of poetry *The Burning Wheel* but his next novels are more famous - a tragicomedy *Point Counter Point* (1928) and *Brave New World* (1932). After publishing of these books, Huxley and his wife moved to New Mexico and then to California where he underwent surgery and his vision was partly restored.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> RITTER, Christopher D. *George Orwell* [online].

<sup>17</sup> The Biography.com. *George Orwell* [online].

<sup>18</sup> dtto

<sup>19</sup> CliffsNotes. *Aldous Huxley Biography* [online].

<sup>20</sup> dtto

Then he started to be interested in mysticism and meditation. Some of his books written in this period are absolutely different from his early satires. *The Perennial Philosophy* (1945) is about religious values and ideas, while in *The Doors of Perception* (1954) his experiments with drugs are expressed.<sup>21</sup>

Aldous Huxley died of cancer on November 22, 1963. In this day, a famous writer Clive Staples Lewis died too, but because the President of the United States John F. Kennedy was assassinated on the same day, thus the media paid little attention to the death of Huxley and Lewis.<sup>22</sup>

#### 2.1.4 Yevgeny Zamyatin (1884-1937)

Yevgeny Zamyatin was a Russian writer who was born in Lebedyan, Russia, in 1884. During his studies of naval engineering in Saint Petersburg, Zamyatin joined the Bolshevik movement and in 1905, he witnessed the Battleship Potemkin uprising that led up to the Russian Revolution in 1917. During his Bolshevik activities, he was arrested, imprisoned and exiled back to his hometown. Anyway, he secretly returned to the Saint Petersburg to finish his studies. In this period he started to write his first short stories and novels, such as *A Provincial Tale* (1913).<sup>23</sup>

After finishing his studies, he was a lecturer at the Department of Naval Architecture. Zamyatin wrote a satire on a Russian military *At The World's End* (1914). This satire was condemned by censors and Zamyatin was brought to trial. Although he was acquitted, all copies of the book were destroyed.<sup>24</sup>

Initially, Zamyatin was a Bolshevik but after the October Revolution he opposed the increasing control of art and individualism. His works became gradually more and more satiric and critical. Later he discovered science fiction of H.G. Wells. The works of Wells inspired Zamyatin to write *We* (1924). The novel was banned to be published

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<sup>21</sup> dtto

<sup>22</sup> USBORNE, Simon. *Eclipsed in death: We remember JFK, but what about Aldous Huxley, or CS Lewis?* [online].

<sup>23</sup> CHARNAYA, Maria. *Prominent Russians: Evgeny Zamyatin* [online].

<sup>24</sup> SIMKIN, John. *Yevgeni Zamyatin* [online].



in the Soviet Union but its English translation was published in New York in 1924. The book *We* was published in Russia in 1988.<sup>25</sup>

Publishing of the book abroad had its consequences. All Zamyatin's works were banned. Thus Zamyatin wrote a request to Joseph Stalin to leave the Soviet Union. Stalin gave him permission and Zamyatin moved to Paris in 1931.<sup>26</sup>

Yevgeny Zamyatin died in Paris in 1937.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> CHARNAYA, Maria. *Prominent Russians: Evgeny Zamyatin* [online].

<sup>26</sup> dtto

<sup>27</sup> dtto

### 3 IMPACTS ON AUTHORS

#### 3.1 Impacts on Orwell

*Nineteen Eighty-Four* (further referred to as *NEF*) is George Orwell's last book that was published in 1949. When he was writing the book, he was already suffering from tuberculosis so maybe that is the reason why the topic and atmosphere of the book are so dark and pessimistic. Ronald Carter writes in the introduction of *NEF* in which he says if Orwell had not been so ill in this period, the book might have been more optimistic (*Nineteen Eighty-Four*, viii). The reasons of writing George Orwell summarised in his essay *Why I Write*:

*"Political purpose. — Using the word 'political' in the widest possible sense. Desire to push the world in a certain direction, to alter other peoples' idea of the kind of society that they should strive after. Once again, no book is genuinely free from political bias. The opinion that art should have nothing to do with politics is itself a political attitude."*<sup>28</sup>

Although Orwell's novel is probably the best known dystopia, we can see that there are some borrowed ideas and thoughts. There is a certain similarity to Zamyatin's *We* in his novel. Orwell achieved to deepen and develop Zamyatin's thoughts and theme but the basic and key story was preserved.

As already mentioned above, *NEF* was written in 1949 which is a period after the Second World War. *NEF* can be seen as a criticism of Stalinism. Big Brother and Emmanuel Goldstein are leaders of two opposing forces in Oceania as well as Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky in the Soviet Union. The description of Big Brother corresponds to Stalin: "*It depicted simply an enormous face, more than metre wide: the face of a man of about forty-five, with a heavy black moustache and ruggedly handsome features.*" (*Nineteen Eighty-Four*, 2000, p. 5) and description of Emmanuel Goldstein resembles to Trotsky:

*"It was a lean Jewish face, with a great fuzzy aureole of white hair and a small goatee beard—a clever face, and yet somehow inherently despicable, with a kind of senile silliness in the long thin nose near the end of which a pair of spectacles*

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<sup>28</sup> ORWELL, George. *Why I Write* [online].

*was perched. It resembled the face of a sheep, and the voice, too, had a sheeplike quality"* (Orwell, 2000, p. 14).

The answer for the criticism of Stalinism can be found in Orwell's *Homage to Catalonia* (1938) where he describes his personal experiences in the Spanish Civil War. Orwell was part of the POUM (Partido Obrero de Unificación Marxista = the Workers' Party of Marxist Unification) that fought against Stalin.

George Orwell managed to depict all important attributes of totalitarian power. His novel is a dreadful message to all people who do not realize the dangerous of totalitarianism.

### **3.2 Impacts on Huxley**

Aldous Huxley criticises fascism, communism and capitalism in his work *BNW*. It could be influenced by his stay in Italy. It is also possible to see features of consumerism that can point out consumerism of the United States. It is very important to consume as much as possible because then there is job for everybody and it keep them busy, happy and not thinking. Thinking could lead to contemplation about life, serious relationship and these ideas are not wanted for the World State. Quotes that children were listening during their sleep prove the existence of consumerism: "*Ending is better than mending; ending is better...*" or "*I love new clothes, I love new clothes, I love ...*" (Huxley, 1994, p. 46) Society is divided into one of five castes according to their abilities and roles. People have no choice to decide about their categorization because this is already influenced during fertilization in hatcheries and conditioning centres.

Loss of his mother when he was fourteen obviously influenced his life. In the novel we can see similar situation when Linda dies and John mourns his mother's death. *BNW* was written in 1931 (he had no idea what would cause Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin in following years) and therefore Huxley had no reason to describe cruel terror of society as Orwell did in his novel.

Huxley's vision is similar to the present society. Slogans of consumerism in the novel are: "*I love new clothes, I love new clothes, I love.*", "*Everybody's happy now*" or "*Never put off till to-morrow the fun you can have to-day*" (Huxley, 1994, p. 46, 67, 84) and we can see that nowadays many people live in a similar way as the society in *BNW*. Nowadays, the only meaning of life is mainly job, sex and spending money for goods, food or entertainment.

### **3.3 Impacts on Zamyatin**

The book *We* was completed in 1921 but it was not published in Russia until 1988. The book was published in 1924 in English in the United States, and later in other languages, for example, in Czech or French. Technological education of the author influenced the setting of the book - the main protagonist is a mathematician and builder and Yevgeny Zamyatin describes a rational and technically perfect world. Zamyatin was influenced by H. G. Well's novels.<sup>29</sup> The book *We*, on the contrary, has inspired other writers such as George Orwell or Aldous Huxley.

Zamyatin criticises especially that the individual is a part of society, collectivism; people make use of their potential, "equality" or private property.

Because *We* is a direct criticism of socialist Soviet Union it had its consequences. All Zamyatin's plays were forbidden and the books written by him were confiscated. As a writer Zamyatin could not be active so he asked Stalin to leave the Soviet Union. A friend of Zamyatin, Maxim Gorky, used his influence over Stalin and Zamyatin was allowed to leave the Soviet Union.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> SIMKIN, John. *Yevgeni Zamyatin* [online].

<sup>30</sup> SIMKIN, John. *Yevgeni Zamyatin* [online].

## 4 SIMILAR AND DIFFERENT FEATURES

In the novels, many similar and different features can be found. I have chosen the most important and interesting features that I subsequently compare.

### 4.1 REVOLT AGAINST REGIME

In each novel a character can be found that starts to think about different life and living conditions. Their different thinking and dissatisfaction with their lives cause them troubles because these characters differ from the rest of the population and their behaviour is undesirable according to the government. In each novel, the main character's disloyal, disobedient and rebellious behaviour is punished diversely. *We* and *NEF* deal with the disobedience by an atonement of character while in *BNW*, people are usually exiled on an island. In *We*, the undesirable element is fantasy that is possible to remove surgically. In *NEF*, violence and physical torture is used to break the spirit. Cogitative and contemplative people in the novel *BNW* are not subjected to torture or some "correctional" operation, but they are sent on an island. They can even choose the locality.

#### 4.1.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four

Winston Smith tries to express his individuality and thoughts through writing of a diary. Although there are no laws in Oceania, this acting is illegal and Winston is aware of potential punishment:

*"The thing that he was about to do was to open a diary. This was not illegal (nothing was illegal, since there were no longer any laws), but it detected it was reasonably certain that it would be punished by death, or at least by twenty-five years in a forced-labour camp"* (Orwell, 2000, p. 9).

There can be different understandings of laws in Oceania. Many readers usually tend to think that if there are no laws and nothing is illegal, then there cannot be committed a crime that could be punished. Orwell's opinion is apparently different because it seems that anything can be a crime in this case.

As the time goes, Winston feels dissatisfaction and thinks about more expressive action against the authority. This thinking leads to deliberate skipping of the evening at the Community Centre. Another significant feature of individuality is a purchase of a paperweight, thinking about hiring of a room in a junk-shop or his secret relationship with Julia.

There is a difference that partly separates Winston and Julia. It is their attitude to the Party and the revolution. While Winston's approach considers also future generations, Julia is more selfish and she wants to satisfy only her needs. Julia is realistic and she knows the Party better than Winston who acts mainly emotionally. She thinks that his wishes about the revolution are merely fantasy and that is why Julia is so apathetic to the Brotherhood. The most important form of rebellion is not sex or a physical attraction between Winston and Julia but their mutual feelings and falling in love.

Winston's rebellion is rounded off by "cooperation" with O'Brien, who is a double agent. A few days later Winston and Julia are caught and tortured at the Ministry of Love not to plead guilty and then be executed. The Party requires their complete humiliation and change of thinking. The Party wants them to honestly love Big Brother and trust him implicitly.

Julia means a lot for Winston. When he is with her, he has a hope, he feels loved, individual, safe and happy which is not desirable for the Party. By betraying Julia, he betrays everything he believes in. He also loses his will and freedom.

#### **4.1.2 Brave New World**

Huxley's Bernard Marx is "different" because of a genetic mistake, whereas revolution is for some unknown reason attractive for Zamyatin's hero D-503 and Orwell's Winston Smith. At the beginning of the novel it looks like that Bernard Marx is the main character until the first meeting with John. John is a unique human being owing to natural childbirth in a savage reservation. He represents the most important and most complicated character in the novel.

Bernard wants to be an individual but he is not strong and courageous enough. In comparison with John, Bernard is not so interesting despite his loneliness and incomprehension. Bernard's behaviour changes at the moment of gaining fame when he arrives with John. Since that moment he is arrogant and prideful. Until then he despised the society and was interested in a human individuality and emotions. Because of these qualities he could empathize and understand John's feelings in the village. However, when he becomes popular and he is accepted by the society, Bernard enjoys all advantages and forgets all hatred and enmity against society.

John, on the other hand, is disillusioned by "the new world" that is absolutely strange to him. He does not admire the technology or science. John prefers holding tight to Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*, and various myths. His mother Linda and Shakespeare's literature are the only sources of information about the world outside the village. Since Linda is under the influence of the drug soma, John can rely only on Shakespeare's work which is a little bit ironic because in Shakespeare's plays all kinds of emotions and feelings are found and in "the new world" all these feelings are destroyed by the society. This situation leads to misunderstandings between John and the society because John is trying to develop his emotions while the rest of population clamp the lid hard on their feelings.

Bernard's rebellion lies in refusing of soma, he prefers to be alone to the company of other people and he brings Linda and John to the Director who lost his post because of this revelation. In the end, Bernard and his friend Helmholtz Watson are sent on an island to be in a company of people who have the same or similar opinion as they do.

#### **4.1.3 We**

In *We*, the main protagonist D-503 is a decent citizen of the United State. At the beginning of the novel, he thinks that the United State is a perfect country for living. Despite strong belief and against his will is more and more interested in revolution. His analytical thinking, aptitude and talent defend against "wrong thoughts" but in the end he refuses to be another identical cell and he wants to be an independent "gram". He is

fascinated by I-330 that he, first of all, despises but she attracts him at the same time. Genetic code (his hairy arms) also helps to liberation of D-503. By reason of I-330, D-503's opened his heart and is convinced to rebel against the United State.

D-503 rebels against the authority by his relationship and feelings for I-330 and a hijack of the Integral but their plan is thwarted. D-503 has doubts about his feelings for I-330 all the time. A reader can watch his inner fights between love for I-330 and loyalty to the state. In conclusion of the novel, D-503 talks to the Well-Doer who claims that D-503 was only used by I-330. In the end, D-503 comes to the conclusion that he is ill because of the feelings and it is necessary to undergo the surgery during that his fantasy is removed.

D-503 and I-330 are not the only "Numbers" who rebel against the authority. O-90 rises up against the authority due to her wish to have a baby which is forbidden. Lastly, she is pregnant thanks to D-503 who also arranges her transport beyond the Green Wall.

There is an essential difference between the approaches of these novels. Endings of all three works contain a conversation between the main character and the leader (or his deputy) of the state (Winston and O'Brien, John and Mustapha Mond, D-503 and the Well-Doer). The difference is that in *NEF* is used a violence to change people's mind, thinking and spirit while in *We* the main character reaches this conclusion without violent help. In *BNW* the conversation leads to the sad fact that art is laid down for happiness.

The rebellion and unwelcomed people are punished diversely in the novels. In *NEF* it ends by death, in *BNW* the punishment is an exile and in *We* people are transformed to be machines.

## **4.2 TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCE**

### **4.2.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four**

In Orwell's work, science strictly speaking does not exist. Science is replaced by a military-political force. Contemporary situation in Oceania is woeful and poor in



comparison with the year 1914 when everybody expected a great future. The science and technology were supposed to be developed but it did not happen because of the wars. Scientific and technical development was dependent on empirical habit of thought that could not be developed in this society. Technical convenience is used only in the Party's favour. Thus only machines connected with espionage and wars are devised and made.

Many inventions such as a *telescreen*, a *microphone*, a *speackwrite*, a *memory hole*, a *versificator*, a *novel-writing machines* or *helicopters* are made for spying on people. The *speackwrite* is a technological machine that transcribes any spoken speech into typed words. The *memory hole's* function is to destroy all inappropriate and inconvenient documents or photographs that are connected with the past or an *unperson*. *Unperson* is a person that was *vaporized* (more mentioned bellow). The *versificator* is an instrument that creates songs. These songs usually have no deep meaning.

If invented machines would worked instead of people, all people would be equal and without any social difference. People without education would attend school and start to think which is undesirable for reigning minority because a hierarchical society can work in the long run only if the minority of citizens is poor and unconscious. The state wants to bash out products but it refuses to people got rich on it so it was necessary to be permanently at war because for this system it is important to spend and use all made products and not to increase standard of living at the same time.

#### **4.2.2 Brave New World**

Peter Bowering in his book *Aldous Huxley: a Study of the Major Novels* compares Wells, Huxley and their attitude to the technological progress:

*"All the elements of control exercised by the Wellsian world-state are to be found in Brave New World, but whereas Wells sees technological progress leading to a new millennium-a race of athletic chemists and mathematical physicists, Huxley envisages the birth of a scientific dictatorship in which the last traces of individuality have been ruthlessly stamped out"* (Bowering, 1968, p. 98).

In Huxley's *BNW*, science is vigilantly watched freak of brilliance that is condemned to exile and isolation. Every scientific discovery leads to certain changes and changes usually lead to a danger of stability:

*Yes", Mustapha Mond was saying, "that's another item in the cost of stability. It isn't only art that's incompatible with happiness; it's also science. Science is dangerous; we have to keep it most carefully chained and muzzled"* (Huxley, 1994, p. 205).

Anyway, level of science and technology is very high. Everything is controlled by technology since the day people are born till the day they die. Technology affects people before their birth, their appearance and even a social class.

This society is brought up to love new technology and using of the most modern conveniences. In the novel, we can see the consequences of excessive relying on technology and its inventions during lifetime. These inventions help people to forget all bad or sad experiences and keep them busy to not think about the controlling regime.

People are not able to live without soma that helps them to "escape" from the reality. Using of this drug helps to lose their control over their mind. People are used to take the drug every time when they slid into a depression. Thanks to soma, people are contented because after using of the drug, they fall asleep and have beautiful dreams about their happy life.

Another scientific miracle is *hypnopedia* which includes learning during children's sleep. This method uses human subconscious when various pieces of information are played every night to children and they unwittingly memorize it. In their adulthood, they recall these sentences and use them without thinking. There is also one very useful invention that helps people to look younger. Thus this civilization does not know any old people.

The most significant invention is connected with the birth control and *Bokanovsky's Process*. Every person is born in a test tube because children in the World State are not reproduced in the traditional way (through sex) anymore. Thanks to Bokanovsky's Process, an egg is able to create ninety-six embryos. This process is

considered to be the major instrument of social stability. Also vocabulary linked with reproduction is changed. People are not "born" but they are "*decanted*". All high-caste women wear the *Malthusian belt* where is carried their contraception.

God is replaced by Henry Ford and the True Cross became a deformed T.

*"Ford is the perfect "god" for World State society because in developing his Ford Motor Company, he invented mass production by means of the assembly line and the specialization of workers, each of whom has one single and specific job. The World State takes Ford's ideas about mass production and the assembly line and applies them to biology—to people."*<sup>31</sup>

Some of Huxley's inventions in the novel, that was written in 1931, were later truly invented. For example, the *Malthusian belts* are used to prevent pregnancy. The first birth control pills were invented by a chemist Carl Djerassi from Mexico City in 1951 but the pills for their contraceptive use were approved only in 1960.<sup>32</sup> Other invention is an artificial fertilization. In 1978, the first baby was born via the artificial fertilization in England.<sup>33</sup>

#### 4.2.3 We

The point of Zamyatin's novel is a collective erasure of fantasy. This fantasy is a key to the heart of science so this is the reason why fantasy is needed to be removed.

The technology and science is not as much developed as in other novels but totalitarian state finds other ways how to control people. The *Tables of Hours* regulate all daily routine such as job, leisure time, eating, sleeping or sex. Safety is guaranteed by the Guardians - the Thought Police in *NEF* has the same function. All buildings are made of glass because no "Number" is entitled to have any privacy and there is nothing to hide from others. Only one exception exists that allows using curtains. This exception is connected with the sexual days. To control people, Orwell invented the *telescreen* that receives everything such as a camera and broadcasts live at the same time. In *We*,

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<sup>31</sup> LitCharts. *Brave New World: Symbols* [online].

<sup>32</sup> NIKOLCHEV, A. *A brief history of the birth control pill* [online].

<sup>33</sup> History. *World's First Test Tube Baby Born* [online].

people have petroleum food instead of normal meals. In case of death penalty, people are executed by a *Gas Chamber*. People use an *aero* to transport. The *aero* is a kind of a plane.

In all three novels, we can see that science that could serve to develop human thinking, is considered to be a threat to totalitarian states and this is the reason why science should be suppressed. Technology and science are mainly used for control of people and a reduction of their thinking and freedom.

### 4.3 HUMAN LAWS AND FREEDOM

Cambridge Dictionaries Online defines freedom as "*the condition or right of being able or allowed to do, say, think, etc. whatever you want to, without being controlled or limited.*"<sup>34</sup> In all three novels we can see that freedom is either overborne by the political system or people willingly give up their freedom for fun.

Control of society in *NEF* and *We* is direct and omnipresent. In *BNW*, society is controlled indirectly but there are as well dangerous methods as in other novels. Methods in *BNW* concerns genetic manipulation, conditioning and constant need of excessive consumption. All people are convinced that they are happy and happy people usually do not rebel against the authority.

#### 4.3.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four

As already mentioned above, there are no laws in Oceania.

The essentials of every totalitarian power is controlling people. In *NEF* is controlling people so perfect that through their minds is the reality made up. Tools for this supremacy over freedom and human rights are *doublethink*, *newspeak* and *vaporization*. The meaning of *doublethink* is explained in the Book by the Brotherhood:

*"The key-word is blackwhite. Like so many Newspeak words, this word has two mutually contradictory meanings. Applied to an opponent, it means the habit of*

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<sup>34</sup> Cambridge Dictionaries Online. *Freedom* [online].

*impudently claiming that black is white, in contradiction of the plain facts. Applied to a Party member, it means a loyal willingness to say that black is white when Party discipline demands this. But it means also the ability to believe that black is white, and more, to know that black is white, and to forget that one has ever believed the contrary. This demands a continuous alteration of the past, made possible by the system of thought which really embraces all the rest, and which is known in Newspeak as doublethink" (Orwell, 2000, p. 191-192).*

*Doublethink* summarily means that people are able to hold two opposite opinions at the same time and express the only one which is at the moment required by the Party. *Newspeak* is the official language of Oceania. Words are removed and destroyed because the aim of Newspeak is to prevent independent thinking and potential rebellions. According to the Party, reduction of the words leads to the reduction of thinking. The last important tool of the totalitarian state is *vaporization*. It is applied to people who are executed by the state and all records about them, their actions and activities are erased. After *vaporization*, a person becomes an *unperson*.

#### **4.3.2 Brave New World**

Society of the World State is willing to sacrifice important values such as love, family, religion or art for a happy and contented life. A savage, who accepts old-fashioned values, tries to familiarize with this new and modern world.

Lenina thinks that she is free thanks to the option to have "*the most wonderful time*" (Huxley, 1994, p. 81) but Bernard disagrees with her because he feels it differently.

*"Don't you wish, you were free, Lenina?"*

*"I don't know what you mean. I am free. Free to have the most wonderful time. Everybody's happy nowadays."*

*He laughed, "Yes, 'Everybody's happy nowadays.' We begin giving the children that at five. But wouldn't you like to be free to be happy in some other way,*

*Lenina? In your own way, for example; not in everybody else's way" "*  
(Huxley, 1994, p. 81-82).

He wants to find happiness that differs from the opinions of the society and he wants to feel real emotions. As this thinking is undesirable due to its attempt to disrupt the stability within the community, Bernard is reprimanded and threaten with transference to a Sub-Centre in Iceland. Anyway, Bernard does not feel endangered and he is even proud that he is not the same as the rest of society. Bernard's position is significantly changed thanks to John who was driven by Bernard to the United State. As John's guardian, Bernard becomes popular which changes his behaviour.

#### **4.3.3 We**

In *We*, the society is willingly and happily not free. People in the United State wonder at early civilization because they consider their reasonable state to be perfect. They cannot imagine their life without being one unit. D-503 says about human laws:

*"Even the ancients (the most mature of them) knew that the source of right was-might! Right is a function of might. Here we have our scale: on the one side an ounce, on the other a ton. On one side "I", on the other "we", the United State. Is it not clear? To assume that I may have any "right" as far as the State is concerned is like assuming that an ounce may equilibrate a ton in a scale! Hence the natural distribution: tons-rights, grams-duties. And the natural road from nothingness to greatness is to forget that one is a gram and to feel that one is one of millionth of a ton!"* (Zamiatin, 1952, p. 109)

This passage says that any human being is not important on his own. Provided that a man is one millionth of a ton is considered as a member of society. If a man is one million of a ton, he/she lives only to do his/her duties for the state. A gram for some reason do not carry out its duties and for this reason it is considered to be an enemy of the state. In this moment individuality of a person is ripped off. If a person recognise that his/her personality is stronger and stronger, first of all, he/she attempts to destroy it on his own because his rationality defend the ton as something more than his/her own personality is:

*"I used autosuggestion: "At night all the Numbers must sleep; sleeping at night is a duty just like working during the day. To sleep at night is necessary for the next day's work. Not to sleep at night is criminal." Yet I could not sleep - I could not. I was perishing! I was unable to fulfill my duties to the United State!"* (Zamiatin, 1952; p. 55-56)

As the society is united, it is expected that the winner of elections will be unanimously elected because the meaning of elections is primarily symbolic because the Numbers remind them of the importance of the uniformity. Although some rebels vote against the Well-Doer, their votes are not counted:

*"The same Well-Doer who so often has proved his unshakable wisdom was unanimously re-elected for the forty-eight time. The celebration was clouded by a little confusion, created by the enemies of happiness, who by their action naturally lost the right to be the bricks for the foundation of the renovated United State. It is clear to everyone that to take their votes into account would mean to consider as a part of a magnificent heroic symphony the accidental cough of a sick person who happened to be in the concert hall"* (Zamiatin, 1952, p. 138-139).

## **4.4 SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS**

### **4.4.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four**

Having a romantic relationship or sharing any feelings is strictly forbidden in *NEF*. Orwell's hero Winston Smith thinks that libido is the main power that can destroy the Party. Sexual act is considered as a revolt against the authority. The main hero Winston Smith is in a relationship with Julia but their intimate connection has to be secret because it is illegal: *"The sexual act, successfully performed, was rebellion. Desire was thoughtcrime"* (Orwell, 2000, p. 63). Winston Smith is aware of the consequences but he remains in the relationship. This is his way of rebellion against the authority.

Libido is out of control the Party and the Party wants to rule the roost. Besides, sexual abstinence leads to the desirable hysteria that is possible to zero in on war fever and worship the leader. Libido is extremely dangerous for the Party and that is why the Party uses libido in its favour. Prostitution is endured because it prevents from deviation and consequent instability. The fear of libido results in the existence of an institution as the Junior Anti-Sex League. The last step is an attempt of the Party to eliminate sexual pleasure which reflects off the way of marriage. People need a permission to marry a person. An absence of physical attraction is necessary for getting of this permission.

Concerning sexual and romantic relationships, the proles are allowed to be in a relationship and enjoy sexual life because they do not need to keep any anger or hysteria for the politics. The Party even publish a pornography for the proles anyway for the members of the Party it is strictly forbidden.

#### **4.4.2 Brave New World**

In *BNW*, sexual promiscuity is presented. After all, the keynote of the novel is "*Every one belongs to every one else*" (Huxley, 1994, p. 35). Society prefers short-term relationships without feelings. Long-term relationships are considered as unwelcome and odd. Sexual promiscuity is related to family life because there is none in the novel. There is no need to forbid family life because it is already given by approach of people. Vocabulary connected with family life became a taboo. People turn red and feel ashamed when they hear the word "mother".

Sexual behaviour is already formed since the early childhood. Due to this "education", children are not shy and they take sex as a natural thing. Sex is for adults a form of fun and release but reproduction. There is no connection between sex and love or other deep feelings. Couple activities were replaced by group ones.

Each person acts as an independent unit and their life consists of job, fun and dates. There is almost no space for development of friendships. Bernard Marx, Lenina Crowne and John are a little bit special in comparison with other members of the society.



At the beginning of the story, Bernard Marx hates promiscuity and he does not like when men talk about women as "a bit of meat". Later he enjoys promiscuity when he is famous and popular.

Lenina's character seems to be very attractive and outstanding. She rebels against her own culture stereotype - promiscuity by a several months long relationship with the same man, she likes Bernard although he is not a perfect man, then she falls in love with John and thanks to John, Lenina discovers deep feelings hidden in her. Despite these circumstances, she is not able to share Bernard's thoughts and dissatisfaction with the society or be able to understand to John's feelings and his system of values that differs from hers. John is inspired by Shakespeare, thus he prefers "old-fashioned" way of love. He wants to win Lenina's love and marry her. When Lenina tries to seduce John (which is absolutely normal according to her) which makes him angry and he calls her a whore.

John and Lenina could be happy together but their different ways of upbringing make this impossible.

#### **4.4.3 We**

In the novel *We*, sex and relationships have the similar position as in *BNW*. Each Number can have sex with anybody because of the historic law *Lex Sexualis*: "A Number may obtain a license to use any other Number as a sexual product" (Zamiatin, 1952, p. 22). The aim of this law is to subjugate love because rationality is stronger than instincts.

At the beginning of the novel, there is a sexual triangle between D-503, O-90 and R-13. Then D-503 meets I-330. First of all, he hates I-330 but then he falls in love with her. During their relationship, he has ceaselessly doubts about his feelings. Eventually, I-330 replaces O-90 who decides to not to stay in their way. I-330 tests D-503's loyalty to her and she promises to reveal everything about the conspiracy against the state. During the elections, I-330 is among a group of rebels who vote against the Well-Doer. Then she brings D-503 beyond the Green Wall where she announces that D-503 is going to help them to hijack the Integral. In the meantime,

there is a new option to undergo the Great Operation that removes fantasy and love to be a perfect and happy Number. D-503 is excited about the operation and he shares his opinion with I-330 who immediately wants to go away but D-503 stops her because he realizes that he cannot and does not want to live without her because he would be unhappy. Their plans of hijack are thwarted and D-503 is forced to go to the Well-Doer. The Well-Doer reveals that I-330 only used D-503 for her own purposes. D-503 undergoes the Great Operation and then he watches torturing and finally death of I-330.

Somebody claims that I-330 only used D-503 because he is the builder of the Integral but someone believes that he loves him and all these happenings are just a coincidence.

## **4.5 CHILDREN AND FUTURE POPULATION**

Relationships and family life are closely connected. Children and future population is a serious topic in all three books. The function of family is practically destroyed and substituted for love and admiration to the political system. In all chosen novels, the human reproduction is strictly controlled.

### **4.5.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four**

In *NEF*, family formally exists but its only aim is having children. A man and a woman get married they have children and live an ordinary life. All female members of the Party are self-restrained and they have sex only for having a baby. They call it "duty to the Party".

Children are raised to be loyal to the Party and to spy on parents or friends. In fact, it is a constant brainwashing that starts already in childhood. In *NEF*, children become the Spies which is a youth organization that run by the Party. We can find striking resemblance with Hitler Youth. Children were trained for fighting and they were pushed closer to the Party. Orwell describes the Spies as destroyers of family. Parents were afraid of their children because they were spying all the time and could

hear every their word. Parsons, the neighbour of Winston, was arrested for *thoughtcrime* because of his children.

Rising of children by the Party leads to an unquestioning obedience to the political system. They do not think and watch other people secretly.

Difference of upbringing is possible to see in Julia's and Winston's attitude to the Party. Julia is young and she is raised to follow the Party. She seems to be much more immune than Winston and she claims that if you follow the important rules, you can break the little ones. She adapts to these circumstances and political system without thinking. Winston, on the other hand, is scared of just skipping the evening in the Community Centre because he is considered to be an obedient member of the Party. He still remembers his family - mother and sister.

#### **4.5.2 Brave New World**

In Huxley's novel, there is no family or family life. Family is as objectionable and unacceptable as long-term relationships. The civilization in the novel is so advanced that children are not born but *decanted*. Children are produced by *Bokanovsky's Process* that has been already described in the subchapter 4.2 Technology and Applied Science. Children are educated through *hypnopedia* and electro shock therapy. *Hypnopedia* teaches to believe that the value of society is more important than value of the individual.

Humans are divided into five castes: Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta and Epsilon. Alphas are the leading class so they are intelligent and tall while Epsilons are on the bottom, thus they are small and not that smart. Each caste is shaped to live in specific conditions and react to various impetuses:

*"Alpha children wear grey. They work much harder than we do, because they're so frightfully clever. I'm really awfully glad I'm Beta, because I don't work so hard. And then we are much better than the Gammas and Deltas. Gammas are stupid. They all wear green, and Delta children wear khaki. Oh*

*no, I don't want to play with Delta children. And Epsilons are still worse. They're too stupid to be able..."* (Huxley, 1994, p. 24)

It is based on a requirement of the World State because the state determines how each caste is going to live (work, spend money on new things, enjoy socialization, use lots of transportations, engage in soma and sex), what they are going like or dislike. Then people from given caste enjoy living in their conditions - because they have been set to prefer these conditions and thanks to this process everybody is "happy" and contented. Thanks to this "education", the World State can form people who have needed qualities, features and attitudes. The division into the castes depends on a quantity of added alcohol while they are in the test tube.

*"There is only safety if any individual consciousness worth speaking of has been eliminated. So in Aldous Huxley's Brave New World the future Utopian citizen is pre-natally and post-natally conditioned and completely fitted to the function which he will have to fulfil in later life. He is so conditioned that he will feel happy in this future role, and would be unhappy if any other kind of occupation and life were assigned to him"* (Gerber, p. 71).

It also forms sexual and reproductive habits that lead to various erotic games in the Hatcheries and Conditioning centre. This behaviour in childhood results in a belief that *"every one belongs to every one else"* (Huxley, 1994, p. 35).

Despite all these circumstances, there is a family compound of John and Linda. Linda becomes a mother when she is lost in the reservation in New Mexico. Although it is against her conviction, she takes care of a baby. The family life in the reservation is close to our life. John during growing up accepts customs of the people in the reservation. Linda tries to hold her old habits that are connected especially with sex. Men in the reservation have no problem with Linda's behaviour but their wives hold a different opinion. Linda is also unhappy about repairing of broken things because it is not natural for her.

### 4.5.3 We

In the novel *We*, giving birth is a crime. Children are bred in the factories and there are certain rules about breeding children. In the United State there are public lessons that deal with breeding children in particular auditoriums. Children are public property and parental feelings were superseded by Maternal and Paternal norms that reduce emotions.

There are no families, couples or husbands. People live separated and alone. Zamyatin did not write about children in detail in comparison with Huxley who explained the whole process of fertilization very explicitly in his novel.

## 4.6 FEMALE ROLES IN THE NOVELS

### 4.6.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four

Generally speaking, women in this novel are mostly portrayed as weak, useless and reproductive creatures, but it is necessary to point out that men are not in a stronger position than women. In fact, all strong people have been *vaporized*.

Winston's first wife Katharine seems to be a perfect woman, according the Party's requirements. She wanted to have sex only to get pregnant, but they did not succeed. According to Winston, she is not too intelligent. Basically, they are still married, but they have not seen each other for years.

Winston's mother appears only in his dreams and memories. She reminds him not only relatively safe and better days before the Party started to strictly govern but also guilt feelings. He remembers that he used to be very selfish and wanted mother's and his little sister's ration of food. Although his mother was hungry, she sacrificed for him and shared her ration with him. Winston also thinks that he is responsible for her and his sister's death.

Another weak and diffident woman is Mrs. Parsons, Winston's neighbour. Although she is about thirty years old, she looks much older. She grew old because of the fear of her children.

Winston's girlfriend Julia does not look like a weak woman, on the contrary, she seems to be strong, independent and confident. She constantly breaks the rules which she justifies: "If you kept the small rules, you could break the ones" (Orwell, 2000, p. 118). Julia had her first sex when she was sixteen years old and since then she has had many lovers. Winston do not judge her because of this, he even likes it and admire Julia for her courage. Julia's character is tested after capturing, during a cruel torture and interrogation. According to O'Brien, she betrayed Winston very quickly. After a transformation into a fan of Big Brother, Julia meets Winston and tells him about her betrayal:

*"Sometimes," she said, "they threaten you with something you can't stand up to, can't even think about. And then you say, "Don't do it to me, do it to somebody else, do it to So-and-so." And perhaps you might pretend, afterwards, that it was only a trick and that you just said it to make them stop and didn't really mean it. But that isn't true. At the time when it happens you do mean it. You think there's no other way of saving yourself, and you're quite ready to save yourself that way. You want it to happen to the other person. You don't give a damn what they suffer. All you care about is yourself" "* (Orwell, 2000, p. 263-264).

Julia is broken as well as Winston.

#### **4.6.2 Brave New World**

A female role and function in Huxley's novel is degraded even more that in Orwell's *NEF*. In *BNW*, there is obvious men's domination over women. Only men hold high office. All students at the Hatchery are men. The only equality is apparently only in sexual behaviour. Huxley also deprived most of women to be a mother. Women are either sterilized or they have to deal with the *Malthusian Belt*. For the use of reproduction, eggs of these women, who wear the *Malthusian Belt*, are used. However, men are not sterilized.

This situation is similar to the present because nowadays, there are many products for women to control and influence their potential and unwanted pregnancy

but selection of male contraception is restricted. Women can use birth control pills, vaginal ring, diaphragm, IUD (= intrauterine device), patch, female condom, implant, sterilization or emergency contraception and many others. Men, on the other hand, do not have such possibilities. Men usually use male condom or they undergo a vasectomy. There are, of course, other ways how to prevent an unwanted pregnancy but my purpose is to show that there are many products predominantly for women which is limiting. The only difference between the world of the World State and "our" world is that in *BNW*, women have no choice of whether or not to take it. It seems that the female role in *BNW* is to be a counterpart to the male characters and have sex with them.

Most of men find Lenina for some reason very attractive. Huxley uses the word "pneumatic" as an explanation of certain attractiveness. This word has two lexical meanings: something "*is filled with air*"<sup>35</sup> or regarding a woman "*having a body with full, pleasing curves*".<sup>36</sup> It is interesting that not only women are pneumatic in the novel. There are also the pneumatic sofas or arm-chairs. It is a little bit odd and disrespectful to describe the beauty of a woman by the same adjective as the furniture. This word can be also seen from the different point of view; we are interested in the first meaning and definition of the word more specifically mentioned above. If somebody or something is "filled with air" this person or thing can be considered as vapid and empty.

Lenina seems to be a little bit special than other female characters because she does not mind long-term relationships. Although she is interested in John, it is obvious that she likes his body which readers can notice during their first meeting: "*Lenina was smiling at him; such a nice-looking boy, she was thinking, and a really beautiful body*" (Huxley, 1994, p. 105). All, she can think about, is sex. At the end of the novel there is a certain progress in her emotions:

*"The young woman pressed both hands to her left side, and on that peach-bright, doll-beautiful face of hers appeared a strangely incongruous expression of yearning distress. Her blue eyes seemed to grow larger, brighter; and suddenly two tears rolled down her cheeks. Inaudibly, she spoke again; then,*

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<sup>35</sup> Merriam-Webster. *Dictionary - pneumatic* [online].

<sup>36</sup> dtto

*with a quick, impassioned gesture, stretched out her arms towards the Savage, stepped forward"* (Huxley, 1994, p. 235).

On left side of the body (let's assume it is chest) people usually have heart but we cannot be sure where exactly Lenina press her hands. Anyway, she cries. The only person who has shown his emotion and cried too is John. Lenina shows us her emotions and there is a hope that she really cares about John.

John's mother Linda is an unhappy person. She is forced to live in an absolutely different world which makes her troubles, for instance, her promiscuity that is not tolerated in that world, she is forced to repair some old and broken things or the care about her son John. All these problems are caused by her conditioning and that is why she is not able to act and function as a normal human being. Her maternal instincts makes her to take care of John but after the arrival to the World State it seems that her soma addiction is much stronger than love for her son.

#### **4.6.3 We**

Female role is very important in this novel although there are only two female characters in the novel *We* - O-90 and I-330. Both of them direct D-503 away from rationality.

O-90 has sex with D-503 and his friend R-13. People do not have any emotions such as jealousy, anger or love. These rules are very similar to the novel *BNW* where promiscuity is presented. Anyway, O-90 is not so important for D-503. Much more important is I-330 who opens his mind and changes his life. Her views are opposite to the State's ideology and she introduces D-503 with other revolutionaries. He falls in love with her but she only uses him to hijack the Integral. Because D-503 is already a criminal, O-90 asks him to conceive a child.

I-330 is executed for her disloyalty but she does not give up her beliefs.



## 4.7 HISTORY AND ITS RECORDS

### 4.7.1 Nineteen-Eighty Four

The past is constantly changed in this novel. The main slogan is: "*Who controls the past, controls the future: who controls the present controls the past*" (Orwell, 2000, p. 34). Important is the present, what is true now it is true from everlasting to everlasting. It is necessary to cooperate with your own memory and forget whatever happened in the past and somehow it differs from now. Winston Smith understands how history is changed because he works in the Ministry of Truth where he rewrite and falsify history, but he does not understand why history needs to be changed. In Oceania there is no place where people can go and check out some facts and get the answers.

Also the origin of Big Brother is not clear and it is impossible to find out the truth:

*"He (Winston Smith) tried to remember in what year he had first heard mention of Big Brother. He thought it must have been at some time in the sixties, but it was impossible to be certain. In the Party histories, of course, Big Brother figured as the leader and guardian of the Revolution since its very earliest days. His exploits had been gradually pushed backwards in time until already they extended into the fabulous world of the forties and the thirties, when the capitalists in their strange cylindrical hats still rode through the streets of London in great gleaming motor-cars or horse carriages with glass sides. There was no knowing how much of this legend was true and how much invented"* (Orwell, 2000, p. 35).

All "not true" records about the past are replaced by new and "true" pieces of information. Control of history is necessary for protection of the Party's infallibility because according to their system, change of mind leads to exposure of weakness.

Members of the Party and the proles tolerate these conditions because they have no comparison with history or other countries. For that reason people think that their living conditions are higher than it used to be in the previous decades.

This motto gives a true picture of this whole passage and the novel: "*The past was erased, the erasure was forgotten, the lie became truth*" (Orwell, 2000, p. 69).

#### **4.7.2 Brave New World**

The plot is set in the future. In *BNW*, there is the past ignored because it has no relevance to the present or future time. Thus we can this subchapter sum up into the sentence from the novel: "*History is bunk*" (Huxley, 1994, p. 30). People do not study history or science because it is not necessary. They need to have knowledge only of their job. Further education is absolutely useless because it leads to connecting of knowledge and the process of thinking which is inadmissible. Besides, people are conditioned to dislike the history, arts or literature. An interesting fact is that Mustapha Mond has all historical literature, such as Shakespeare in his library. It means that they want to remember something about the past because there is no other reason for keeping of these books if they want to forget the past completely.

There are also some connections with our history and traditions. We can see that Huxley uses Shakespeare's plays, he shows a living in the Savage Reservation or character's names involve names of famous politicians or inventors.

#### **4.7.3 We**

This novel is a futuristic work. Our present is taken as the remote past. People know the history and they do not understand how our contemporary society could live in such conditions. They consider our society as stupid, silly and naive because we are mostly influenced by our emotions and feelings, whereas their world is controlled by analytical thinking without any feelings or sentiment. They found their world as a perfect one.

### **4.8 DIFFERENT WORLD**

Each novel contains certain "different" world that differs in its way of life. Usually it is the world that is connected with the past and it is familiar with our world.

In *NEF* it is life of the proles, in *BNW* there are various reservations and in *We*, an area and life beyond the Green Wall are shown. The main characters usually long for these worlds.

#### **4.8.1 Nineteen Eighty-Four**

The proles comprise about 80% of the population in Oceania. Anyway, they are not so important for the Party but Winston thinks that "*If there is hope, it lies in the proles*" (Orwell, 2000, p. 64). The only problem is that the proles are not interested in the state policy. Winston sees that the proles has kept all kinds of emotions such as love or friendship. Children do not spy on their parents and they are a family.

The different world is presented through a little room above Mr. Charrington's shop. This room is Winston's and Julia's refuge. There is ancient furniture in the room which refers to the history.

#### **4.8.2 Brave New World**

A connection between the new and old worlds are various reservations in *BNW*. In these places, laws of earlier times are kept. People in these reservations are not conditioned and they live similar life as we do nowadays. They get married and have children. These people do not use any of technological or scientific developments or equipments that are abundantly used in the World State.

Life in the reservations is inadmissible for the contemporary society. The reservation's function is to entertain, it also serves as a research institute and deterrent example. Modern people, who visit these reservations, usually come back and have a dislike for this way of life. Thanks to the reservation, people can see life before technological developments, life without soma, feelies or other manipulating ways that prevent to think about the regime.

In the novel, many references to the Bible and plays by William Shakespeare can be found. Unfortunately, people are conditioned to hate any literature, art or beauty.

### **4.8.3 We**

In *We*, a historical life is demonstrated through the Ancient House and the Green Wall where nobody stepped since the Two Hundred Years' War. Beyond the Green Wall, there are hidden people who survived the war and the area beyond the Wall is considered to be a refuge for rebels. The Green Wall is a barrier between a wild irrationality and a logical analysis.

At the end of the novel, the Green Wall is destroyed.

## **4.9 CHARACTER'S NAMES**

All suggestions and connections that are made between characters and various historical figures are speculative. In some cases we can be more sure than in other ones.

### **4.9.1 Nineteen Eighty-Four**

The first name of the main protagonist Winston Smith is probably derived from Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister during the Second World War. Smith, on the other hand, is very common surname.

It is obvious that the name Julia refers to Juliet from the play *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare. Maybe it is because of the love connection between the main protagonists and their fight against the authority.

### **4.9.2 Brave New World**

Surname of Bernard Marx is obviously related to Karl Marx who is considered to be the "father of Communism". Name Bernard can be connected with a writer George Bernard Shaw.<sup>37</sup>

Lenina Crowne - her surname Crowne comes from John Crowne who was a dramatic in the 17th century who wrote about romantic love. This connection between

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<sup>37</sup> shmoop. *Character Analysis* [online].

Lenina and John Crowne can be a little bit ironic due to Lenina's attitude to love.<sup>38</sup> Her name is probably derived from Vladimir Lenin, a communist leader in Russia.

The web site Shmoop explains John's name as: "*John the Baptist is the biblical figure who baptized Jesus Christ*".<sup>39</sup>

Name of Mustapha Mond could be inspired by the President of Turkey Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. The last name Mond could be a French word that means "world", or a British politician Alfred Mond.<sup>40</sup>

#### 4.9.3 We

As the time goes, the individuality of people in the United State is completely destroyed and people use numbers instead of names. Women have "names" that start with a vowel, men's names start with a consonant. The only exception is the leader of the state whose name is the Well-Doer.

It is obvious that Zamyatin reflects some characteristic physical features of characters in their name - letter. D-503 describes O-90 as: "*She seemed strangely and perfectly rounded. Her arms and breast, her whole body, so familiar to me, was rounded out, stretching her unif*" (Zamiatin, 1952, p. 158).

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<sup>38</sup> enotes. *John Crowne* [online].

<sup>39</sup> dttto

<sup>40</sup> shmoop. *Character Analysis* [online].

## 5 NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR vs WE

As I have already mentioned in the chapter 3.1 Impacts on Orwell, Orwell's inspiration originates from Zamyatin's novel *We*. The main character in both books is a man who lives in the totalitarian state. Name of Zamyatin's country is the United State and its leader is the Well-Doer. Orwell's story is set in Oceania that is headed by Big Brother. In both states there is a perfect system that is led by the only party and any disagreement is punished. Zamyatin put the elements of the political system and Orwell wrote it in detail. In both states there is a secret anti-government organization and both main protagonists become their members. The only difference is that Mephi in *We* is real while the Brotherhood in *NEF* is probably only fictional and its function is to reveal any *thoughtcrime*.

The difference is also in attitude of the main protagonists. While Zamyatin's main hero D-503 is happy and enthusiastic about running of the United State, Orwell's Winston Smith realizes the lies and superficiality. Both main heroes decide to write their life and experiences down.

Life of both main heroes is considerably changed by a woman. In *We*, D-503 falls in love with I-330 who opened his eyes. She shows him better past times of the world and the opportunity to change it for the better. At first we can watch his inner fight because he is loyal to the Well-Doer but he wants to be with I-330. Then he decides to stay with I-330. Winston Smith's soul mate is Julia who shares the same opinion with Winston. Both couples hide in their hiding place that is connected with the past.

After revelation both main heroes are certified as insane. D-503 has a choice and he considers himself as insane and wants to be treated. D-503 informed on I-330 and after that his fantasy was surgically removed. At the end of the story D-503 believes that is necessary to establish order and he is convinced of its victory because Reason must win. I-330 refuses to give up her ideas and beliefs so she prefers death to betray her values.

On the other side, Winston Smith has no choice. Orwell made up a perfect system of Oceania that the mere thought could be revealed because the actions are the

results of this thought. Therefore the treatment is more exacting. In conclusion Winston informs on Julia and Julia informs on Winston just to save their lives. By this Orwell expresses the absoluteness of the Party and the system and the ability to take control over the thinking.

Gorden Bowker (2006, p. 376) mentions in his book *George Orwell* that *NEF* concerns with a role and cheating. Winston's world is full of cheating because the Party deceives everybody; Winston deceives the Party; Julia deceives the Junior Anti-Sex League; Charrington and O'Brien deceive Winston.

Zamyatin and Orwell try to show us their nightmarish vision of future that could be real one day, on condition that totalitarianism takes control over the world. Both novels include basic principles and rules of totalitarian state that are perfect. Thus there is no way of destroying this political system.

## 6 BRAVE NEW WORLD

Huxley represents a modern and too technological world where the need of stability suppressed freedom of the individual. The main features for this world are adoration of technological devices (God and religion are replaced by holding Henry Ford in high regard), mass production of people (Bokanovsky's Process), their subsequent division to the castes (predestination) and socialization of an individual through repeating of phrases (hypnopedia).

In *BNW* is not clear who the main character is. The first half of the novel the main characters are Bernard Marx and Lenina Crowne. Bernard is a smart Alpha outsider. He is a cogitative man who starts to realize potential pitfalls of the regime. The promiscuity annoys him and after meeting with Lenina he sees human ignorance and blind faith in the beloved state. Lenina, on the other hand, is a beautiful, young and naive girl. She does not dare to go against the principles of the World State.

In the middle of the book, we meet a savage John who is another main protagonist. John and his mother Linda are discovered by Bernard and Lenina in a Reservation. John's mother is the only person who was not born in the Reservation. She got pregnant with the Director of Hatcheries and she gave birth to John in the Reservation. Other members of the Reservation do not recognize John and Linda as useful members of their community. Both of them want to leave the Reservation and thanks to Bernard and his selfish purposes, they succeed.

Bernard thanks to his discovery of John, Bernard gains fame and uses his popularity to participate in all aspects of social life that he criticised before his trip to the Reservation. His success depends on John who refuses to be abused by Bernard. Bernard's fame collapses.

For John it is very difficult to become a part of the new world. He does not trust this new world and after his mother's death he is a withdrawn man who refuses to attend social events and life.

John disrupts the contented society. After his mother's death he realizes all negatives of the society although his mother loved this society. At the end of the novel there is a conflict caused by John. He starts to throw soma out of the window. Bernard



and Helmholtz help him. All are arrested and because they have caused the short instability of the society, they need to be eliminated. Bernard and Helmholtz are sent on an island where all too smart people are sent.

John wanted to be a part of this world but it only ruined him. He moved away from the civilization but journalists victimised him all the time. At the end of the novel, John is found dead.

*BNW* is a dystopian novel that depicts how a utopian world can be idyllic and perfect at the beginning, but then we find out that for this utopia we need to sacrifice a big part of our human freedom. This is the way how utopia becomes dystopia. The novel shows us a beautiful world where is everybody "happy" thanks to modern technology. Only Bernard and John revealed the sacrifices that are necessary for keeping of this situation.

## 7 GENERAL OVERVIEW

### 7.1 General overview in Nineteen Eighty-Four

<b>NAME OF STATE</b>	Oceania
<b>ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE</b>	from the atomic war and the following Great Revolution
<b>IDEOLOGY</b>	INGSOC (English Socialism)
<b>LEADER</b>	Big Brother
<b>OPPOSITION</b>	the Brotherhood (leader Emanuel Goldstein)
<b>THE PARTY</b>	the Inner Party
	the Outer Party
	the proles (not in the Party)

### 7.2 Control over society in Nineteen Eighty-Four

<b>SECURITY FORCES</b>	the Thought Police
	the police patrol
<b>CONTROL OVER PRIVACY</b>	telescreen
	microphones
<b>PROPAGANDA</b>	telescreen
	the Ministry of Truth
	youth leagues
<b>WAR WITH</b>	Eurasia or Eastasia
<b>SEXUALITY</b>	repressed
<b>OLD CULTURE</b>	change and destroying of the past

### 7.3 General overview in Brave New World

<b>NAME OF STATE</b>	the World State
<b>ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE</b>	A.F. 141 (the Nine Year's War)
<b>IDEOLOGY</b>	Community-Identity-Stability
<b>LEADERS</b>	Ten World Controllers
<b>OPPOSITION</b>	not active; smart people are transported on an island

### 7.4 Control over society in Brave New World

<b>SECURITY FORCES</b>	the police
	the Voice of Reason
<b>ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION</b>	Bokanovsky's Process
	Neo-Pavlovian conditioning
<b>EDUCATION</b>	hypnopedia
	Electro shock therapy
<b>CASTE SYSTEM</b>	Alpha (grey)
	Beta (mulberry)
	Gamma (green)
	Delta (khaki)
	Epsilon (black)
<b>LEGAL DRUG</b>	soma
<b>RELIGION</b>	Ford
<b>PROPAGANDA</b>	feelies (movies)
	hypnopedia
	soma
<b>SEXUALITY</b>	promiscuity, no long-term relationships
<b>OLD CULTURE</b>	all emotions and feelings are destroyed

## 7.5 General overview in We

<b>NAME OF STATE</b>	the One State
<b>ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE</b>	since the Two Hundred Years' War
<b>IDEOLOGY</b>	the State science
<b>LEADER</b>	the Well-Doer
<b>OPPOSITION</b>	Mephi

## 7.6 Control over society in We

<b>SECURITY FORCES</b>	the Guardians
	social control (by other Numbers)
<b>CONTROL OVER PRIVACY</b>	transparent walls
	street membrane
<b>PROPAGANDA</b>	Hymn of the United State
	March
	the holiday of Justice
<b>SEXUALITY</b>	sexual days
	Lex Sexualis
	pink checks
	Maternal and Paternal Norms
<b>ELECTIONS</b>	the Day of Unanimity

## 8 LITERARY STYLE AND TECHNIQUES

### 8.1 Nineteen Eighty-Four

**Author:** George Orwell

**Publication:** 1949

**Genre:** dystopian novel

**Time:** 1984

**Place:** London, Oceania

**Composition:** chronological

**Means of expression:**

- prose
- a third-person narrative
- clear descriptions
- standard level of English (except the proles) + Newspeak
- meta-language level that connects human thinking and language (War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery, Ignorance is Strength)

**Topic:**

- dystopia
- totalitarian system
- mass manipulation
- absolute power
- oligarchy
- absence of privacy and laws
- changing of the past
- impossibility of love or friendship
- war
- changing of the past

- control of thinking
- doublethink
- repression of human feelings and individuality
- fear of own children

## **8.2 Brave New World**

**Author:** Aldous Huxley

**Publication:** 1932

**Genre:** dystopian novel

**Time:** A.F. 632 (2540 A.D.)

**Place:** London

**Composition:** chronological; occasional retrospections (John's or Linda's memories); story telling can be a little bit confusing and chaotic because the narrator switches between different situations and conversations

**Means of expression:**

- prose
- a third-person omniscient narrative
- standard level of English + specialized vocabulary (such as soma, decanting or hypnopedia)

**Topic:**

- dystopia
- consumerism
- reproductive technology
- psychological manipulation
- hallucinogenic drug

- promiscuity
- conditioning
- repression of human feelings and individuality

### **8.3 We**

**Author:** Yevgeny Zamyatin

**Publication:** 1924

**Genre:** dystopian novel, science fiction

**Time:** the 26th century AD

**Place:** the United State

**Composition:** chronological

**Means of expression:**

- prose (written as a diary)
- a first-person narrative

**Topic:**

- dystopia
- totalitarian system
- analytical and non-emotional thinking
- absolute power
- oligarchy
- absence of privacy
- impossibility of love
- repression of human feelings and individuality

## 9 CONCLUSION

Dystopian novels became a highly regarded and respected kind of literature in the 20th century. Dystopian literature reacts on the utopian novels or on current political or social situations. All authors of those novels are inspired by their experiences. Dystopian literature was very popular in the 20th century because two world wars and totalitarian regimes that came after the wars were an inspiration for many writers.

The novels that have been analysed have a lot of in common. The main characters live in an imperfect world. They realize it and dream about better place. The characters start to fight for the freedom, change of the regime and world.

Each author under study treated totalitarianism diversely. Zamyatin lived through the October Revolution and its results had a great impact on him. Orwell fought in the Spanish Civil War and he had awareness of increasing power of fascism and Nazism.

Dystopian topics are unfortunately timeless and nowadays we can see the author's prophecies. They give us an insight into their visions of the future. Their prophecies refers to censoring news or brainwashing by the mass media. For Communist countries is typical censoring of inconvenient authors and their works, surveillance, in a certain way, using of doublethink and repression of individualism and freedom.

The aim of these novels is to warn people against controlling of people. They exhort to independent thinking and contemplation about freedom and human rights. These values should be protected.

All novels are very pessimistic, brutal, they discuss the same issues and show us an alarming vision of future possibilities. Orwell's novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and Zamyatin's *We* are much more darker and pessimistic than Huxley's *Brave New World* but on the other hand Huxley's novel is much more realistic. Nowadays people take pleasure in being young and healthy forever, they read how to live healthy and productive life and use various technological equipment. Their soma could be a soap opera that they watch every day at the same time or just drinking. If we take soma as a



drug, nowadays there is no drug that has such perfect qualities as soma because soma has no ill side effects.

In Huxley's novel is almost no religion and we can compare the similarity with the present society because religion is declining today. Also the concept of a family is interesting for comparison. In *BNW* there are no families. Unfortunately, families in the contemporary society are very often broken which means that a family is split up and one parent (usually a father) is missing. Is it possible that the human future is getting closer to the Huxley's vision?

Huxley's novel concerns mainly with biological and psychological theories while political issues are dealt with by Orwell's and Zamyatin's novels. The main characters of Orwell's and Zamyatin's novels are shaped by external power and control. Especially Orwell tries to warn us. It is shown in his novel, that wars are useless and absurd. Orwell highlighted the senselessness of wars because their only aim is to keep the society in fear. In *BNW*, on the other hand, thinking of people is influenced genetically and subconsciously in childhood.

In this period there were almost no technological devices that control our lives now. Nowadays, most of all people cannot live without these devices anymore. They spend more and more time by watching their mobile devices. Besides, people post personal data online and they already are not aware of the fact that their personal data can be abused. It very often happens through various social networks.

Technological devices are very useful inventions that has helped and continue to help humanity but I am afraid that they are also bad masters. I hope that future of our mankind will be different from Huxley's vision. Only time will tell.

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