



Francis Burney as social critique? Negotiations of social order in 'Cecilia'

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GRIN Verlag Nov 2007, 2007. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x2 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2005 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, printed single-sided, grade: 1,3, Humboldt-University of Berlin (Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik), course: HS: Francis Burney`s Novels, 29 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: This paper analyses social class and society in Francis Burney`s second novel Cecilia (1782). I argue that the novel depicts a social system organised into a class society, and that it takes a stand, being critical of selected aspects. I examine the social system in Cecilia, particularly how it operates on the basis of the figure constellation. Secondly and more specifically, as every text depicting a social system takes a position, I study Burney`s criticism of the social world sketched in Cecilia. What is criticised How systematic is this criticism It was often claimed how realistically Burney wrote and how accurate her description of the society in Cecilia appeared to its readers. Modern historiography, however, describes 18th Century England as a society without class consciousness and thus also without class conflict. Awareness of class and...



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