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SKATOLOGISCHER WORTSCHATZ IM FRÜHNEUHOCHDEUTSCHEN ALS KULTURGESCHICHTLICHE UND LEXIKOGRAPHISCHE HERAUSFORDERUNG

Abstract This paper deals with the lexicographic treatment of the evidently plenty and pervasive scatological vocabulary, that is vocabulary concerning the process and products of bodily excretion (especially feces), in the synchronical Early New High German Dictionary (FWB = Frühneuhochdeutsches Wörterbuch) from a dictionary user's view. Initially, different cultural concepts of scatology by Norbert Elias, Michail Bachtin and Mary Douglas among others and the term taboo are reflected. Subsequently, selected lexical items such as words with a primary scatological meaning (e.g. *drek, kot, scheisse*), concealing expressions (euphemisms, periphrases, metaphors, e.g. *sitzen, seine notdurft tun, bauernveiel*), and certain aspects within the polysemy of the verb *scheissen* are discussed, the latter on the one hand referring to a physical process with uncontrollable aspects and on the other hand denoting a deliberate action and functionalized as a fighting word during the reformation. Focussing on different positions of lexicographical information within the microstructure of the FWB, the surveillance shows that in a synchronical perspective Early New High German scatological vocabulary is a heterogeneous and complex phenomenon due to speaker, context and respectively semantic and pragmatic purposes.

Keywords Scatological vocabulary; Early New High German; Early New High German Dictionary (FWB); historical lexicography; historical lexicology; cultural history

Reference

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