

## The role of black humor in works for children

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*In the XX–XXI centuries the popularity of black humor significantly increased. Among the possible causes of this phenomenon the role of the media in the unnecessarily detailed coverage of tragic events can be identified as well as deeper socio-cultural changes. First of all, the attitude of the society towards laughter and humor has changed (from generally negative to positive), thereby black humor, despite all its ambiguity, became quite familiar for people. Acquaintance with black humor begins from the earliest age - from literature for children, cartoons and folklore often created by children themselves. Moreover, much of the black jokes for the adult audience are also devoted to children (themes of child mortality, disability, pedophilia, etc.). The radical shift in the attitude of people towards death, and especially the death of a child, could also serve as the reason for the increased popularity of the humorous genre.*

**Keywords:** black humor, childlore, disaster humor, media, cartoons, standup comedy, children, childhood

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