

“A FEMALE MINER AND MOTHER COUNTS MORE
THAN A MALE MINER”: THE IMAGE OF THE “NEW
SOCIALIST WOMAN” IN STALINIST CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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The study deals with the efforts by the communist rulers to create an image propagating the new, socialist woman in Stalinist Czechoslovakia. The author devotes attention to the most prominent features of this new socialist woman and, in doing so, to three dominant figures: the woman on the factory floor, the enlightened female citizen, and the mother. The contribution seeks to reconstruct the images of the new socialist woman current at the time and to examine them in the broader context of contemporary communist ideology and practice. It draws upon written sources from a multitude of contexts. Apart from contemporary speeches and brochure texts, the author evaluated articles from “Vlasta”, the women’s magazine then most widely read, and archive materials of the central committee of the KSČ and of mass organisations for women.