



Socialism Realised

Life in Communist Czechoslovakia, 1948-1989

We Are Not Children!

Něžná revoluce (r. Jiří Střecha – Petr Slavík, 1989)/

Velvet Revolution (dir. Jiří Střecha – Petr Slavík, 1989)

Miroslav Štěpán: Comrades, I think that we are experiencing uneasy times now, in the city of Prague and throughout the country. So, we all have to have in mind to live for tomorrow and the day after tomorrow... of course we all want things to succeed, for words to come true.

There's no need to be nervous. The Central Committee of our party, the city of Prague, we all work with the idea that the most essential issue here is the opinion of the working class. The Central Party Committee believes that it can rely on the workers of the Ninth District and the ČKD in particular.

The next thing is, that in this moment, we are sincerely trying to change things, and we must change them. Tomorrow, the Committee will certainly discuss, not only the evaluations, but also, specific action plans for the near future as well as personal changes.

However, these changes can't be done under pressure, under the pressure of the slogans on the buildings.

There is not any developing country, or even a socialist or capitalist country, where fifteen year-old children can determinate who should be the President.

Demonstrators: We are not children!

Miroslav Štěpán: Let me finish...

I am not talking about you....

Demonstrators: Abdication!