

przebieg kariery politycznej, filozofia sędziowania etc. Przyłożenie metodologii Bourdieu do oceny zachowań sędziów Ruffina i Gastona nie jest oczywiście panaceum na wszelkie metodologiczne i aksjologiczne bolączki prawoznawstwa, ale pozwala, być może, na przynajmniej częściowo pełniejsze zrozumienie genezy i istoty pewnych fenomenów.

Jerzy Zajadło

PERSON OR PROPERTY – CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN COURTS' CASES ON SLAVERY

The article is devoted to the analysis of the case law of American courts on slavery on two selected examples. What seems to be particularly interesting is the ambivalent legal status of slaves – on the one hand, according to private law they were treated as things, on the other hand, criminal law granted them a certain legal status. The Author presents and analyzes two different attitudes of judges of the Supreme Court of North Carolina – *Thomas Ruffin in State v Mann* and *William Gaston in State v Will*. The final remarks include the reconstruction of reasons of these differences which is based on the contemporary methodology of the reflective sociology of Pierre Bourdieu.