
Introduction

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

INTRODUCTION

The current volume of "Sociology of Education", like the six preceding it - may not be identified with one of the sociological subdisciplines but instead with scientific interests of a whole group of people, who for years have been focusing their attention on "social aspects of education". Apart from their own journal, published quite regularly, and many books, articles and scholarly polemics, the binding factors are Thursday seminars and studies,

The faculty includes persons employed at a number of institutions (colleges, Academy of Sciences) from several cities in Poland (apart from Toruń, also from Warsaw, Opole, Bydgoszcz, Gdańsk) and representing several research fields (sociology, pedagogy, philosophy, psychology). The problems undertaken are characterized not only by their social importance, their unmasking character of research, or their accuracy of scientific method. The distinctive mark seems to be - at least in the case of some authors - efforts to search for alternative methods to formulate questions and construct educational answers, the tendency to go beyond the existing paradigm and, finally, to create a new intellectual approach.

The subjects of discussion are multilateral relations: state, society, education (with Zbigniew Kwieciński, being unquestionably the leader though it is also the field of interest of Krystyna Szafraniec, Barbara Iskra-Kotowska and Ryszard Borowicz) Philosophers insist on application of Jürgen Haber-

mas's critical theory in the field of education (Andrzej M. Kaniowski, Lech Witkowski), Youth as a subject of potential social change is the focal point in several other authors' interest (Teresa Hejnicka-Bezwińska, Andrzej Kaleta). Wiesław Łukaszewski presents research directions of his entire personality psychology research group. Previous issues of the series brought discussions by other authors who widened the subject range, e.g. sexual behavior determinants by Mikołaj Kozakiewicz, sources of sociological reflection on education in Poland by Włodzimierz Winclawski.

Paralelly, a seminar formed - multidisciplinary with regard to research specialities of its members - which concentrates on sociological problems of agriculture and rural areas. In the present issue, this problem area is most fully represented by Zbigniew T. Wierzbicki in his paper outlining a new subdiscipline.