

Introduction

Work is a purposeful human activity, consisting of transforming the world, the goods of nature, in order to adapt them to human's utility. The man is a specific entity, and the only one that needs to work. Work becomes important for him. It becomes a way of expressing himself, way to create and validate his humanity. Creative work is a form of leaving something behind for posterity. Work is primarily a source of income, a way to live in the world. Appropriately selected job can become a realization of our deep dreams and plans. It is one of the most important values in life of every man. Work is a category that is a challenge for researchers of different disciplines starting from physics which defines it as the product of force and distance; and in terms of theological and ethical – in which the eyes to work as an anthropological category indicates on the one hand that the primary basis of the value of human work is man himself, where the work is an act of man, and its value is measured by the said measure of the dignity of the subject of work, that is, person – ending.

The work is a concept that is a challenge for researchers of different disciplines. Starting from physics which defines work as the product of the force and the road, and on the theological and ethical terms ending. In this second perspective view of work as an anthropological category indicates that the first fundamental value of human work is man himself and the work is his act. Its value is expressed by the measure of the dignity of the subject of work – a person.

Thus, we talk about the prospect of studies related to the entire range of human labor. Studies that require a broad multidisciplinary and multi-aspect approach. The work, which is the primary sphere of life of every human being is also the most important value of any organization or institution involved in the creation of jobs.

Nowadays we see a variety of processes associated with globalization, competitiveness, development of new manufacturing technologies, management, development of information technology and, migration occurrences, problems related to getting and keeping jobs, unemployment.

Transformations we see for more than twenty years, not only in Poland but also in many other European countries have influenced the changes in the activity of the entities in the sphere of work. This affected the system of values and aspirations of the people, including the criteria defining the importance of the work. Processes and occurrences in the field of employment and wage policies are related to the labor market, which is differential in many sectors of economy and forms of ownership. The market is differential, due to the absorption of better educated personnel specialized in modern technologies, commonly occurring in all industries in Poland and post-Soviet countries. Shaping the supply and demand for work is very important for the labor market situation. It is dependent on both the economic situation, but also on a number of processes associated with demographic change, the activity of the society, and migration processes.

This publication concerns the context of these specific conditions. The wealth of topics referring to the work, due to its multifaceted, allows for a broad and interdisciplinary approach in discussed issues. This publication is an attempt to look at how people work in the context of three different semantic dimensions. The first one is about theoretical and practical references to work in Europe. Content of second part focuses on issues related to the preparation of students for the functioning on the labor market and to undertake voluntary work by young people. The third part of the study includes problems in working with children and families.

The first part consists of six articles referring to labor issues in Russia, Bulgaria and Kosovo. Tatiana Zelenova's article raises the issue of the labor market in the Yaroslavl region and brings its specificity and characteristics. The author draws attention to problems of accessibility of the labor market, introduces its structure and shows determinants of unemployment in the region.

Another text by Bozhidara Kriviradeva shows the specificity of social work in Bulgaria. The author draws attention to the culture and management style of

social policies. She cites the results of the research team working on the issue of the specificity of social work in Bulgaria.

In an important and interesting study, Majlinda Belegu raises an issue of adaptation of legal regulations on the solutions used in contracts of employment in Kosovo to the requirements of the European Union and its legislation in this area. The author talks about the most common problems associated with it. She proposes alternative solutions.

In the elaboration by Bashkim Rrahmani we find analysis of Kosovo problems related to the labor market. They are in part related to the problems of the previous article. The author presents issues related to the fight against unemployment, adaptation of the rules regulating the integration with the European Union, he shows the years of neglect in structure, economics and politics of the youngest countries in the map of Europe.

Ireneusz Kowalewski describes the specificity of the climate of educational institutions and tasks related to health promotion. Both climate institutions and activities related to health promotion significantly affect the quality of the work undertaken by educators and teachers in these institutions and achieving specific effects by them. The last text in this section is a philosophical-historical elaborate and it refers to the concept of work appearing on the basis of the Orthodox religion in the Middle Ages. The author refers to the figure of St. Sergius and his way of recognizing work as an obligation but also as a way of calming down, self-development and happiness achieving.

Another part of our essay is a content related to the preparation of students, future teachers and volunteers to work for other people. It consists of five texts. First one, by Joanna Wnęk-Gozdek and Anna Mróz is about the issue of responsibility and the importance of the teaching profession in the context of economic and social changes that have taken place in Poland and that continue to impinge on the quality of work of modern schools and teachers. The authors indicate the competences of the future, forced by changes in technology and information.

In the following text, Magdalena Lubińska-Bogacka is considering the socio-economic dilemmas being experienced by graduates in the labor market in Poland. Author describes the results of the research, aiming to present the specificity of employment, according to graduates specialties in the period of 1990–2010; shows the effects of changes in the needs for specific graduate-specialists on the labor market and indicates the mechanisms optimizing their successful functioning of the labor market. Studies show that the situation of college graduates in the labor market in Poland is gradually getting worse and in order to

counteract this negative trend we should implement the results of these studies to the concept of enterprising university.

Ewa Krzyżak-Szymańska and Karolina Komsta-Tokarzewska bring closer the importance of acquiring digital and technological skills by social workers. They submit assumptions of the program about building competences of social workers in this field, which is implemented in Poland. The authors bring closer a substantive content of this program.

Jiri Prokop describes the role of higher education in the Czech Republic. He focuses on the problems of the newly emerging cooperation between universities and the world of work. He refers this to the complex interconnections and accumulations among governments, national and regional policies, industrial and service politics as well as emerging trends and specializations in the university offers.

In the last part of the text, Bozhidar Tsvetkov shows the process of preparing volunteers to work in international and intercultural projects. The author emphasizes the role of youth leaders in this field. He draws attention to the specific knowledge and skills that volunteers engaged in social projects need to have.

The third part of the book raises the issue of working with children and families in the context of social functioning disorders. This section presents seven diverse texts, illustrating the specificity of the child and family issues.

The first of these texts, by Barbara Adamczyk concerns “children of the street”. The author defines the concept of a child of the street and describes the specific nature of its functioning. Barbara focuses on the results of her researches carried in dozens of countries around the world. She compares the magnitude of the problem in Poland and abroad.

The second text, written by Celestine Grzywniak focuses on the problems of social work with the family and the possibility of forming emotional bonds between parents and children in a dysfunctional family. The author tells how to achieve goals that occur during the realization of this particular task as a social worker, what is associated with the widely understood family assistance.

Shashkina Gulnara describes technologies of work of speech therapists, working with children with disabilities in the next text.

The authors of the next essay – Marek Banach and Magdalena Lubińska-Bogacka – tell about terminology and meaning of FASD and describe the specifics of working with children with FASD in the family. They suggest parents and caregivers on how to organize work with the child, to which aspects of its

behavior they should pay attention to. Authors analyze them in the context of the nine key areas, which simplify achieving success in working with children with FASD.

In the article by Valentina Georgieva Peteva we can read about leading causes and factors associated with deviant behavior and the two main forms of work – group and individual. Author writes about the nature of work in the case of using an individualized approach. The importance of the team is shown in correctional and educational work with young people.

Marzena Błasiak-Tytuła essay tells about issues of adaptation of immigrants and their children. It presents the results of studies conducted in the UK, about communicative competences of polish mothers with children. It also describes mothers' approach to the linguistic and cognitive development of their children. The author describes the language problems resulting from bilingualism of children, from the perspective of a speech therapist.

Last text, elaborated by Adam Szwedzik concerns issues of stress and depression in the lives of young people. It shows ways to overcome these negative occurrences that for many young people may be a prelude to serious dysfunctions or drug addictions. Preventive work gives young people competences to shape appropriate attitudes and a drugs-free life.

The book is addressed to all interested in the problems of work. Work pedagogues, social pedagogues, teachers, social sciences students, social workers. We highly recommend it to those groups due to the wide analysis of referring issues arising from the title and pointing to the universality of the problems raised in it, concerning work as the basic activity and value in the life of every person.

We invite you to read – the authors.

Marek Banach, Magdalena Lubińska-Bogacka, Adam Szwedzik

