

ON SOME SELECTED ASPECTS OF SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT, FAMILY AND SCHOOL

The issue of the Sinti who are an integral part of Czech society remains an undetected topic in social sciences and humanities. Only a small part of the population of the Czech Republic is aware of the existence of this Romani sub-ethnic group which differs in many socio-culturological aspects from the others. In general, the Sinti Romani belong to the Romani minority which Czech legislation bears in mind, in particular as part of Act no. 273/2001 Sb., On the rights of national minorities and amending certain acts. This Act deals with the rights to national and ethnic identity as a part of human rights, respecting the identity of members of national minorities as individuals and as a groups who especially exhibit their own culture, traditions and language. It places emphasis on the creation of a multicultural society and in its wording, it strives for harmonious coexistence of national minorities with the majority population. It guarantees the members of national minorities their right to effective participation in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, especially those concerning national minorities. It is founded on existing international treaties on human rights and fundamental freedoms our state is bound by. In the context of the Romani community, the author of Palacký University in Olomouc, Eva Klimentová, discusses socio-pathological issues, especially the dependency relations of familial communities to be faced in the implementation of social work.

The influence of the social environment in which the individual lives, grows up, forms their personality and cultivates their social functioning is discussed by the Polish authors, Daniel Kukla and Mirosław Mielczarek. The former of the authors is a researcher at the Jan Długosz University in Czeszochowa, while the latter is a researcher at the University of Lower Silesia in Wrocław. They illuminate their topic by the interpretation of the famous leading Polish sociologist, Florian Znaniecki, who is thanks to its humanities-oriented sociology also considered to be a social pedagogue. He emphasized axiological attributes of the elements of human culture, made an appeal to the difference in epistemological investigation of phenomena related to manifestations of humans in comparison with natural phenomena, even in spite of the fact that people themselves are a part of nature. He maintained that research methodology of social sciences and humanities must always take this differentiation into account. He therefore put emphasis on interpretation.

The third contribution is directed at school education in its focus, opening the discourse on issues of the preparedness of elementary education teachers. It deals with the prevention of and intervention in risk behaviour of pupils educated within institutionalized school settings. Based on not only the statistics of the ministry of education available, but also on other published research findings, one can say that pedagogically adverse and socially inappropriate behaviours by the affected pupils are growing every year. Even the prevalence of various forms of such behaviours is growing. The text of the author of

the Silesian University in Opava, Eva Urbanovská, then highlights the key moments the pedagogical public should focus on while tackling this phenomenon.

The fourth contribution, which concludes the section of theoretical, survey, empirical and methodological studies, is the work of the author Vlasta Cabanová, a researcher at the University of Žilina in the Slovak Republic. The author opens quite a sensitive subject, as general perceived by the society, i.e. the phenomenon of ageing and death. A discourse of this concept is analyzed in the context of pedagogical science with an emphasis on defining new tasks of pedagogy as a social science.

This issue also presents the reader with two professional reviews of scientific monographs. The author of the first one is Martin Kaleja, whose critical eye analyzes the work of Hermína Mareková which, among other merits, was subjected to the author's habilitation procedure. The author's publication discusses family in historical and cultural context. The presenter of the second review is Kamil Janiš who analyzes the work of the authorial team Stanislava Svoboda Hoferková and Václav Bělík. Their publication confronts the topic of families in the issue of risk behaviour prevention in children and pupils.

This issue of the journal is concluded by a report by the author Martina Kaleja which lays out the planned strategic actions of the European Commission towards inclusive tendencies of state government policies in the European Union, including the Czech Republic. Their context finds a cross-section with the prevalence, prevention, intervention and variability of the causalities of socio-pathological phenomena.

Martin Kaleja