

Summary

Young People and their Leisure Time in Modernisation Processes – a Comparison between Towns in Slavonia and Zadar

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When it comes to the young population, the notion of leisure time is determined by the content that occupies that time and thus determines their recognisable lifestyle. The paper researches young people's leisure time, its content (style), and young people's value orientation in five towns in Slavonia (Osijek, Požega, Slavonski Brod, Virovitica, Vinkovci) and in Zadar. The two areas are compared based on the results of empirical research carried out by Mlinarević (in 2005) and Proroković et al. (in 2006). The two studies are not totally comparable but they provide us with enough elements to be able to generalise the results obtained, since they use similar research instruments (socio-demographic qualities of the respondents, leisure time content / orientation, satisfaction with the way they spend leisure time and their value orientation for education and work).

The theoretical frame of the result interpretation is the definition of leisure time, modern trends that guide young people when spending their leisure time, young people's specific lifestyles, factors that effect their leisure time, their social environment during that time and possibilities open to them when it comes to education, work and higher quality leisure time. Leisure time is already increasingly marked by the consumer culture (Miliša, 2006) and it is likely to be even more susceptible to it in the future.

The results obtained lead us to conclude that the young people of Slavonia and Zadar spend more and more leisure time in an unstructured way (being together, having fun or doing nothing) and that they are relatively dissatisfied with that situation and places they frequent in their leisure time. The paper provides us with an insight into the daily routine of young people in an urban surrounding in two areas of Croatia relatively far apart. The results of the research raise new issues about young people's problems and their need for higher quality leisure time.

Key words: leisure time, young people's leisure time, styles of young people's leisure time, pedagogization of leisure time, values