

**Everyday Life in one of Katowice Local Communities – Szopienice. Monographic  
Description**

**Summary**

The thesis is a monographic description of everyday life in one of Katowice local communities – Szopienice. The thesis itself is divided into two parts.

The first part contains a theoretical reflection, where a review of the most important issues concerning social community has been done, and a few context of everyday life: home, employment and other places, which are the main monographic problems in the thesis, has been described.

The second part describes industrial development in Upper Silesia, the specificity of Silesian workers communities and industrialization in Katowice. A lot of attention was paid to social-demographic characteristic of Szopienice. The second part of the thesis is also an empirical one.

The aim of conducted field studies was to present current lifestyle description of Szopienice local community basing on three monographic problems: gainful employment, the idea of home and other places. The studies were directed to realize the descriptive aim and to enable to describe the social reality, which is the author main interest.

The author described everyday life in Szopienice with a special attention paid on gain employment issue. The studies results indicated that people in Szopienice noticed the dichotomous division to working people and people without employment, who at the same time are the beneficiaries of the welfare. The phenomenon of profession succession has not been noticed. It was found that there is a phenomenon of intergenerational transmission of welfare dependency. For most of the inhabitants work is only the source of money not a form of social contacts or source of satisfaction. The results revealed high level of female employment acceptance. Not undertaking a job is closely connected to welfare reliance. What is more, according to the survey, the young and well educated have more opportunities in the labour market.

In the second field of studies dealing with the idea of home it was noticed that the most of the inhabitants associate home with family, and the most important part of it are all home-dwellers, less often such persons are parents. Taking into consideration the role division in Szopienice homes the community shows the features both of a traditional (Silesian) and modern (egalitarian) one. Moreover, a lot of surveyed are satisfied with the fact of living in Szopienice (especially autochthons). However the inhabitants perceive better and worse areas of the district.

The third part of the study concerned the ways of spending free time, especially in other places revealed many interesting issues. First and foremost, the inhabitants spend their free time both in an active and passive way. The dominant are the collective ways of spending free time. A significant part of inhabitants spend their free time in the area of Szopienice (in home or outside – meetings with friends, family members and recreation). The phenomenon of creating other places was noticed (frequent young men hanging out in the street corners, gates, bus stops including alcohol consumption). The inhabitants claimed that the free time offer in Szopienice is not enough (lack of spaces for teenagers, empty and dangerous park areas, culture center short opening hours).

The thesis is summed up with suggestions of further studies possible to conduct in Szopienice.