

REVIEWS

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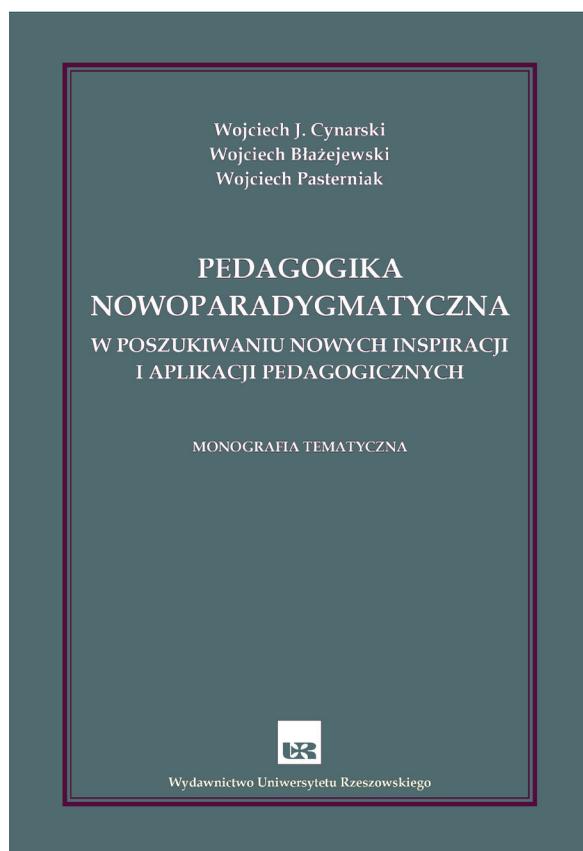
Towards a new paradigm of pedagogy

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Abstract

It is the editorial review of the thematic monograph by Wojciech J. Cynarski, Wojciech Błażejowski and Wojciech Pasterniak entitled “New Paradigmatic Pedagogy. In search of new inspirations and educational applications” (*“Pedagogika nowoparadygmaticzna. W poszukiwaniu nowych inspiracji i aplikacji pedagogicznych”*, Rzeszow University Press, pp. 174), written by Prof. Dr hab. Andrzej Szyszko-Bohusz.



In order to interpret accurately the meaning and significance of the work under review some light needs to be shed on the specific current situation of contemporary scientific and technological civilization in an era of globalisation. Alongside many undeniable achieve-

ments – dynamic development of science, medicine, technology and modern facilities in this era of civilization of science and technology carries with it the danger of self-destruction, self-extermination and total annihilation. The reason for this real danger is a deep axiological, social, moral and ethical (mother of all crises) crisis, from which the ecological crisis and the education pedagogical crisis which is unprecedented in the history of the young generation derive. The popularisation of the pseudo-scientific and destructive ideology of gender, the legalisation of same-sex marriage and the adoption of children by such couples has lead to the destruction of the basic unit of society – the family.

The source of this crisis springs from the marginalisation of or loss of the highest universal moral values developed by mankind. These especially include more than two millennia of Christian culture and the worship of God the Creator of the Universe, and of inalienable rights – the right to life from conception to natural death, the right to freedom, to comprehensive personal development and the right to creative work etc.

This profound crisis has led many contemporary thinkers and humanists to express fears that this era of globalisation bears the marks of madness leading to self-annihilation. Here is some data to support these concerns:

— In many areas of the globe there is famine, epidemics, poverty deriving from the inability to meet basic needs, while governments spend huge sums on armaments. The world is still threatened by thermonuclear war denoting the end of humanity. The great majority

of the world's seven billion population is illiterate or semi-literate.

- The parliaments a number of countries have legalized the killing of children in the womb (abortion), the killing of patients at their own request (euthanasia), and interference by medicine in a natural process of life (in vitro fertilization).
- Extreme liberalism and postmodernism, spreading atheistic and agnostic ideas, and a lack of respect for all moral authorities, have led to a drastic pedagogical crisis, undermining the basic unit of society i.e. the family and to the loss of prestige of the teacher.

In light of the drastic situation of world civilization outlined above, it is obvious that the search for ways of salvation becomes a priority. Contemporary progressive education, which exerts its impact on all spheres of human activity, must therefore actively participate in the realization of this great goal. The study by the three authors reviewed here, meets this challenge, striving for the creation of a modern paradigm, based on humanistic, personal and holistic foundations.

The work touches upon many important, difficult and multi-faceted problems that require deep study and reflection. It contains a number of stimulating ideas and thought-provoking concepts, e.g. consciousness/awareness in relation to quantum mechanics or Eastern martial arts meeting Christian culture. The most important merit of this work is in highlight the need to put far greater emphasis on the socio-moral and spiritual development of young people, which is so often overlooked or marginalised. This central postulate is best filled by Theonomic Pedagogy together with Holistic Pedagogy based on the Latin tradition. Pedagogy understood in such a way is the fulfilment of the call of the God-Man Christ: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is similar: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments rely all the laws and the prophets". This call and its application are the most powerful defence against the destruction of the world.

This leads to solving the basic problem of raising awareness to a higher level of spiritual development which concerns both the Polish people and all the other

nations in the world. The completion of this study under review coincides with two events of great importance for the Polish nation – the 1050th anniversary of the Baptism of Poland and the World Youth Days started by Pope John Paul II, and the meeting with the Holy Father Pope Francis. These events interact with the message of the work in question, as they constitute a wonderful opportunity for the manifestation of The Education of Tomorrow, a synonym for love and peace and the unity of people overcoming all divisions.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the reviewed study by the three authors [Cynarski, Blazejewski, Pasterniak 2016], deserves to be called a pioneering attempt due to the originality of the proposed idea for a new paradigm of education. I wish to emphasise again that the work contributes to the fundamental spiritual development of young people in the pedagogical process, which is its unquestionable value. The substantive and formal side of work makes a positive impression. In the opinion of the reviewer this work fully deserves to be published in reputable domestic and foreign publications.

Reference

1. Cynarski W.J., Blazejewski W., Pasterniak W. (2016), *New Paradigmatic Pedagogy. In search of new inspirations and educational applications. Thematic monograph*, Rzeszow University Press, Rzeszow [in Polish].

W kierunku nowego paradygmatu pedagogii

Słowa kluczowe: pedagogia, ujęcie holistyczne, kontekst kulturowy

Abstrakt

Jest to recenzja wydawnicza monografii tematycznej prof. Wojciecha J. Cynarskiego, doc. Wojciecha Błażejewskiego i prof. Wojciecha Pasterniaka zatytułowanej „*Pedagogika nowoparadygmatyczna. W poszukiwaniu nowych inspiracji i aplikacji pedagogicznych*”, Wyd. UR, ss. 174), pióra prof. zw. dra hab. Andrzeja Szyszko-Bohusza.