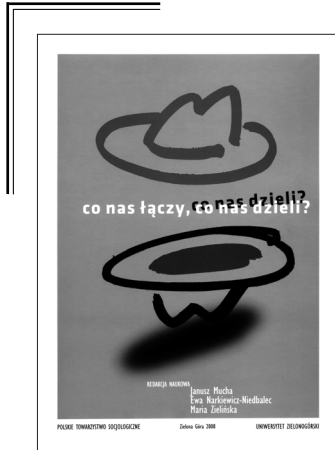


BOOKS RECOMMENDED

Polish Sociological Review Recommends:



Co nas łączy, co nas dzieli? [What Unites Us, what Divides Us?]

Edited by
**Janusz Mucha, Ewa Narkiewicz-Niedbalec
and Maria Zielińska**

**Polskie Towarzystwo Socjologiczne,
Uniwersytet Zielonogórski.
Zielona Góra: Oficyna Wydawnicza Uniwersytetu
Zielonogórskiego. 2008, pp. 437 + CD**

ISBN 978-83-7481-211-5

In this book, the reader is presented with the outcome of the main sessions of XIII Polish Sociological Congress (Zielona Góra, 13–15 September 2007). The Congress focused sociologists' attention on questions triggering much public debate in recent years. These are: social diversification consequent on systemic transformations and on Poland's access to the European Union.

During real socialism, economic differences of people in various social strata were relatively not important. Differences of political outlook were strongly repressed by an oversized social control apparatus. There were also cultural differences (concerning values and norms which are recognised and adopted), but public debate about them was likewise obstructed. Today, financial disparities have reached substantial proportions. Political diversification is very pronounced and the identification of what constitutes the common good does not appear obvious. Different cultural patterns and practices are pursued by various social groups, some tailored to their advocates' financial potential and some clearly independent from that potential.

Our volume is made up of a number of thematic parts. The first one is a product of the first plenary session addressing the questions of common good and political culture. It is followed by chapters discussing what divides Polish society. The "losers and winners" of systemic transformations are analysed here. Other chapters refer to the Congress symposia on: migration and borderlands; individuals and communities as active subjects; new consumption models and new lifestyles. The last part presents results of the third, final, plenary session of the Congress, the Round Table, whose participants—including Michel Wieviorka and Michael Burawoy—debated about potential new forms of social life.

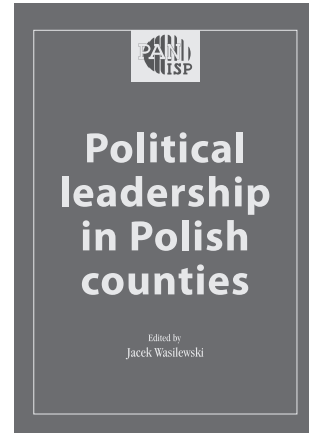
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Political Leadership in Polish Counties

Edited by
Jacek Wasilewski

Warszawa: Institute of Political Studies
Polish Academy of Sciences. 2009, pp. 224

ISBN 978-83-6058-036-3



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Jacek Wasilewski

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Irena Pańków

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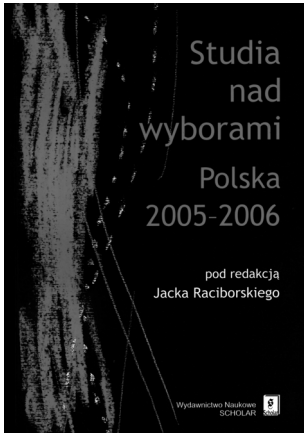
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Studia nad wyborami. Polska 2005–2006
[Studies on Elections. Poland 2005–2006]

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Jacek Raciborski

Warszawa: SCHOLAR. 2008, pp. 202.

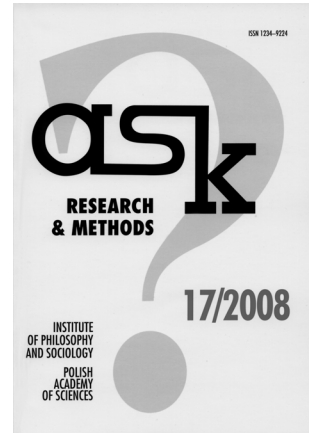
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The book deals with chosen aspects of parliamentary and presidential elections in 2005 and local elections in 2006. While studies are empirical and detailed, they also address classic questions of electoral sociology and new phenomena which surfaced after recent institutional changes, especially in the electoral law. An analysis of how institutions block registers of voters in self-governmental elections, made in the context of general reflections on electoral rules affecting electoral results, deserves particular attention. A reply to the question why a candidate who runs again wins a landslide victory is equally intriguing. The book can be of interest to political scientists, sociologists, experts in political marketing and constitutional lawyers.

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