

Preface

As in the previous issues of the journal, scholars from different research fields participate in this issue that encompasses a variety of critical, theoretical and methodological approaches.

In their article “Men’s Repartnering: The Role of Individual and Partnership-level Factors,” Aušra Maslauskaitė and Marė Baublytė analyze the long-term trends in men’s repartnering patterns in Lithuania and identify the factors associated with the increased risk of repartnering in the recent divorce cohort of Lithuanian men.

Kristina Šliavaitė focuses on the perceptions of social justice in education as constructed in selected policy documents and in interviews with members of schools with Lithuanian or Russian language of instruction in Vilnius, Kaunas and Klaipėda. Investigating the perceptions of school network reorganization which started in early 2000s, in her article “Can we Speak of Neoliberal Social Justice?: Interpretations and Experiences of Reorganization of the School Network in Lithuania,” the author argues that alternative bottom-up critical perspectives on globally spread and locally adopted policies must be taken into account by national and municipal authorities when framing and strategizing policies.

In their article “Self-management of Chronic Illness: Practices and Challenges of Older Patients’ Involvement,” Dovilė Daugėlienė and Sarmitė Mikulionienė present the results of the qualitative research on general practitioners’ self-management support practices and barriers that inhibit their attempts in providing medical services to elderly people.

Vylius Leonavičius and Eglė Večorskytė article “The Nexus between the Health Model and Health Inequalities from the Perspective of the Change in Social Values” examines how the influence of value orientations to the prevailing health model in society could be explained by different sociological perspectives and in turn how the health models influence the health-conscious behavior of different social groups.

Rūta Brazienė analyzes the Lithuanian youth’s housing provision opportunities and problems. Using the data of the European Union Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC 2007–2016) and the European Quality of Life Survey (Eurofound 2012), she argues that young people from countries with a social democratic welfare state model have better

access to housing, while youth in both Eastern and Central and Southern Europe faces major challenges in housing provision.

In her article “Social Housing: Attitudes and Experiences of Young People,” Inga Mikutavičienė argues that social housing is still unresolved topic both in science and policy in Lithuania. Focusing on the experiences, hopes and expectations of young adults residing in social housing, the author concludes that the Lithuanian housing policy is dysfunctional characterized by a limited access to social housing and inefficient system of loans for purchasing housing.

Rasa Indriliūnaitė discusses the main models and features of the social housing policy in Lithuania. Evaluating the differences in the social housing fund in the municipalities of the country, in her article “Concept of Social Housing Policy and Availability of the Support for Housing in Lithuania,” the author identifies the gap between the size of population of the persons provided with social housing and the persons included in the waiting list of the support for renting a housing.

The last article of the issue entitled “Housing Career and its Trajectories at the Beginning of Demographic Life Cycle: A Case of Housing Self-provision among Lithuanian Youth” examines how various institutional mechanisms of housing policy and sector may secure or limit chances of housing self-provision or retaining among youth and young households. Apolonijus Žilys argues that institutional social forces within housing policy and sector could define housing careers that predetermine individual and household behavior.

This issue also includes two book reviews. Justinas Juozaitis reviews Dainius Genys and Vylius Leonavičius’s monograph “Sociology of Lithuanian Energy Security. Theory and Practice” (Kaunas: Vytauto Didžiojo universitetas, 2017) and Alina Žvinklienė analyzes Artūras Tereškinas’s sociological novel “Endless Summer: A Memoir of Love and Sex” (Vilnius: Kitos knygos, 2017).

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