

Preface

Sociologists, psychologists, economists and the representatives of political and educational sciences present their current research in this very interdisciplinary issue of “Culture and Society.”

As in the previous issues, much attention is paid to the construction of different identities and ideologies. In their article “Transformative Processes of Agency: Information Technologies and the Production of Digitally Mediated Selves,” Ian Tucker, Darren Ellis and David Harper analyze challenges of the new media technologies to key aspects of the self, agency and identity. They argue that new forms of digitally mediated selves are produced when daily lives come to be defined more by information than by our bodies. In his article “Nations and Silences: Specters of Subaltern Space,” Šarūnas Paunksnis focuses on the subalternization process in Deepa Mehta’s film “Water.” According to the author, being necessary for the forging of a nation, subalternization also demonstrates the ambivalence of nationalism.

Two articles published in this issue were written within the framework of the project “Gender Inequality, Public Policy and the Future of Fertility in Lithuania” (project no. SIN-03/2010) supported by the Council of Science of Lithuania. Using a national public opinion survey conducted in 2010–2011, Artūras Tereškinas and Giedrė Purvaneckienė examine the issue of work-life reconciliation in relation to women and men’s intentions to have children. Focusing on the same survey, in her article, Jurga Bučaitė-Vilkė analyzes the specific division of housework as one of the main predictors explaining Lithuanians’ procreational intentions and the dominant gender ideology in the country.

In his article “Vocational Steroid Use: Reconsidering the Effectiveness of a Prohibition Approach,” Curtis A. Fogel develops the term “vocational steroid use” and describes issues related to the (in)effectiveness of steroid prohibition strategies. Examining challenges of networking for social work, Sonata Staniulienė argues that the current social environment prompts social workers to construct new kinds of relations to clients and institutions.

This issue of the journal also includes the reviews of two recently published academic books.

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