

Editor's Preface

This volume of „Journal of Gender and Power” includes articles devoted to gender issues in developing countries. Six articles analyse various problems in Africa: five in Nigeria and one in Zimbabwe. Besides, two articles are written about Asian countries: Nepal and Bangladesh. They all together give an fascinating picture of gender roles in these, economically and politically marginalized parts of the world. They show how womanhood and manhood are there socially constructed. They present the dynamics of inequality and marginalization, in the context of social, economic and cultural condition; but also in light of socialization and stratification processes. Also the controversies related to African feminism and African maternity are considered, in the context of patriarchal society. In some cases Authors confront traditional views and stereotypes on gender roles with modern social changes. But they concentrate their attention not only on diagnosis and explanations of researched issues. Often they are proponents of social change aimed at receiving equality in the relationship between women and men; in marriage, in workplace, in sustainable excess to energy consumption, in access to medical knowledge and health education. So, this is a research aimed at changing the injustice social reality.

Let me give here some examples, which take into account educational/socialization issues. Oluwaseun Olanrewaju and Omolara Awogbayila write: „In promoting gender parity, gender equality as a subject should be inculcated into the school curricula at both primary and secondary levels in order to sensitize children [...] at an early age”. And Segilola Yewande Oladejo is convinced „that health education programs should be undertaken by communities to improve women’s awareness”. There is no doubt that idea of women’s emancipation is written into all of texts in this volume.

The situation of women in Africa and also in most Asian countries still symbolize the gender inequality and discrimination of women in the

world. And this situation is different, at least to the certain extent from the reality of Western world. I hope that this volume will be another piece of contribution to understand of need to make a permanent effort to support progressive movements in developing countries which act for emancipation of women.

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