

Summary of the Ph.D. Thesis

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The title of the thesis: **About drinking cultures and their contexts in the baby boomers generation**

Key words phrases: **alcohol, drinking culture, drinking patterns, generation, baby boomers**

Abstract:

Sociology of medicine or social problems sociology focus on drinking as a problem, without trying to explain the mechanisms for adopting different types of drinking, not necessarily related to drinking that causes social problems. This perspective is provided by lifestyle theories, to which I devote the first chapter of the dissertation. In it, I describe the approaches of the classics to this topic - Max Weber (linking lifestyle to social status), Thorstein Veblen's way of life and Kröber's way of being, as well as the concepts of modern sociologists - Pierre Bourdieu (habitus) and Anthony Giddens (individualistic construct of choice).

I also devote a lot of attention to the approaches to lifestyles in Polish sociological thought, starting with Stanislaw Ossowski, Andrzej Tyszko, through Marcin Czerwiński or Antonina Ostrowska. A special place is given to Andrzej Sicinski's theory of lifestyles, as it is the most elaborate, as it is the most common theoretical reference of researchers, and with elaborate research tools described in detail. The typologies of lifestyles of the elderly developed by Olga Czerniawska and Beata Trzop are also presented in this part of the work.

The concept of drinking culture is presented in the second chapter. It was developed based on scientific texts mainly by Robin Room, Klaus Mäkelä, Michael Savic, Robert Gordon and Polish researchers: Jerzy Jasinski, Antoni Kepinski, Jacek Moskalewicz, J. Sieroslawski. In this chapter, I not only present different approaches to creating typologies of drinking, but also point out the importance of adopting a cultural perspective. In the third chapter, I present a portrait of the baby boomer generation. First, I discuss the problems associated with defining the generation. I then describe the baby boomer generation at various stages of its life cycle, taking into account the class perspective where possible.

Chapter four focuses on the various contexts of alcohol problems. The role that alcohol has played and continues to play in society is discussed in the first part of the chapter. This is followed by a description of the changes in alcohol policy over the lifetime of the baby boomer generation. The

final part of the chapter is a portrait of the baby boomer generation in terms of alcohol consumption. It is reconstructed on the basis of the results of questionnaire surveys conducted from their youth to their senior years.

In the fifth chapter - the methodological chapter - I present the concept of my own study. It contains research questions and hypotheses, operational definitions of basic concepts, a description of the research method used, a description of the tool (questionnaire) and the analyses used in the study, as well as information about the study, which was carried out on a nationwide sample of the adult population of Poland (n=2,000) and an additional sample of people over 60 years of age (n=300). The chapter concludes with the characteristics of the realized sample (the surveyed population).

I present the results of the research along with their interpretations in the final two chapters of the dissertation. In chapter six, I inquire whether the baby boomer generation differs from younger generations in terms of prevalence and drinking patterns. In chapter seven, I take a detailed look at the baby boomer generation - I present the typologies of drinking patterns and cultures I have developed, as well as the types of the lifestyles.

In the last two chapters of the dissertation, I present the research results and their interpretations. In chapter six, I examine whether the baby boomer generation differs from younger generations in terms of prevalence and types of alcohol use. In the seventh chapter, I take a closer look at the baby boomer generation - I present the typologies of drinking patterns and cultures that I have developed, as well as the types of the lifestyles. In this chapter, I summarize the findings and provide answers to the research questions posed in chapter four.

The dissertation concludes with a summary of the research findings and answers to the research questions posed. The main research findings state that: 1) the generation of baby boomers has its own characteristics and differs in drinking from other generations; 2) the generation of baby boomers is diverse in drinking alcohol; 3) the drinking of alcohol in the generation of baby boomers is differentiated by gender and social location, but the differences by place of residence are not large; 4) the types of drinking culture can be linked to lifestyles; 5) health issues play a large role in the lives of the elderly and become important in drinking practices.

The conclusion also includes suggestions for further directions and ways of research on alcohol drinking by the elderly.