

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Anna Baczek-Dombi – PhD graduate and lecturer at the Institute of Sociology of the University of Warsaw. Her PhD dissertation is about the social context of perception of mathematics in the intertemporal choice perspective. She is interested in social consequences of individual decisions, rational choice paradigm, sociology of education, local issues and problems of social inequality. In cooperation with the Institute of Sociology and other research institutions she has completed numerous projects concerning the sphere of education, local issues, nongovernmental organizations and labor market. Since 2012, she has been a member of Polish Panel Survey POLPAN team in the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

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Brian E. Green, PhD, is Professor of Sociology at Keene State College in New Hampshire, USA. His research and teaching interests focus on analyses of aspects of globalization, social change, and environmental issues from a comparative historical perspective. His recent publications have examined cross-national comparisons of per capita energy consumption, legitimacy of international legal regimes, theoretical models for understanding international environmental conflicts, and the digital divide in Poland. His current projects include a study on the positive and negative effects of social diversity in international and local contexts and a study on the social benefits of traditional farming practices in Central Europe.

Zbigniew Karpiński is an Assistant Professor in the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IFiS PAN). He also teaches introductory statistics and research methods in Collegium Civitas, a private school in Warsaw. He got his PhD in 2008 from the IFiS PAN for a dissertation on empirical tests of Blau's macrostructural theory. His scientific interests include: the study of cooperation and trust under diversity and inequality; popular perceptions of justice and reactions to injustice; formal theoretical models of homophily and intergroup ties; status processes and reproduction of inequality. His work is informed by the use of large-scale data (e.g., data from cross-national and longitudinal surveys) or experiments to test predictions derived from well-developed sociological theories. His papers were published in *Sociological Theory*, *International Journal of Sociology*, and *ASK Research and Methods*.

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Maciej D. Kryszczuk, PhD is an independent sociologist. He was an assistant professor at the Leon Kozminski Academy in Warsaw (2007–2012) and was a member of the Research Team on Comparative Social Inequality at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences (2002–2005). In 2006–2011 he was President of the Board of the Labor Section at Polish Sociological Association. His research interests focus on social structure changes, technological unemployment, and work informationalisation issues.

Robert M. Kunovich, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, is an associate professor of sociology and a distinguished teaching professor at the University of Texas at Arlington. He conducts research in the areas of race, ethnicity, and nation; political sociology; and sociology of risk. In most of his research, he examines how larger social, political, and economic forces shape people's attitudes and behaviors. In recent projects, he has sought to improve research design in multilevel studies by exploring the mechanisms through which contextual forces operate and by measuring concepts in alternative units of analysis.

Joseph J. Merry is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. His research primarily investigates class-based and racial/ethnic inequalities in education. Currently, he is investigating the role schools play in the context of rising economic inequality. Additional lines of research examine attitudes/preferences

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Danuta Życzyńska-Ciolek has been a member of the POLPAN research team since 2012. She works in the Research Team on Comparative Analysis of Social Inequality at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IFIS PAN) as a Research and Technical Specialist. She is also a PhD student at the Graduate School for Social Research at IFIS PAN. Recently she was involved in two research projects testing the possibility of combining POLPAN quantitative data with qualitative biographical interviews.