

Abstract

The doctoral dissertation entitled *Implementation of democratic assumptions in the Polish school of authors (based on the example of democratic primary schools)* is an attempt to analyze and describe innovative, democratic solutions in education. The current shortcomings of the educational system lead to the emergence of grassroots initiatives in environments that are looking for unconventional ways of education. A contestation and a radical shift in school thinking and practice becomes necessary. One of the proposals are democratic schools offering education without compulsion, grades and standard lessons, in return, helping the child in its individual development. A literature query on democratic education shows that this is an unexplored area. There are just a few works devoted to the functioning of libertarian schools in Poland, which motivated me to take up this issue. The doctoral thesis deals with the issues of both education and upbringing in the spirit of democratic principles. In the presented dissertation, the subject of my research is the implementation of democratic assumptions in the Polish school of authors, on the example of four democratic primary schools. Thanks to the methods, techniques and research tools used, I have made an in-depth analysis of the basic features of democratic schools, the atmosphere in schools, and the relationship between learning and teaching. On the basis of the collected empirical data, I achieved the assumed goals of the research: I gained knowledge about the implementation of democratic assumptions in Polish democratic schools and developed conclusions to apply them in the realities of a primary school (not only a democratic or other author's school, but also a public school). The results of the research undertaken show new possibilities of supporting the development of a young person thanks to certain democratic values.