

Anna Matuchniak-Krasuska

On researching emotions in the art. A theoretical and methodological review.

Abstract

The author undertakes an analysis of an intricate borderline between a variety of sciences focusing on combining sociology of art and sociology of emotions. The analysis focuses on the typology of emotions (e.g. according to the type and strain of emotions) and on the social context thereof (the author, the collective sender/broadcaster, the receiver and the audience, the artwork, its form and content, vehicles for emotions, institutions, the medium or channel of transmission). All sociological methods and techniques are applicable in the research on emotions, but there is a scarcity of guidelines or examples of how to employ them in the research into emotions related to art.

Keywords: sociology of art, sociology of emotions, visual research

Beata Pawłowska

Pride and shame as behaviour-effecting factors. Methodological issues.

The aim of the paper is to show how methodological difficulties may bias the research in the course of studying emotions. The problem is presented using the example of two strong emotions that affect behavior generally, and employee behavior specifically: shame and pride. Selected qualitative methods are applied to the study of these emotions, while the concepts of Thomas J. Scheff and Arlie Hochschild provide the theoretical framework. The conclusions are the result of covert and overt, participant and quasi-participant observations carried out by the author, as well as analyses of narratives and non-structured and semi-structured interviews with sales representatives, medical representatives, pharmaceutical representatives, teachers and employees of other professional groups, pertaining to their work and its emotional aspects. The focus of the paper is on discovering how to go beyond the declarative layer of data and reach what is meaningful but often hidden because of the interactional limitations of an interview situation. The paper also investigates whether emotions such as shame and pride lead to hiding and manipulating other emotions.

Keywords: emotions, pride, shame, qualitative methods, observation, semi-structured interviews

Jarosław Chodak

Why revolutionaries are (not) without emotion? Emotions in theories of revolution.

Emotions belonged to the explanatory premise of the early theoretical reflection on revolution. Both G. Le Bon and the school of the natural history of the revolution noted the importance of the feelings in the behavior of revolutionaries. Psycho-sociological theorists of revolution in the 1960s and 1970s also pointed to the collective emotional state of mind of the revolutionary actors.

Emotions “disappear” from the theory of revolution in the second half of the twentieth century. The state-centred perspective put emphasis on structural relationships and conflicts between differently situated groups, social classes and states. Emotions were also irrelevant to the rational choice theorists who analyzed the rational actor. The prospect of the return of

emotions to the analysis of the revolution came with the new trends in social research. The next generation of theorists of revolution attempted to take into account the earlier “neglected” variables. Taking cultures into account allows for the analysis of the relationship between collective memory, the role of symbols and rituals, and emotional states of the revolutionaries. Emotions have also become an important variable in theories of social movements. Adaptation of theoretical frameworks developed in the sociology of emotions and social movements makes it possible to incorporate the emotional component in the theory of revolution.

Keywords: revolution, emotions, crowd, mobilization

Magdalena Łukasiuk

Autoethnography in the sociology of emotions

The paper proposes the manner in which sociology of emotions may take advantage of autoethnography. The author analyses the cultural context of the methodological success of this perspective in the recent years as well as its methodological, cognitive and social limits. Using a selection of examples, the author points out possible areas in which autoethnography might be useful in the sociological research of emotions. The author also considers the theoretical conditions for application of this method in scientific sociological projects.

Keywords: sociology of emotions, autoethnography

Agata Maksymowicz

Negative emotions on the internet

Human beings need negative emotions to survive as a species and to face conflict situations. However, the ubiquitous presence of such emotions on the internet exceeds greatly any survival needs. Therefore, the author attempts to find the factors that contribute to such a huge verbal aggression online, mainly (but not exclusively) on message boards. The author gives examples of expected and obvious aggression (e.g. in the comments on celebrities and politicians) as well as some surprising and unexpected ones. The discussed factors vary in nature: some of them result from the very essence of the internet as a new specific medium, while others come from the concepts and theories of psychology and sociology of emotions (e.g. the power-status theory of emotions by Theodore D. Kemper).

Keywords: emotions, annoyance, anger, aggression, Internet

Jerzy Kuniewski

Happiness as perceived and experienced by women from Kaszubia

The author conducted a survey among 74 women of various ages and educational backgrounds, with roots in a community culture where individualism combines with the sense of membership in the local community and the broader national community. The happiness index among the women of Kaszubia is largely a function of good interpersonal relationships. The better the relationships, the higher the happiness rating. The opposite is also true: the worse the relationships, the lower the happiness rating. The emotional component is prominent in the happiness index of the Kaszubian women, i.e. the factor of good and spontaneous interpersonal relations. If the anticipated prosperity evokes egoism or extreme individualism that spoils good interpersonal relationships, the happiness rating drops. The survey also reveals a simple recipe for happiness for the Kaszubian women: improvement in

wealth and prosperity must be correlated with cherished good and spontaneous interpersonal relationships.

Keywords: happiness, women, Kaszubia

Anna Czerner

Sport, a play of emotions

The starting point for this paper is to investigate why sport is often perceived as inconsequential: primarily ludic, and without a social function. One of the key reasons is that the common denominator for both emotions and sports is the human body, which is culturally pushed back as irrational, as opposed to the mind and soul. Because of the body-centred nature of sport, the important objects of analysis are emotions and feelings of athletes in biological approach: “flow”, pain, adrenaline-seeking, the endorphine addition. However, the main aspect of this analysis is the socio-cultural background of expression, sublimation and emotions control in sport (and through sport). This paper refers to the concepts of interaction ritual (R. Collins), neotribalism (M. Maffesoli) and G. Simmel’s reflections on climbing and adventure. In this context, theoretical issues are considered, such as special emotional relationship connecting humans with high mountains, the phenomenon of sport supporters, and sports’ new tribes.

Keywords: sport, new tribes, mountain climbing, sports addiction, interaction ritual

Karolina Targowska

Feelings and sensory perceptions of sounds: emotions in music

The paper focuses on the three levels of involvement in music: creating, performing and listening to music. Feeling tends to be related to the process of creation and performance, while sensory perception applies to listening to music. In the article, the author attempts to describe the professional and personal emotions of three subjects who are involved in music: a composer, a performing musician and an audience member. The analyses spring from the author’s own research on narrative interviews and existing biographies. The author presents a variety of methods of utilizing the emotionalism of classical music, and indicates the technical elements of a performance to elicit emotions from a composition. Finally, the author depicts one of the most emotional kinds of classical music – the salon music.

Keywords: emotions in classical music, emotions levels of musical influence

Eliza Gryszko

Why so serious? Anthropological analysis of theme of modern jester, using the example of Joker (*The Batman, The Dark Knight*).

The paper introduces the character of a jester, discussing the concept as well as the jester’s qualities and roles. It presents research on the modern incarnations of the jester, on the basis of cultural texts in the form of films. The film character, Joker, is analysed as if he were a real person. The author studies the general characteristics of the modern jester and attempts to discover what the modern jester is like. Theoretical data is confronted with analyses of both visual and textual material, the latter in the form of comments of internet users who appear to be strongly emotionally influenced by the character.

Keywords: the Joker, jester, film character, film, internet users

Joanna Górska

Shame as a socially incited emotion

The article discusses shame from the perspective of social sciences and particularly its functions and role as a means of social control and the creation of personal identity. The principal assumption is that shame is a socially incited emotion, at the same time strongly conditioned by people around. Different categories of shame are associated with the community and the witness' perception of deviations from collectively agreed standards. The article presents a typology consisting of four variants of shame: sincere (genuine) and pretended (simulated) shame as well as primary and secondary one. This typology is supplemented by a brief description of functional aspects of shame from the identity perspective; encompassing regulative and controlling, defining, adaptive and conservative-protective function. At the individual's identity level, shame is presented as a factor shaping individual's identity by determining one's key values. In addition, it affects actor's self-perception, mainly by defining axiological standards and indicating the criteria according to which self-assessment is performed. At the socio-normative level, however, shame may be evoked as a result of confrontation with various social groups, their expectations, normative systems and response to the inconsistency of rules and roles in social interactions.

Keywords: shame, guilt, stigmatizing, identity, conformity

Marta Chyła

Anxiety of private university students as to financial and professional future: conditions and consequences.

The paper focuses on anxiety, which appears to be the dominant emotion in contemporary society (the so-called risk society). This is associated with the process of continual change of social values and norms. Individuals undergo numerous life chances in the meritocratic social system, and the lack of clear "instructions" how to reach their life goals leads to uncertainty as to their future. Students feel extra anxiety associated with their professional futures. It is interesting how this emotion (as well as other, positive or ambivalent ones) impacts the students, whether it helps and stimulates them or demobilizes them, disorganizing cognitive process and activities in which they must engage to be successful in a meritocratic social system. Certain theories claim that a level of stress is essential for the emergence of motivation to act, while others argue the opposite, i.e. that only positive attitude leads to success.

Keywords: anxiety, emotion, students, risk society, meritocratic social system

Wojciech Pawlik

On critical abilities in sociology and in the arts

The paper analyses the relations between the "scientific field" and "field of art" in the context of theory of reputation, that is – the prestige and social recognition of scientific and culture texts created within both respective fields. The author argues that scholarly texts (sociological papers among them), due to their esoteric language and high level of abstraction, require high and specialized theoretical and methodological qualifications, thus rendering such texts unintelligible to an average reader. Paradoxically, this fosters the reputation of such texts (and social role of a sociologist) as transcending "average" qualifications of the wide audience, which in turn facilitates the creation of social recognition of science and trust for scholarly institutions. The process of popularisation of scholarly knowledge and its simplification, in turn, sheds its aura of "inaccessibility" and brings it into mass-media and everyday discourse.

The process of relativisation of qualifications of authors–critics–the audience is presented in the context of popular art (cinema), where it is far more advanced than in the “science field”.

Keywords: science, art, cultural competence, discourse, critique, language, creativity

Barbara Fatyga

The people of Warmia and Mazury region.

Research information

The following text is a modified excerpt from the research report: "Culture under cloudy skies. Dynamic Diagnosis of State of Culture in the Warmia and Mazury Region". The author presents the results of Twenty Statements Test used to analyse the cultural and social capital of culture institutions' personnel in Warminsko-Mazurskie administrative region of Poland.

Keywords: Twenty Statements Test (TST), culture sector employees, social capital, cultural capital