

From the Editor

The tenth year of the publication of the journal is not yet an occasion to celebrate the jubilee, but it is certainly the basis for looking back and into the future. In subsequent issues of “Family Forum”, the authors dealt with the current problems of marriage and family, partnerships, trying to present them in an interdisciplinary perspective, also analysing the issues of the methodology of family research. There were problems of the elderly and children in the family, sexual identity and transsexualism, the drama of family violence. In the current volume, the subject of research are social and global processes that have a significant impact on the quality and functioning of the family.

The tenth volume is being published during the global COVID-19 pandemic, which will leave an indelible mark on both families themselves and on the research on family interactions in the face of deadly threats. Among the articles that we present to our Readers, there is still no scientific analysis of the “(post) covid family”, which is probably due to a too short time of functioning “in the era of the plague”. There is no doubt, however, that it is impossible to remain indifferent to this dynamic phenomenon that calls into question many obvious facts experienced in the family, such as freedom of movement and contacts, seeking and showing closeness, joint celebrations and being affected by difficult events, such as funerals, or visiting family seniors. The pompous-sounding phrase “nothing will be like it used to be” gains a new, not fully known meaning in the times of pandemic. Therefore, we assume that in one of the subsequent volumes, the family after experiencing a pandemic will become the subject of research.

However, I hope that the future not only has a pandemic face, but will present us with many old and new challenges that we cannot cope with. One of them is the everyday challenge of compatibility of work and family life. Thus, on behalf of the Editorial Board, we invite you to take up this complex of issues and share the results of your scientific research.

Focusing for a moment on the current scientific texts, it is worth noting that they depict a specific map of processes and phenomena that significantly modify the functioning of the family. The starting point is the transforma-

tion of family ties, which are of fundamental importance for the interactions among its members. However, it cannot be ignored that also the financial situation and family well-being or privation affect the family position. The multifaceted problems of the family is a fact that finds its partner both in a family policy and in the search for integrated solutions for a systemic family support. Looking at the family through the eyes of teenagers and students (and through the prism of passing away) enriches the description with new substantive accents.

The next block consists of research results from Hungary, Germany and the Czech Republic, dealing with both local (social processes in poor rural families) and national issues (patriotism in the family, integration of Roma children). The second group of problems includes the phenomena studied in two subsequent articles, namely the approach to fertility and motherhood from the perspective of women, and avoiding compulsory vaccinations of children. The latter issue will undoubtedly find its continuation in discussions on the acceptance or rejection of vaccinations against COVID-19. A tragic sign of the times with regard to the family is the publication of a few more texts on domestic violence in this volume, even though the entire previous volume was dedicated to this phenomenon. However, it cannot be denied that while characterizing the processes affecting the family, one cannot ignore the increasing violence in this area. Moreover, it is becoming a good tradition of the magazine to continue threads and put new accents on the issues that appeared in our pages in previous years.

A graphic layout of the journal cover is, consequently, the thematic trailer of the volume included in a changing square. For ten years, this concise factual message has been transmitted by a system of intertwined strings of different colours, which symbolically reflects the complexity of the family reality and the problems it faces. The meaning of the symbolic illustration in the current issue refers to the fact that the study of social processes is the domain of social sciences, and their main graphic method of presenting the results obtained are graphs. Thus, the strings symbolizing the family mark the axes of the graph showing the occurring changes that affect this basic community.

The journal, and especially its scientific, substantive and linguistic quality, is the result of the efforts of many people, to whom I express my gratitude here on behalf of the Editorial Board of the "Family Forum". We express our thanks to all the Authors of the texts, to reliable and competent Reviewers, Translators, Proofreaders and the Technical Editor. This year, my special thanks go to Katarzyna Wanke who, for ten years, took care of the linguistic quality of the journal as a proofreader of Polish and English texts. Since she ends the coopera-

tion with our journal, we wish her all the best and we assure her of our benevolent memory. The quality of the journal is also affirmed by the Scientific Council of “Family Forum”, which is attended by eminent scientists from various scientific disciplines and from different European countries. I would like to thank all of them for their cooperation.

We wish all readers a fruitful and engaging reading of the current volume.

Piotr Morciniec
The chief editor of “Family Forum”

