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INTRODUCTION
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Introduction

Polish social rehabilitation has several faces. Moreover, these faces are blurred and indistinct.

This is not good news for Polish social rehabilitation pedagogues. But above all, it is not good news for thousands of men and women, boys and girls from prisons, detention centers, correctional facilities for juveniles, youth educational centers, probation centers, and other similar institutions. Therefore, it is not good news for all of us, the rest of society.

When the subject of our knowledge is unclear and unclear, we generally have a problem with its identification and cognitive classification. The same applies to people we encounter in life who sometimes have multiple faces. We often refer to them as duplicitous. We do not want to get close to them because, as a rule, we do not trust such individuals. Perhaps that is why we approach the outcomes of Polish rehabilitation with such distance?

From a pedagogical point of view, looking at the problem, it must be acknowledged that the multitude of blurred faces in contemporary rehabilitation not only complicates its course, causing discrepancies in assessing the correctness of its process, but also creates conflicting and mutually exclusive interpretations of its substantive essence.

Above all, it causes the blurring of final effects, which require precise outlines and clear contours. The multiplicity, complexity, and even ambiguity of theoretical contexts in rehabilitation pedagogy do not necessarily indicate its weakness, but the multiplicity, complexity, and ambiguity of its practical contexts can raise justified concerns among educators and anxiety among other social environments.

A natural consequence of this state of affairs is a blurred and indistinct rehabilitation reality – a complex and multi-layered institutional and non-institutional space in which the rehabilitation process takes place. One might argue that it mirrors the indistinct and blurred faces of contemporary social rehabilitation.

Anyone who believes that Polish rehabilitation activities adhere to some logical rules would be mistaken. For example, rules that would require specific types of

rehabilitation institutions to adhere to a particular face, or rules that would require methodical interventions to be linked to specific typologies of deviant behaviors of socially maladjusted individuals. Also those that would expect clear links between the rehabilitation diagnosis (if such a diagnosis exists at all in our country) and the rehabilitative treatment resulting from it. Nothing could be further from the truth. In reality, there is both substantive and methodological chaos in rehabilitation.

Contemporary Polish social rehabilitation is also the subject of many public disputes and controversies. Generally, these are non-substantive and stem from various media reports highlighting disturbing cases of crimes and social abnormalities.

In such situations, politicians (who, as we know, are knowledgeable about everything) often speak out in the media with their visions for dealing with "bandits" and "deviants." Their statements are eagerly listened to by ordinary citizens, officials of various administrative levels, and employees of rehabilitation institutions. Sometimes these visions are translated into legislative solutions. Their dynamics depend on the personal political position of those proposing new legal solutions, supported by the so-called parliamentary majority.

Citizens usually expect protection and defense against social threats, which is understandable and natural. Therefore, the more alarming the media reports, the greater the expectations for appropriate specific responses from the authorities. The most popular proposals usually advocate for stricter criminal penalties, preferably in the form of long-term and burdensome prison isolation. Such an approach aligns with the climate of civic expectations, as it increases the subjective sense of security and satisfies the need to protect significant personal goods.

Officials, in turn, treat politicians' voices as guidelines and, whether they like it or not, get down to administrative work. It does not matter that the proposals are sometimes heterogeneous, internally contradictory, and non-substantive.

In such situations, employees of rehabilitation institutions begin to feel lost, frustrated, and underappreciated in their actions. They also feel a diminishing sense of the substantive meaning of their work, slowly transforming from educators and caretakers into "managers" administering "human resources." Pedagogical academic communities send out numerous alarming signals, which generally go unnoticed.

Then there is talk of the ineffectiveness of rehabilitation or even its crisis, sparking media debates and discussions involving journalists and non-journalists, ministers and non-ministers, parliamentarians and non-parliamentarians, specialists and laypeople, celebrities, and pop culture stars. This is an attempt to diffuse emerging social discontent while simultaneously seeking those responsible for such a state of affairs to punish them. Because not everything has to end well, even with the best intentions and engagement of the authorities, whose task is always to find those responsible for neglect and shortcomings.

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