

MATEUSZ SZUREK

Department of Polish Dialectology and Logopedics University of Lodz

Report from the 3rd International Scientific Conference

The child and the teacher in the media world

(the Faculty of Paedagogy and Arts
of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce,

22 March 2017)

On 22 March 2017., in the building of the Faculty of Paedagogy and Arts of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce there took place the 3rd International Scientific Conference under the heading The child and the teacher in the media world. This is a further meeting taking on topics related to the influence of the media on children, and the usage of mass media in school education. The conference was organised by the Students' Scientific Workshop "Mediam" operating at the Institute of School Education. Media patronage of the event was provided by the paper "Wrota Świętokrzyskie" and the foundation "Nowoczesna Polska". Masters' and doctoral students from many academic institutions participated in the event, both from Poland, as well as from abroad. Present were representatives of e.g. the Jagiellonian University of Kraków, the Maria Skłodowska-Curie University of Lublin, the Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań, the National Education Commission Paedagogical University of Kraków, the University of Silesia, the University of Łódź, the Technical University of Warsaw, and the National Fyodor Dostoyevsky University of Omsk, Russia. The lectures presented during the conference were related to several topical blocks - the child as a television viewer, functioning of the child on the Internet, the child in the world of computer games, the child - the little reader, as well 204 CONFERENCE REPORT

as the usage of media in education. The proceedings became an occasion of scientific discussions, as well as of an exchange of experiences and contacts between the scientists and the participants of the event.

The conference was officially opened by the deputy dean for scientific and artistic affairs, prof. dr hab. Urszula Ślusarczyk and the deputy dean for student and education affairs, dr Jacek Szkurłat of the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce. They stressed the importance of the topics taken on, concerning the media, media education and education using new technologies. The stage was also taken by the head of the organisational committee and the chairman of the Students' Scientific Workgroup "Mediam" – M. Sc. Ewelina Brzyszcz, who welcomed all the guests and thanked them for coming.

The plenary session was opened by special guests. Among them was prof. dr hab. Renata Piasecka-Strzelec of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, who gave the lecture entitled *From McLuhan to Castells*. She presented the main fields explored in studies concerning broadly understood media. The second special lecture given by prof. Małgorzata Bogunia-Borowska of the Jagiellonian University of Kraków, concerned the fairytale models of description of the social world. The appearances contributed to the emergence of an interesting discussion concerning the presented subjects.

During the first part, the speakers mentioned topics related to the influence of modern technologies on education. Presented was the school reality describing the relation pupil-teacher-smart phone, and its influence on the educational success in the classroom environment. The participants furthermore pondered the influence of selected Polish television series on the attitudes of children and youths – presented were specific examples of series and their influence on the functioning of young viewers. A different lecture concerned school theatres as the pupils' medium of communication with viewers. Presented were also the possibilities and risks related to video games used as adaptations of required reading during Polish language classes from the point of view of the teacher. Further musings concerned the media used in the teaching of school courses.

In the second part, there appeared topics related to the use of media in speech therapy, architecture education or the teaching of foreign languages. Topics undertaken in this section were aimed at solving the issue of whether the contemporary speech therapist should use multimedia in speech therapy, how does teaching look like if it concerns an environment

CONFERENCE REPORT 205

built using modern technologies, and how to use multimedia during foreign language classes. Topics were also touched upon concerning the information society and its influence on education, the influence of computer games on the development of the child and the risks threatening the child on-line.

Speakers focused during the third part mainly on the mode of functioning of a child on-line. The topics of the lectures covered the issue of media hypnosis. Attention was also turned to the aspect of cyber-violence, presenting it from the perspective of parents and teachers. The influence of the Internet on the functioning of the child was presented in two ways – both as a learning, as well as an entertainment experience. A large part of the lectures tackled the problem of the replacement of normal social relations by virtual reality. This issue was mentioned in speeches on the use of social media websites and the abuse of computer games. Presented were also positive aspects of multimedia use, with particular focus on the educational aspect.

A separate section was related to posters. The creators of scientific posters undertook topics related to the influence of the media on the shaping of attitudes of children and youths. The posters showcased both positive as well as negative influences of mass media, speaking about the possibilities they offer and the threats they engender. Undertaken was e. g. the subject of usage of mobile devices by the youngest children, e-education and the influence of fairy tales on the development of the child. The leading topic for the posters was the usage of mass media and their influence on the shaping of specific attitudes in children – e. g. computer games can be the cause of emergence of aggressive attitudes, on the other hand, however, the media can contribute to the establishment of a healthy life style.

The leading topic of the conference was to show the child and the teacher in a world of mass media. Much attention was paid to the topic of functioning of children and youths in the digital world, with particular focus on the positive and negative aspects of this phenomenon. A further goal of the conference was the presentation of the modes of usage of media in the work of teachers and education specialists. Lectures related to this topic showcased the possibilities of improvement and enrichment of the teaching process thanks to the rational use of the potential made available by work with modern electronic devices.

206 CONFERENCE REPORT

All the lectures presented during the conference referred to issues of paramount importance in modern times. Doubtless, contemporary youths utilise mass media very often, shaping through them their knowledge about the surrounding world, views or attitudes. Young people use media both as a form of entertainment, as well as for education. It is becoming the role of teachers to teach children the proper and worthwhile use of mass media. Hence, studies on the topic of media paedagogy constitute a very important topic worth of further study.