

Tradycja w życiu codziennym socjologów

Tradition in sociologists' everyday life

SUMMARY

Totalitarian systems destroy science and democratic societies create favourable conditions for its development. Under communism, Polish science suffered many deformations which were reflected in the pathology of academic institutions, falsified and ideological scientific works, doubtful careers of scholars. The author focuses his attention on the influence exerted by the remnants of communist tradition in the sphere of social bonds on the life of scholars today. He distinguishes two types of attitudes to the appraisal of the past: the attitude of “an advocate” which is an official interpretation of the history of science and manifests itself in the “heroic image of the past” and the attitude of “a prosecutor” which appears in the sphere of scholars' unofficial life and manifests itself in formulating accusations against those scholars who collaborated with communist authorities and were partly responsible for destroying science in Poland.

In every science there are three cultural patterns which depict the relations between scholars in the aspect of power: a) master – apprentice (the master hands down his knowledge to the apprentice and prepares him for the task of solving cognitive problems; b) superior – subordinate (the superior and the subordinate perform their tasks according to the rules specified by the bureaucracy); c) patron – client (an informal relation serving to pursue personal interests, where the patron is the client's protector in exchange for the client's support). The character of science depends on the pattern which dominates in it. Thus, we can have normal science, bureaucratic science and clientelist science.

As a result of the devaluation of academic authority under communism, present Polish science has the character of clientelist science.