



ZAPROSZENIE

Instytut Socjologii UW zaprasza w poniedziałek 18 kwietnia br. (w godz. 16-17.30, sala 104) na wykład prof. Louise Ryan pt.



LOOKING FOR WEAK TIES: USING A MIXED METHODS APPROACH TO CAPTURE ELUSIVE CONNECTIONS

Abstract: Ever since Granovetter's path breaking work in the 1970s, there has been much discussion about the extent to which weak ties are important in finding new jobs and generally getting ahead in society. Subsequent research has found evidence to both support and challenge his original theory. However, concerns have also been expressed about the meaning of this concept. What exactly are 'weak ties', how are they created and what resources flow through them? In my previous work, I have suggested the need to distinguish between the relationships and resources available in horizontal and vertical ties. This paper goes further, drawing on new, mixed methods research with Polish migrants, I explore what types of social ties are useful in contexts of deskilling and finding jobs commensurate with qualifications. I argue that tie strength and ethnic composition are less important than relative social distance and willingness to share valuable resources. I propose that 'strong ties' can also act as bridges (or ladders), while ties which are too 'weak' may lack necessary trust to share latent resources. I also suggest the importance of a temporal perspective to explore the dynamism and life cycle of ties over time – as some lapse while others strengthen.

Później (w godz. 18.00 – 19.00) są zaplanowane konsultacje dla doktorantów Instytutu Socjologii UW (sala 104).

Prof. Louise Ryan jest profesorem socjologii, obecnie jednym z dyrektorów Social Policy Research Centre (Middlesex University, Hendon Campus, London, NW4 4BT, l.ryan@mdx.ac.uk). Jest uznaną badaczką m.in. migracji i specjalistką od metodologii badań społecznych. Jej ostatnie publikacje obejmują m.in. książkę: Linda McKie and Louise Ryan (eds) (2016), *An End to the Crisis of Empirical Sociology? Trends and challenges in social research* (Routledge <https://www.routledge.com/products/9781138828674>), "Irish Journal of Sociology", Special section on migration from Ireland since the economic recession guest edited by Mary Hickman and Louise Ryan; Ryan, Mulholland and Agoston (2014) *Talking Ties: reflecting on network visualisation and qualitative interviewing*, "Sociological Research Online" (<http://www.socresonline.org.uk/19/2/16.html>) oraz Ryan and Mulholland (2014), *French Connections: The networking strategies of French highly skilled migrants in London* "Global Networks" 14 (2): 148-166.