

SUMMARY

The gymnasium of Laukuva: the search for values from sociological viewpoint

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The article presents a study of values of schoolchildren and their parents as well as teachers of Laukuva gymnasium in the period of economic changes in Lithuania. The data were taken from the sociological research accomplished during the expedition in 2001.

The research data show that two-thirds of schoolchildren are contented with studying at the gymnasium. 50 percent of school-leavers think about studying at universities. The most important things in life for schoolchildren are learning, association with the beloved, friends, starting a family, work according to a profession. The majority of schoolchildren loves their country and admire the surrounding nature. Nonetheless they notice that there are slovenly and inebriate people in the town. Schoolchildren do not take part in voluntary activities, have no interest in politics, almost do not read works of fiction.

Teachers are also contented with their work at the gymnasium. The majority of them emphasize that the staff of schoolteachers is good, strong and eager for perfection and good results. Social psychological climate of the school is very good. Teachers can be on their own and there are deep democratic traditions at school.

The main problems are decreasing the number of schoolchildren hardly able to learn and a relatively low level of culture in the country. The majority of teachers have optimistic feelings about the future of their school.

The inquiry data show that parents have good relations with the gymnasium. The majority of parents are disappointed with work and life conditions in the country. They want their children to become town-dwellers. In parents view, the government does not pay enough attention to the improvement of living conditions of people in villages and reducing unemployment.