

SUMMARY

The relationship between digital media and children exhibits considerable interdependence. It is difficult to find areas of childhood in which new technologies do not play a role. Children have “befriended” their smartphones, tablets and other devices that help them to transfer between physical and virtual reality. On the one hand, the effects of this bond have been visible in research conducted in many areas of science. However, on the other hand, owing to dynamic changes concerning the way children function, as well as in new technologies, a number of still undiscovered areas have been revealed. One of such categories is children’s culture, which can take different forms in the face of digitisation of children’s space than several dozen years ago. Therefore, the research conducted for this doctoral dissertation focused on an attempt **to reconstruct manifestations of children’s culture generated on the internet as part of children’s internet communication.** For this purpose, I took several measures which were described in seven chapters that make up the dissertation.

The first three chapters provide the theoretical context of the phenomenon under analysis. First, I considered the development of studies on children and childhood. I made an attempt at arranging the approaches in studies of children from the following perspectives: historical, pedagogical and sociological. The *new paradigm of childhood sociology* and the theory of children’s voices provided the theoretical axis. In the second chapter, I considered a category of new media, in particular on the Internet, which is their main representative. Based on the literature, I referred to the main types of impact of a web user on the quality of human experience, paying special attention to the specificity of internet communication. I also showed the direction of studies using new information and communication technologies by children. The inspiration for the author’s further studies was provided by D. Buckingham’s theory of social conditions in which children use the internet. The categories that were referred to (child, childhood, Internet, Internet communication) were complemented by consideration of the specificity of studies of children’s culture taken up in the third chapter of the dissertation in which I showed the development of the research abroad and in Poland. Of special value was the research of W. Corsaro, which in Poland was adapted and developed by M. Nowicka.

In chapter four, I provided the study design and I described the research problems divided into two parts. The first of them was auxiliary in nature and provided the

reconnaissance of the research field with a survey. In the second (main) part, which was additionally divided into two study areas, I applied the quality approach in netnographic studies. Therefore, the complex nature of the study determined the types of methods of data accumulation applied, the selection of a study sample and analysis of data, which were also described in the methodological part.

The three consecutive chapters with the conclusion make up the report of the author's research. Their sequence reflects the parts and areas of study referred to above. Chapter five (the initial part of the study) was devoted to an analysis of data gathered by a survey. Its aim was to show the methods of internet use by children and to identify the network spots where children function. Chapter six (proper part of the study - area one) contains characteristics of selected "web courtyards" where children's culture is generated. I also categorised selected examples of children's e-creations, treating them like elements of contemporary children's culture. Chapter seven (the main part of the study - area two) contains an analysis of the specificity of children's internet communication. I interpret in categories as part of the subject matter dealt with by children at selected web sites and I also define specific features of children's language, identified during an analysis of examples of internet communication.

Being aware that the categories obtained as part of an attempt to reconstruct the manifestations of children's e-culture are only one of many possible interpretations of the accumulated material, enables regarding the study as representative. It is all the more so that the choice of web sites indicated by children, where the data were accumulated, was subjective to a certain extent. However, it was my goal to resume the discussion on the phenomenon of children's culture - this time in the face of digitisation of life and, possibly, to initiate new questions related to the specificity of modern childhood.