

## Editor's Preface

We are pleased to present the first issue of the *Journal of Gender and Power* published by the Department of Multicultural Education and Social Inequality Research at the Faculty of Educational Studies at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan.

The magazine is interdisciplinary in nature, and its main objective is to create a platform for debate focused on the question of how cultural gender is built and rebuilt in contemporary societies. Without doubt, the dynamics of changing sexual identities of femininity and masculinity in contemporary societies deserves detailed academic discussion (also through comparison with historical context). Some decades ago, it would seem easy to answer the question on what it means to be a woman and what it means to be a man. Currently, there are many ways of carrying out femininity and masculinity, or carrying out cultural gender. It is accompanied by increasing theoretical pluralism as far as approaches to femininity and masculinity go, and an increasing confrontation of various ideological approaches.

The foundation of the *Journal of Gender and Power* does not originate from any preassumptions, although the category of equality certainly is its elementary message. On the other hand, the category of power present in its title may have several connotations. One can refer to its post-structural interpretation where power constitutes truth and is part of a fight on the meanings ascribed to social life, and femininity and masculinity. However, power can also refer to opportunities as far as carrying out one's own subjectivity in building one's own femininity or masculinity goes. In turn, in analyses on power it is also possible to make attempts at understanding how it is used by dominating groups to build social inequalities, including gender inequalities.

We assume that the *Journal of Gender and Power* will be a forum for interdiscourse and interparadigmatic dialogue among representatives of various options, in the theoretical, ideological and methodological contexts. We also assume that each issue will include texts in culture studies

and sociology that go beyond the issue of gender in the strict sense of the word, providing a detailed background for understanding gender processes.

You are welcome to publish in *Journal of Gender and Power*.

Agnieszka Gromkowska-Melosik  
Editor-in-Chief