

## **Ways of Spending Leisure Time by Young People from Rural Areas. Empirical study**

### **Abstract**

In the article, based on the specialist literature and empirical studies, the ways (forms) of spending free time by children and young people from rural areas have been discussed. First the term “leisure time” has been explicated, then functions of free time have been distinguished, and finally the specificity of spending leisure time by rural families has been presented. Having discussed the methodological assumptions (concerning the research aim, problems, method, technique, tools as well as respondents’ profiles) the research results regarding various aspects of rural children’s and young people’s leisure time such as: the amount of free time per day, leisure time activities, interests of the respondents, free time companions, the places of spending leisure time and other issues have been analysed. The findings – quantitative data – have been also presented in the form of tables. In the final part of the article conclusions have been formulated which summarise the research results.

**Key words:** *free/leisure time, rural family, rural environment, school, local environment.*

### **Introduction**

Nowadays, leisure time seems to be one of the most rapidly developing spheres of modern life. The greater and greater advancement in technology results in increasing the quantity of time devoted to leisure. However, it does not really mean that the quality of time (particularly the quality of the child’s free time) develops at the