

gania narkomanii. Największy spadek wystąpił w przypadku policji, towarzyszy mu największy wzrost odsetka badanych, którzy uważają, że nie są podejmowane żadne działania.

### **Drug abuse as a social problem**

A questionnaire survey concerning attitudes and beliefs about drug abuse and AIDS was carried out in five towns in Poland in summer 1990. According to the respondents' estimates, drug abuse ranked in the middle of the list of most serious social problems. Drug dependence is perceived, above all, in terms of illness, of being unfortunate and rejected, and less often in terms of social parasitism or demoralisation. The respondents almost unanimously believed that drug abusers should receive treatment and care, less than a half of subjects thought they should be isolated. The majority of respondents were for compulsory treatment. Among various institutions involved in the problem of drug dependency, the ones most salient in public opinion were health care and the Church.

As compared to the results of an earlier study completed in the Bydgoszcz voivodship in 1987, the present survey indicates a decrease in the social interest in the drug abuse problem, a somewhat lesser readiness to helping behaviors, and a decreased saliency of perceived preventive efforts of the majority of institutions - above all, of the police.