

lamencie. To rozbitcie nie będzie sprzyjać sformowaniu się mocnego, konsekwentnego lobby patrzącego na scenę alkoholową z punktu widzenia zdrowia publicznego i rozwoju polityki wobec alkoholu.

Problemy alkoholowe pomijane są w programach wszystkich partii politycznych z wyjątkiem Polskiej Partii Przyjaciół Piwa. Wydaje się, że dopiero wyraźniejsza krystalizacja sytuacji politycznej i społecznej pozwoli na aktywniejszą politykę wobec alkoholu.

Alcohol Policy in the Light of Social Changes

Summary

The Polish study on "Community Response to Alcohol Problems" was commenced in 1987 within the frames of the European study on the same subject, carried on in cooperation with European Office of the WHO. The study was carried on in two communities - Mokotów, w Warsaw districts and Sianów a rural communities in North-West Poland. The study was confirmed distinct diversity in perception of the rank of alcohol problems. The inhabitants of both the communities viewed alcoholism as the country-wide No. 1 problem. The social response to alcohol problems show mainly the tendency to push the question of solving such problems onto institutions or onto the closest members of the concerned person's family. Spontaneous response of passers-by or neighbors are rather rare. The study has also confirmed the existence of a phenomenon called a preventive paradox. Characterizing generally the social response to alcohol issues one should emphasize that the interest in preventive actions becomes relatively weaker. The history of the presented program and activities undertaken shows very distinctly that social changes may influence the perception of alcohol problems in various way. The early stages of the development of democracy, strong tendency to develop the market economy, fascination by privatization, favor approaching alcohol in a way similar to that of any other commodity. In such a situation the public health perspective struggles its way in social practice with difficulty. The expectations that local authorities will be able to cope with alcohol problems better than the central ones are not fulfilled.