Ghetto as a space of socially excluded people

Social exclusion as insufficient involvement in the systems of production, family life, life of the community and political life,

Social exclusion as lack of access to basic civil rights, including the right to political and religious beliefs,

Social exclusion as lack of recognition within civic society, involvement in cultural activities,

Social exclusion lack of sharing of social rights, including the right to access social institutions, education and health care, to enjoy social protection and to be able to secure housing.

Ghetto

- Wacquant defines ghetto as an „ethno-race formation that combines all four forms of race superiority: categorization, discrimination, segregation, and exclusivist violence".

- Jary&Jary: „…ghetto is a part of the city that is inhabited by culturally and ethnically homogeneous group, but at the same time by socially disadvantaged people for whom society has no usage".

Ghettoization

- The process by which minority groups are forced out of the mainstream either physically or culturally.

- The term ghettoization refers to systematic push of groups of people that do not belong to the core part of society into an overcrowded urban area often associated with specific ethnic or racial populations living below the poverty line.

De-ghettoization

- Continuous process of ghettoization can be portrayed as a spiral of self-fulfilling prophecies of majority about excluded group. Ghettoization has its internal logic – after one step necessarily another one will follow and it is increasingly difficult to overcome problems connected to it once processes reached its higher levels.

- Processes of ghettoization have several stages and they are both reasons and consequences of the process: stigmatization of the group and its spatial exclusion, social exclusion, repression against it and its eventual physical violence.

- De-ghettoization means to break gradation of social exclusion and return to „zero point" – where stigmatization of the group will be solved and members of the community will approached as individuals without stereotypes.

Ghettoization in Central European region and its internal logic

- Legitimization of radical approaches
- Forcible move so-called „un-adjustable" citizens into locality unsuitable for living
- Closing of the locality, establishment of physical and symbolic boundaries and „no go areas"
- Systematic lost of social capital in relation to other parts of the city
- Closing of the locality from inside – demands for inclusive space
- Establishment of parallel institutions
- Open animosities toward institutions of a dominant group on the territory of a „ghetto"
- Emergence of culture in isolation
- Escape of last remnants of the middle class
- Emergence of pathological behavior
- Further stigmatization /for instance removal of services/
- Complete abandonment of the locality by city
- Establishment of the new „rules of the game" inside the ghetto
- Resignation of inhabitants of the ghetto, alienation and anomy reaching unprecedented levels

Ghettoization as a social problem?

- Two types of problems: routine and social problems.

- Social problem as a „*certain situation in the life of significant group of people that is in contradiction with their norms, values, and needs, it creates some difficulties to them and they perceive it as unnecessary*".

Four stages of a social problem evolution

- 1. Emergence and defining of a social problem
- 2. Acceptance of a problem by society
- 3. Mobilization in order to introduce solutions and institutionalization of the problem
- 4. Solution of the problem

Matured social problem

- Term „social problem" therefore can be understood as a situation in a life of significant group of people that is in contradiction with their norms and needs, and they are ready and capable to solve it by collective activity.

- Matured social „problem" is a social problem that affects significant group of people, these people publically express their readiness to solve it, they know how to solve it, and they created opportunities to solve it.

Conditions necessary for social problems positive solutions

- Legislative

- Financial

- Institutional

- Social

Social conditions

- Believe that a problem can be solved
- Believe of being able to competent to judge the situation
- Existence of socially accepted norms of „normal" situation
- Trust in possibility to engage in order to deal with a problem
- Complex information about the situation
- Readiness to be involved in the process of problems solving
- Trust in competence of responsible institutions
- Trust in democratic solutions of a problem

Conclusions

- Ghettoization is not perceived as a social problem by any of significant strata of society.

- Ghettoization is direct consequence of fragmentarization of society in late modernity and crumbling social cohesion of post-modern societies.

- Processes of de-ghettoization cannot be introduced without strong pressure from the government, often against the will of people, communities, and local governments.