

gim karakteristikama. Urednici savjetuju buduće istraživače koje teorijske modele treba rabiti, ističu potrebu za prikupljanjem odgovarajućih podataka radi dobivanja kvalitetnijih rezultata i savjetuju upotrebu kvalitativnih i kvantitativnih metoda koje se uspješno dopunjuju.

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**POMAK PREMA**  
**MODERNOSTI**  
**Žene u Hrvatskoj**  
**u razdoblju zrele**  
**modernosti**

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This remarkable book *Pomak prema modernosti: Žene u Hrvatskoj u razdoblju zrele modernosti* [Moving Towards Modernity: Women in Croatia in the Period of Mature Transition] by Prof. Dr. Inga Tomić-Koludrović was recently awarded the 2015 State Award for Science in the field of Social Sciences. Meticulously written, this is an ambitious, theoretically insightful book in which the author continues her discussion about the position of women in Croatian society. Mainly relying on her own research carried out in 2005 and 1999 as well as other relevant studies that dealt with values, attitudes and practices of women in Croatia, she examines the position of women in Croatia. One of its main findings is that contrary to prevailing assumptions about the

"retraditionalisation" of women in the transition period, empirical research described in this book shows that during the so-called late post-socialist transition in Croatia (i.e., between 2005 and 2013) there was "a shift towards modernity" among women. However, the types "indecisively modern" and "transitionally reflexive" that she has identified in this study (described in more detail below), reflect its ambivalent and transitional nature.

In the first part of the book, the theoretical framework for conceptualisation of research instruments used in the 2005 study as well as methodological considerations and results of factor, cluster and socio-demographic analyses are presented. The social position, attitudes, values and practices of women in Croatia are theoretically explored using a complex theoretical model based on recent theories of modernisation. Authors such as Beck, Giddens, Touraine, Eisenstadt, Inglehart and Welzel as well as contemporary Asian authors such as Kyung-Sup Chang and Chiao-Ling Chien are referenced in this book. The author also draws on theories of structuration and gender (e.g., Risman, Lorber and Connell). The development of such a complex theoretical model facilitates a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the position of women in Croatia, as well as an interpretative framework for the construction of types based on cluster analysis (see chapters 2 and 3 in co-authorship with Željka Zdravković). It is also worth mentioning that although the author largely cites the works of sociologists, she also refers to authors from other disciplines such as political sciences, theology, philosophy, economics, psychology, anthropology and social policy.

Based on research carried out in 2005, innovatively, for the first time in Croatia, four types of women in Croatia are identified in this comprehensive book. They include: pre-modern, traditional, indecisively modern and transitionally reflexive, and their regional distribution in Croatia is also provided. The smallest group of women

belonged to the pre-modern type (14.44%) and their average age is 58. Although this is the oldest group with more than half over 60 years of age, 34.1% are in their 30s and 40s. With the lowest levels of education, most have not finished primary school and their husbands are more educated. Most of these women have children and are married or widows. They live in households with five or more members with no computer, where only one person is employed. The majority (80%) lived in villages until the age of 15 and most of this type can be found in Slavonia (28.3%) and Northern Croatia (22.8%).

The largest group belong to the traditional type of woman (33.81%) where the average age is 53 and almost a third (32.5%) are over 60. Although this group is more educated than the pre-modern type, only 24.4% have a secondary school education and their husbands are more educated. Most were also socialised in villages and this type can be found in Slavonia (21.6%), Zagreb and the County of Zagreb (21.6%). As in the previous group, most are married or widows but there is a higher share of unmarried (10.3%) and divorced (5.1%) women. A quarter (25%) live in households with five or more persons and 40% have access to a computer.

More than a quarter of the surveyed women (27.9%) belong to the indecisively modern type, where the average age is 46. Almost a third (28.4%) are over 60 and 21% are in the younger age group (18-29 years). A third have finished either primary or secondary education and at some levels (e.g., 4-year secondary education) are more educated than their partners. Most of these women grew up in villages (56.2%) and this type can be found

in Northern Croatia (27.8%), Dalmatia (25.6%), Zagreb and the County of Zagreb (24.4%). The majority are married (55.1%) while a high number are unmarried (31.8%). A fifth (24.6%) live in households with five or more members where two persons have a regular income and 40.2% of households have a computer.

Finally, the transitionally reflexive type (23.81%) is the youngest group with an average age of 35 (49% are middle-aged and a third are in the younger age groups). They are also the most educated group where most (69.1%) have finished secondary school and 24.2% have completed tertiary education. Their partners have a similar level of education. Half (49.7%) grew up in cities and can be found in Zagreb and the County of Zagreb (31.3%) as well as Dalmatia (30%). Almost as many are unmarried (41%) as married (49%). A quarter (24.2%) live in households with two members and 37.6% live in households with four members where two persons have a regular income with access to a computer. Generally speaking, it could be said that women in this type are younger, more educated and live in smaller households with a higher standard of living compared to the pre-modern type. Interestingly, women in Dalmatia are not included in the first two types of women (pre-modern and traditional). Contrastingly, there we find a transitionally reflexive or an indecisively modern type of woman, which means that women want both a family and a career and are trying to achieve both in Dalmatia.

In the second part of the book, an interpretation of results in relation to different spheres of women's lives (such as paid work, family, religion, and politics) is presented. Based on primary and secondary empirical data on these different areas of women's lives in Croatia, the book offers a new theoretical reflection on their social status. Findings are presented in a comparative context, i.e., in relation to relevant comparative data and theoretical interpretations from other European countries. In these four chapters, the book ex-

amines the social position of women in Croatian society in the post-socialist transition period precisely dealing with various areas of women's lives. For example, in the chapter on women and paid work, the author elaborates that the main problem in the earlier transition period was related to the forced return of women to the domestic sphere, or the "triple burden", that women had to endure due to paid and unpaid domestic work, as well as work in the shadow economy to make ends meet while men were at the war-front. In comparison, more recently identified as a problem, women, despite higher levels of education, are paid less than men in many professions. Changes have also been detected in the private sphere. Findings show that employed women do considerably more domestic work and child-care (except for playing with children) than men. Although they do less domestic work compared to the earlier transition period, women still continue to be responsible for most of this work. In relation to religion, the majority of women (87.8%) largely self-identify with Catholicism and frequently participate in religious practices (e.g., 70.5% pray at least once a week not counting religious rituals) but they are increasingly critical towards the public role of the Church particularly on themes related to women and women's bodies. In relation to politics and women, research findings show that women continue to show little interest in "state politics" as in the earlier transition period but are more willing to participate in the work of civil associations although they are not actively involved in civil society.

In a format that is teacher-friendly and student-focused, this book offers sum-

maries of relevant research and studies written in an accessible writing style for each area of women's lives (paid work, family, religion, and politics). Namely, the analyses and interpretations presented in these areas are always preceded by a comprehensive introduction to a particular theme that serves as a theoretical overview facilitating a socio-cultural and historical contextualisation of the position of women in Croatia. This is a definite asset of the book as it successfully links historical processes with the current socio-cultural context of Croatian society. In addition, at the end of the chapter there is a separate conclusion where findings based on analyses and interpretations are clarified. The quality of this empirically based study indicates that it will become compulsory reading material for students of sociology and other related disciplines.

Based on comprehensive analysis and interpretations presented in this book, the author concludes that – despite strong external pressures on women to become more traditional – they were one of the few segments of Croatian society that experienced the opposite – modernisation in the transition period. The author aptly points out that analyses of all the mentioned sources in this book are indispensable for the analysis of the social position of women in 'mature' transition, but also for an evaluation of the extent of modernisation in Croatia. Although the author admits that the book took a long time to write, we are also indebted to her for providing a thorough analysis and framework for future reference and studies. Namely, the author proposes that results from this study can be compared to future findings. In other words, it will be possible to use these findings as a baseline and monitor attitude and value changes within each type of woman as well as eventual typology changes in the future. I highly recommend this book as an informative source book that will definitely become a leading handbook in this field.

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