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Field Study Abstract

Research Topic: Women's Protests and Feminist Revolution in Polish Press Coverage

Abstract:

2016 and 2020 were announced feminist watershed years by various Polish scholars. Thousands

of Poles got involved in the feminist movement and protests to protect women's rights and

support gender equality. The 2016 and 2020 protests were widely commented on in mass media

by well-known figures such as politicians, journalists, scholars, or activists and by others, mostly

online. However, was it truly the feminist revolution? The feminist movement is still not

regularly present in media discourse. It seems that there is a lack of interest in the movement in

the media discourse, except for a few newsworthy moments.

Numerous research acknowledges the importance of press coverage for social movement's

viability. However, at the same time, scholars noted that the media struggle to accurately portray

social movements and protests, often falling into the protest paradigm.

This research is a comparative press coverage study of protests. It examines the press coverage

of Polish feminist protests in 2016 and 2020 in two popular Polish weekly newspapers. The aim

is to analyze the language and frames surrounding the press coverage of feminist protests, and

the frequency of protests' coverage.

Keywords: Poland, Feminist Movement, Protest, Media Coverage, Print Media