

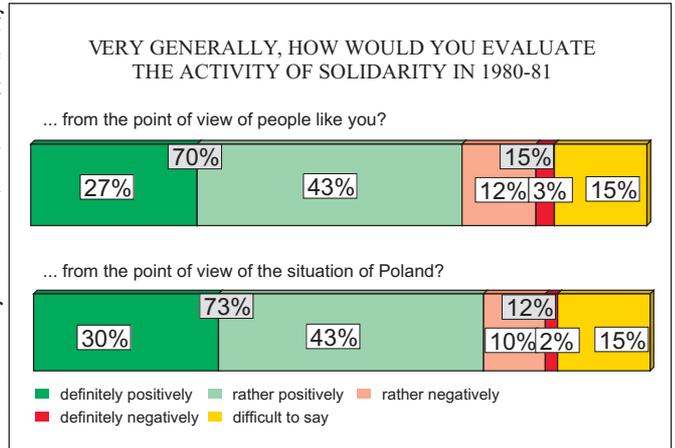
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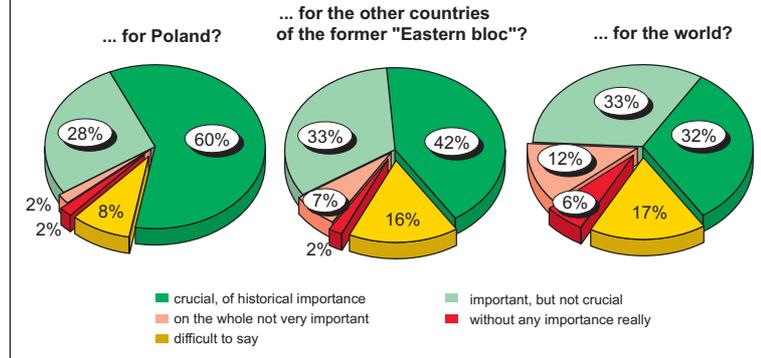
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER THE BIRTH OF SOLIDARITY

From the perspective of twenty-five years after the signing of the August Agreement, the Poles evaluate the activity of the Solidarity movement during the sixteen months of 1980-81 positively. Most respondents notice its positive effect not only on the country, but also on the lives of ordinary people.

Three out of five Poles see the establishment and the activity of Solidarity in the years



HOW IMPORTANT WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITY OF SOLIDARITY IN THE YEARS 1980-81

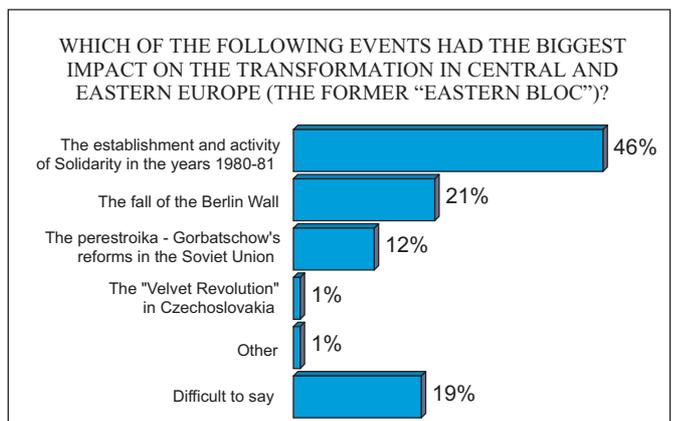


1980-81 as a turning point in the country's history, an event of historical importance. More than a quarter regard it as important, although not crucial. Opinions questioning the importance of this event for Poland are very rare. On the whole, almost ninety percent of the Poles agree that August 1980 (the birth of Solidarity)

and the 16-month period then started were of utmost importance for Poland.

Most respondents also notice the great importance of August 1980 and Solidarity for other countries of the former "Eastern bloc". More than two-fifths of the Poles believe it was a crucial event of historical importance for those countries. One-third regard it as important, although not crucial. Also in this case the opinions questioning the historical role of Solidarity in the years 1980-81 are rare.

Two-thirds of the Poles see the establishment and activity of Solidarity as very important not only for Poland and Central and Eastern Europe, but for the world as well. A third of the respondents regard it as a crucial event of historical



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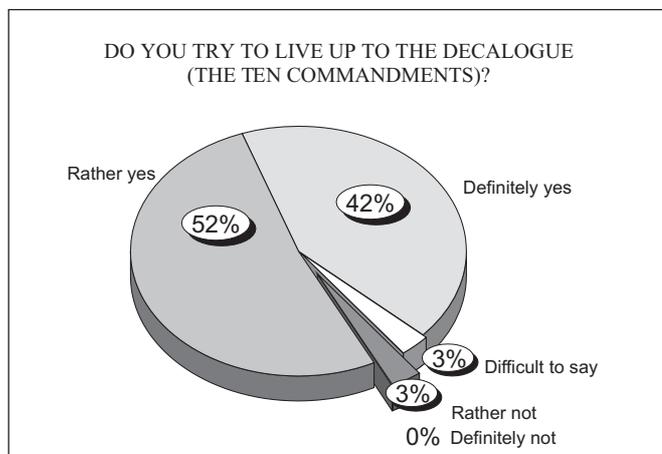
importance and the same proportion regard it as important, although not crucial for the world. Less than a fifth believe that, on a global scale, the establishment of Solidarity had little or no importance.

In the opinion of the Poles, the establishment and activity of Solidarity in the years 1980- 81 had a bigger impact on the transformation in Central and Eastern Europe than the fall of the Berlin Wall or the perestroika in the Soviet Union.

More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Twenty five years after the birth of Solidarity*, August 2005. Survey executed in August 2005. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=949.

ETHICAL NORMS AND PRINCIPLES

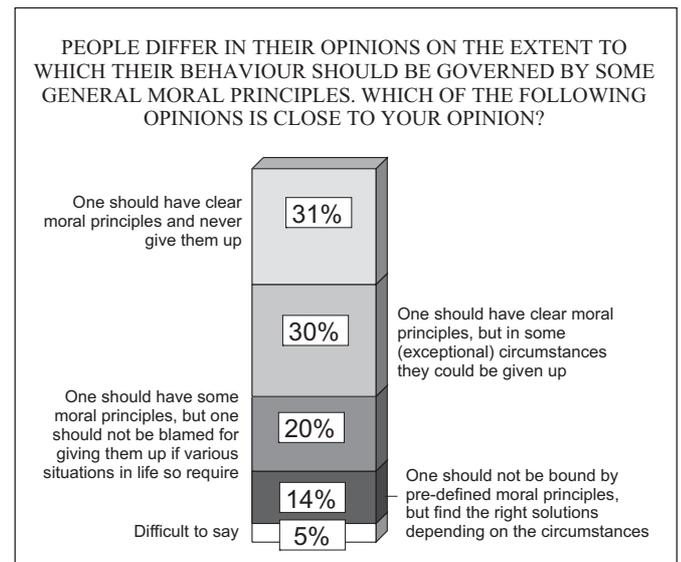
A vast majority of the Poles (95%) regard themselves as Catholics, and more than half (60%) declare participation in religious practices (the Mass, other services or religious meetings) at least once a week. Thus, it is not surprising, that almost everyone declares that they are trying to keep the Ten Commandments, and most admit that the Pope John Paul II and the religious principles have had a big influence on their views.



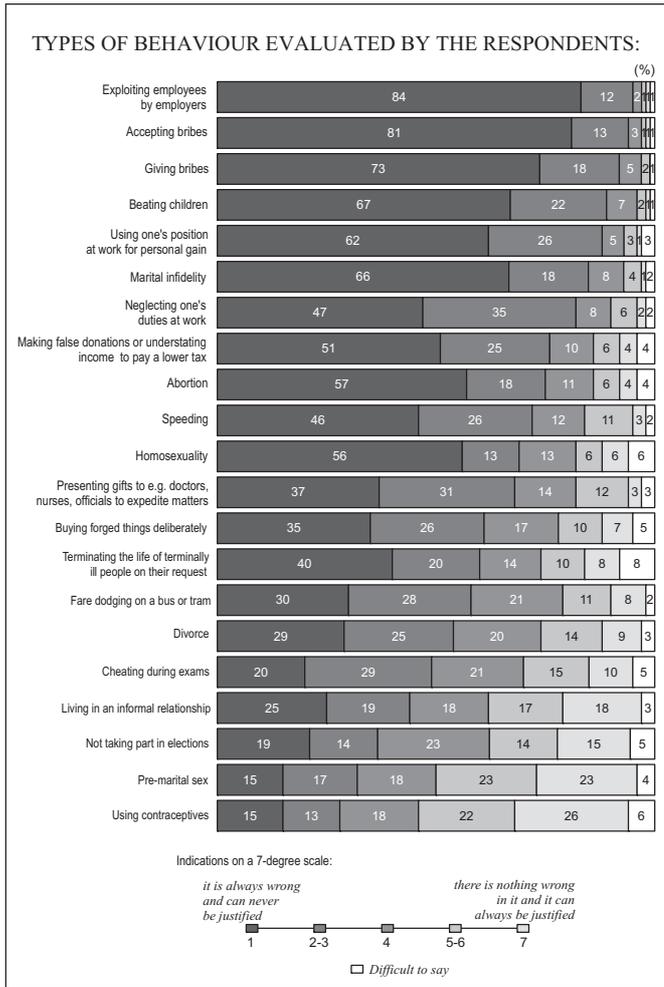
Being Catholic, self-identification as a religious person or even regular participation in religious practices are not always synonymous with the acceptance of the ethical principles of religion and their absolutely binding nature. Less than two-fifths of the respondents (38%) believe that there are clear rules defining what is right and what is wrong, which are applicable to everyone, regardless of the circumstances. More than half of the respondents (53%) express the opinion that good and evil are not objective. In their opinion, whether a specific act should be treated as morally right or wrong to a large extent depends on various circumstances.

Less than a third of the respondents (31%) acknowledge the need to have clear and unchangeable

moral principles. The same number (30%) believe that it is desirable to have clear moral principles, but admit that in some situations such principles could be regarded as not binding. One in five respondents (20%) say that it is good to have principles, but the complex nature of everyday life sometimes forces people to reconsider their values. One in seven respondents (14%) believe that ethics should be entirely based on the circumstances. According to this group of respondents, it is pointless to set any general moral principles. In their opinion, the circumstances force people to behave in the way which is right from the point of view of ethics at a given moment.



There are certain types of behaviour, which are considered blameworthy from the point of view of morality or even the law, but nonetheless are quite common in the society and regarded as controversial or even acceptable. A definite majority of the respondents regard the following behaviour as bad, and more than half condemn it regardless of the circumstances: beating children, using one's position at work for personal gain, bribery and marital infidelity. The respondents also disapprove of the following types of behaviour, although not as strongly: neglecting one's duties at work, abortion, tax fraud, homosexuality and speeding. The following are evaluated as indecent by more than half of the respondents, but only by a third as unacceptable under any circumstances: presenting gifts to doctors, nurses or officials to expedite matters, euthanasia, buying forged things deliberately, fare dodging, and divorce. The following types of behaviour are condemned much less frequently: cheating during exams, living in an informal relationship, and not taking part in the elections. Moreover, as far as sexual behaviour is concerned, pre-marital sex or using contraceptives is usually seen in a positive rather than a negative light. More or less a quarter of the respondents believe that such behaviour is always justified.



More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Values and norms in the lives of the Poles*, August 2005. Survey executed in July 2005. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1021.

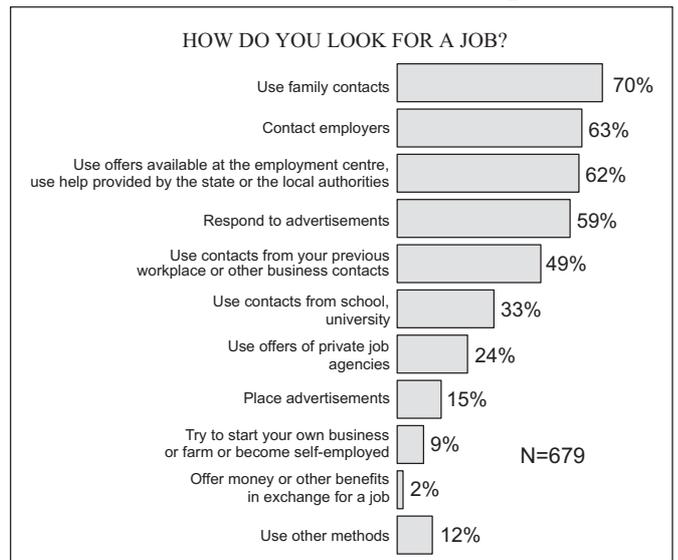
LABOUR FORCE STATUS AND JOB SEEKING

Two-fifths of all adult Poles (41%), about fifty percent of men and about a third of women, are in paid employment. If the persons who passed the retirement age are excluded, the proportion of working Poles aged 18 to 59 (women) and 18 to 64 (men) is 52%.

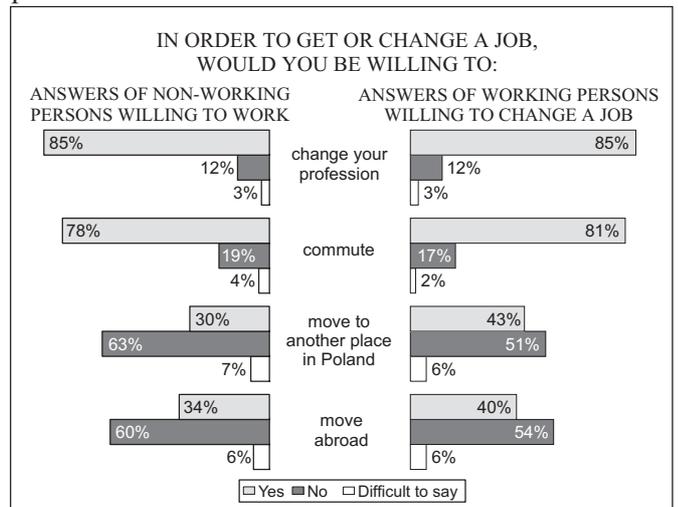
About a sixth of adult Poles (16%) are presently looking for a job and a further 9% would accept an interesting offer, although they do not actively seek employment. Three quarters of adults are satisfied with their current status. This question was answered by all respondents, both working and non-working.

The most common method of looking for a job is using family contacts - 70% of those who look for a job ask their family for help. Almost two-thirds of job seekers (63%) directly contact employers. The same proportion use offers of employment centres or other forms of help

organized by the state or the local authorities. Most job seekers respond to advertisements. Contacts established in previous workplaces are a valuable capital which helps obtain information or assistance in finding or changing a job. However, only half of job seekers use them. Much fewer respondents count on school or university acquaintances. Private job agencies do not play an important role yet, but are likely to gain importance soon. About a quarter of job seekers have contacted such an agency. More or less one in seven job seekers advertise. For some of the unemployed, starting their own business could be the solution. One in eleven job seekers tries to start a business or a farm or become self-employed.



A definite majority of non-working persons who would like to work are prepared to change their profession. More than three quarters could commute. However, most would not move, whether to another place in Poland or abroad. Interestingly, slightly more persons would be willing to go abroad to work than to another place in Poland.



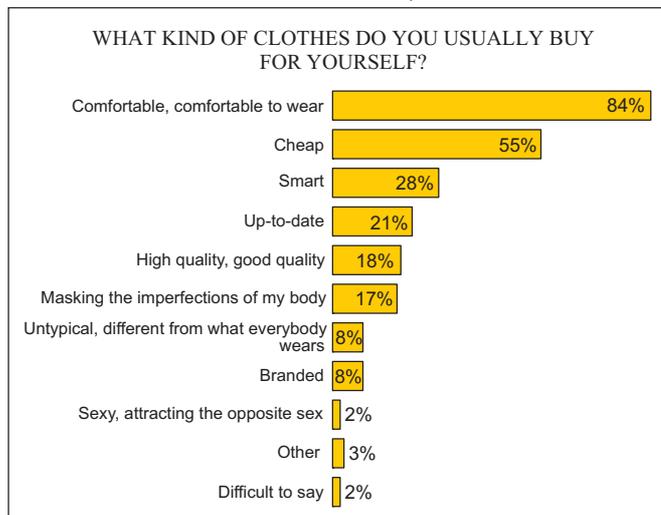
Those who work, but would like to change their job, are more mobile than non-working persons. About

two-fifths could move to another place in Poland or abroad.

More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Labour force status of different social groups. Job seeking: the methods, flexibility, financial expectations*, August 2005. Survey executed in April/May 2005. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=4169

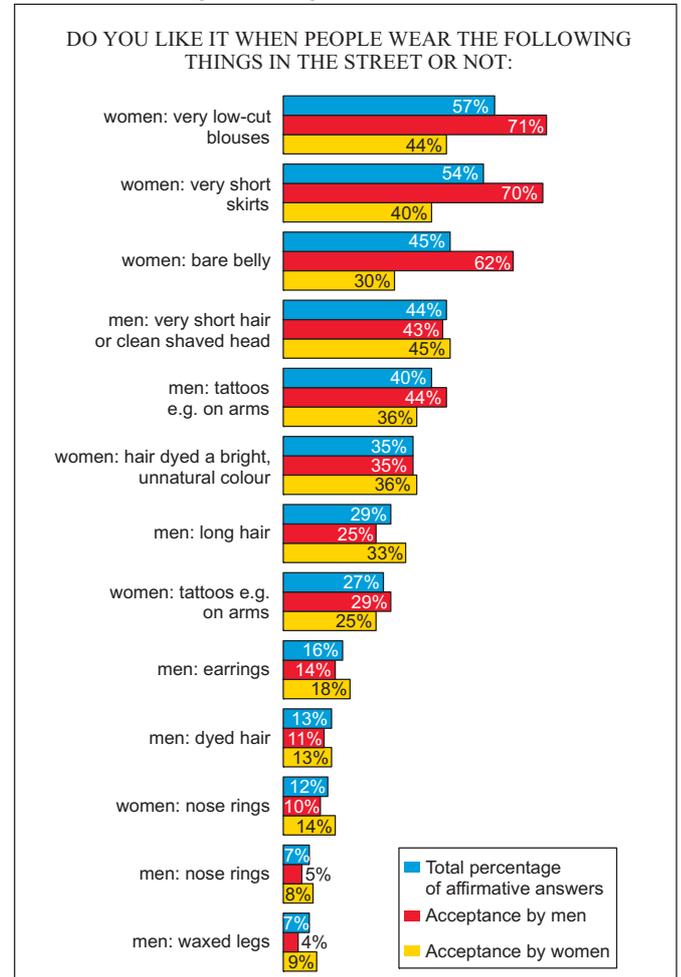
THE CLOTHES AND FASHION

For the Poles, comfort is definitely the most important criterion when it comes to selecting clothes. A low price is also very important. The other characteristics were indicated much less frequently. However, a relatively large proportion of the respondents want their clothes to be smart and fashionable, too.



Although very few respondents declare that attracting the opposite sex is an important criterion for them when it comes to selecting clothes, most respondents (mainly men) like it when women wear low-cut blouses and short skirts. Bare bellies of women are more controversial, but definitely more frequently accepted by men than by women. The opinions about very short haircuts, or even clean shaved male heads are

divided. Tattoos are rather not liked, particularly when worn by women. Women with hair dyed bright, unnatural colours and men with long hair are not liked much, either. Men with dyed hair, earrings and waxed legs are definitely found unacceptable. Women are criticized the most for wearing nose rings.



More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Our clothes*, August 2005. Survey executed in June 2005. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1037.

In addition to the reports referred to above, the following have been published recently (in Polish):

- ◆ Perceived positions of different political parties on the selected social, political and economic issues
- ◆ Opinions of the potential electorates on important socio-political issues
- ◆ The support for political parties - certainty of voting decisions, voting alternatives and preferences of the undecided
- ◆ Public opinion about the method and scope of disclosing the materials collected by the Institute of National Remembrance
- ◆ Voting preferences in the presidential election
- ◆ How the Poles will vote on 25 September - declarations from August
- ◆ Opinions about the government and the Prime Minister in August
- ◆ Opinions about the work of the Parliament and the President
- ◆ Social moods in August
- ◆ Presidential election - support for the candidates in the potential electorates
- ◆ Trust in politicians in August

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