

Mariusz FINKIELSZTEIN

mariusz.finkielsztein@gmail.com

*University of Warsaw
Institute of Sociology*



So whimsical that controversial? Between Science and Anecdote – about the Significance of Boredom

Boredom is under-reported and under-estimated by many people. This emotion is frequently denied and perceived as shameful (the notion "intelligent man is never to be bored" has its power). When I say that I'm researching boredom the prevalent reaction is that of laugh and of incredulity. However, studying boredom in general is probably little eccentric (in the world of well established 'serious' scientific topics) but surely is not controversial. Unless, you have a whim to research boredom in vocational group such as scientists and academic teachers. It reveals some controversies.

This humble inaugural presentation aims to show significance of boredom in different areas of experience, and to present scientific-anecdotal notion about boredom. The four main issues will be raised: (1) boredom as inevitable part of human nature, (2) long history of boredom, (3) prevalence of boredom in society, and (4) influence of boredom on socialization.