

The project aims at researching roles and relations between women and men in marriage in the context of the Second World War and the communist period (until 1980) in Poland. The analysis is based in a rich collection of memoirs written for contests announced in the press in years 1960s and 1970. Several hundred original documents of the memoirs are devoted to marriage and family. These sources haven't been used in historiography so far. The authors of the memoirs described their experiences, interpreting them according to their ideas about marriage and the roles of men and women. That's why this material give an insight into the understanding of gender by social actors, and show power relations in marriage. The project's objective is to research three specific topics: war marriages, the impact of wage work on the roles of women and men in marriage, and the definition and perception of misalliance in postwar Poland.