

The Vietnamese have lived in Poland for over 60 years, and yet their culture, beliefs, customs and family life remains to a bigger extent shrouded in mystery. Challenges which they face often reflect problems of other migrant communities concerning transnational network connections and high mobility of these families. On the other hand, they result from typically Vietnamese cultural traits. This lack of knowledge on Vietnamese culture came as inspiration to explore the issue of ancestor worship role in a support network of family life among the Vietnamese in Poland and in Vietnam. Belief in constant contact of the living with spirits of the deceased who influence the worldly life is the essence of this cult. Knowledge of significance, strength and actions taken to attain ancestors' support makes it possible to further learn about the processes taking place in families. Who grants what kind of support in difficult situations? How far do support networks extend beyond the territorial borders of each country? What resources do both the generations of adult Vietnamese have? A multi-sited ethnographical research conducted in Vietnam and in Poland will give answers to the questions by means of participant observation, in-depth interviews and nethnography. Careful analyses will give grounds to the development of theoretical thought in terms of coping mechanisms in critical situations as well as new debates on notions of religiosity and family. They will also give empirical grounds to a new concept of social anchoring.