

## Table of contents

Acknowledgements .....	11
Introduction .....	13

### **Part 1. What does the research on crime and unemployment tell us?**

1. Methodological dilemmas and pointless debates .....	29
1.1. Introduction .....	29
1.2. Inconclusive results .....	30
1.3. Dilemma 1: choice of unit of analysis .....	32
1.4. Dilemma 2: classification of crimes .....	33
1.5. Dilemma 3: measurement of unemployment and income situation .....	36
1.6. Dilemma 4: statistical modeling .....	39
1.7. Summing up .....	41
2. In search of causal mechanisms .....	44
2.1. Rational cost-benefit calculations .....	45
2.2. Relative deprivation .....	50
2.3. “Opportunity structures” and changes in American cities .....	55
2.4. A stake in conformity .....	60
2.5. The social disorganization hypothesis .....	63
2.6. “Broken windows” and vicious circles of urban decline .....	71
2.7. “Opportunity creates a thief” .....	74
2.8. Summing up .....	79
3. Research questions and hypotheses .....	81

### **Part 2. Poverty, unemployment and crime in Polish voievodships. Statistical analyses**

4. Where is the crime rate higher? .....	97
--	----

4.1. Variables in the analysis .....	97
4.2. Results .....	117
4.3. Summing up .....	129
5. Where did the crime rate rise? .....	131
5.1. Introduction .....	131
5.2. Variables in the analysis .....	133
5.3. Results .....	144
5.4. Random effects models: an additional test of result validity .....	166
5.5. Summary and conclusions .....	171

**Part 3. Poverty, unemployment and crime in local communities**

6. Economic situation and crime: initial analyses .....	179
6.1. Introduction: data and methods .....	179
6.2. The economic situation in the studied towns .....	189
6.3. Unemployment .....	202
6.4. Poverty .....	207
6.5. Crime .....	211
6.6. Time series analyses .....	216
6.7. Summary and further questions .....	221
7. Crime: different phenomena under the same label? .....	225
7.1. Introduction .....	225
7.2. Theft .....	226
7.3. Violent crime .....	237
7.4. Conclusions .....	240
8. A closer look at unemployment and crime in the studied towns .....	243
8.1. Introduction .....	243
8.2. Long-term unemployment .....	244
8.3. Who is unemployed? .....	250
8.4. Is education always worthwhile? .....	256
8.5. How does poverty emerge in the studied communities? .....	261
8.6. Depth of poverty .....	263
8.7. Do welfare payments spell meaningful relief? .....	271
8.8. Alternative sources of income in the studied towns .....	274
8.9. Some comments and conclusions .....	277

9.	Labor market: quality of job opportunities .....	279
9.1.	Introduction .....	279
9.2.	„Quality” of jobs, Part I: analysis of the occupational structure .....	281
9.3.	„Quality” of jobs, Part II: how much do different people earn? .....	285
9.4.	Work, but for how long? .....	296
9.5.	Conclusions .....	299
10.	Together or apart? Social bonds in the studied towns .....	302
10.1.	Sense of anonymity and neighborliness .....	304
10.2.	Local social activity .....	311
10.3.	Summing up .....	327
11.	Communities’ reaction to crime .....	329
11.1.	Introduction .....	329
11.2.	Fear of crime among residents .....	332
11.3.	Social control behavior .....	338
11.4.	Social and economic determinants of control .....	344
12.	Case studies: summary and conclusions .....	351
	Concluding comments .....	359
	Bibliography .....	363
	Appendix: Interview guide for the town case studies .....	373
	Summary .....	381