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„Portret pamięciowy. Zagadnienia psychologiczne i prawne” (“Facial composite. Psychological and legal issues”) Poznań and SWPS University of Social Science and Humanities, off-campus faculty in Katowice, Psychology and Architecture Association, 160 pp.

As long as 97 years ago, a police stager, B. Łukomski, postulated that only the certain features should be included in a perpetrator's description. He claimed the most important and reasonable aim was to record height, age and distinctive features, while the remaining ones were in, his opinion, difficult to describe accurately (Łukomski, 1924). Three years after that, for similar reasons, a lecturer in the Central School of Gendarmerie, Kazimierz Chodkiewicz, actually prophesied the end of facial composite² but he did not want to accept that it would not be replaced by some other useful technique (Chodkiewicz, 1927). At the same time, however, he drafted *The reform of facial composite* (Chodkiewicz, 1927) and there flaws of the facial composite had been demonstrated both by practice and experiments performed with participation of the Central Gendarmerie School students. Therefore he proposed to replace the extensive description with the focus on revealing only particular outstanding abnormal characteristics of a person. In this context it is also worth to mention a thought-provoking comment made by London "Times" reporter in Japan, Richard Lloyd Parry. The heroine of his superb story was a 21-year-old British woman, Lucie, a hostess by profession. She was abducted from Tokio "red lantern" district where drugs, sex and crime ruled. The painstaking search stumbled on enormous obstacles, one of the reasons being that everybody who knew Lucie, knew a slightly different person (Parry, 2014). That is, everyone portrayed her in a different way.

Stanisław Dygat, a writer, rightly claimed that "you can get to know a man not in some compulsory and artificial presentation occasions but giving him freedom of natural movement in life." At any rate, one cannot become known when "everybody is looking,

which forces to artifice and ingratiation used to cover up embarrassment" and the person takes to self-defense against aggressive eying (Dygat, 1987).

Apparently, the weaker sides of multi-aspect facial composite have for time immemorial perplexed the best minds, so Dr. Kabzińska endeavored a task of delicate nature and an important one from the perspective of pre-court proceedings. And no one among those who reached for this piece of writing and read it will be disappointed with the effects of the large scale research.

The composition of the book and its overall concept do not deserve any criticism. The language is enjoyable. The Author baldly seeks the right conclusions. Kabzińska's work consists of *Introduction*, five chapters and *Summary*, where the abundance of literary sources, legal acts, judicial decisions, charts and graphs. The overall taste is spoiled to a slight degree by large size of paragraphs, which makes it difficult to perceive the content, characterised at times with a high complexity.

Introduction (pp. 7-11) concisely depicts the beginnings and practical application of a facial composite. Polish literature rarely touches upon research in this area and when it does it is primarily in the psychological context while the evidential functions are marginalised. The Author's own research aimed at changing this regrettable state of affairs.

According to Kabzińska opinion it is hard to find cases where solely a facial composite was decisive for the investigation (p. 7). However, it is examples that attract attention most, so in order to set up a direction for the discussion of the book and in order

to include its specifically practical aspects I will cite a quite exceptional authentic case.

Within an investigation conducted by District Prosecutor's Office in Kalisz (3 Ds 35/71) in case of manslaughter with a sexual motive of Jadwiga K. and an attempted killing of Julianna B., based on testimony of B. and other persons a sketch of the criminal who had fled from the crime scene was generated and broadcast on television. Based on that, Ryszard S. was shortly and accurately identified.

Let the testimony of Ryszard S.'s mother provided in Voivodship Court serve as a commentary. "When I saw the drawing on television, I immediately told my son: 'This is you, son, give yourself up'. And he did exactly that because the expression of the portrait submitted to the mass media did not leave any doubts (Gurgul, 1977). Everything or a lot depends on professionalism of the questioning and the manner of drawing. Quite often also on the proverbial pint of luck.

Chapter 1 *Facial composite* (pp. 13-37) directs the Reader on Author's track of reasoning and encourages a dialogue. It is initiated by the key question, whether a facial composite is a scientific or artistic domain and this question is hard to be answered (p. 14). A statement follows that both description and sketch are based on knowledge of anthroposcopy but a facial composite is a work of visual art (a piece of art) aiming just at accurately representing information coming from a witness. Therefore, Kabzińska concludes that it derives both from science and art (pp. 15, 16).

Nevertheless, it should be pointed out that analogically as in the entire investigation also in the process of reconstructing perpetrator's appearance success depends on harmonious use not only of science and art but also experience and associations. As far as art is concerned its potential of inducing men to meditate and reflect upon the world, "break the schemes", activate, and use previous experiences. And even to "cross the border, which reason had to back from" (Gombrowicz, 1986; Szczelik 2005; Fromm, 2014; Tomaszewski, 1963). Besides, everything begins from testimony (information) delivered by a witness, so there is no way one could overlook conclusions stemming from the fact that, according to Jerzy Lisowski quoted by Justyna Sobolewska: "words possess taste, colour, capacity and melody". Capturing those qualities in a protocol requires an ability of placing oneself in the position of the provider of the information, a sense of language and an ear of a musician capable of hearing the beat and perceiving an outline of the sentence (Sobolewska, 2016; Perelman, 1984; de Barbaro, 2014; Vetulani, 2017).

It is known that Alphonse Bertillon provided scientific anthroposcopic foundations for the facial composite. In short, it takes two forms: descriptive (description of appearance given by a witness) and pictorial (sketch made by a specialist/expert witness). The problem is that giving a description, particularly that of a face that has been seen briefly or under an influence of strong emotions is perceived as a difficult task. This problems becomes more serious when the appearance of an unknown person is described by more than one person. Everybody sees him as a bit "different person". One of the reasons for that is the fact that, as Antoni Kępiński rightly stated, "we see what is important for us" in a given situation (Kępiński, 1983; Szewczuk, 1970; Kwiatkowska-Darul, 2007; Gruza, 2008). The state of memory of a person reporting on the appearance of a perpetrator also results from a selection of observations.

Certain doubts that require discussing *expressis verbis* derive in particular from the order of 17 January, 2014 by the Chief Commander of the Police specifying the powers for issuing opinions and professional certificates. Because it strictly refers to pre-court issues and may become the cause of misunderstandings (which the Author did not miss, p. 14), it is necessary to specify additionally that article 205 of the criminal proceeding code does not use the notion of "certified" specialist and the function of an expert witness may established only by the authority conducting given proceedings or the Court may appoint a person from the register of expert witnesses, or a person summoned *ad hoc* for the purpose (see: art. 193-197 in code of criminal proceedings). In the second case the fact of possessing "special knowledge" is of significance (Grzeszczyk, 2011; Kalinowski, 1994; Habzda-Siwiek, 2006).

In Chapter 2 "*Facial composite in criminal proceedings*" (pp. 39-66) the Author proceeds to more practical aspects supported by reliable information in the area of neurobiology. In the light of this knowledge memory traces are attributed the role of material (physiological and biochemical) substrate. The Author rationally emphasises the senselessness of a division between more valuable material traces and less valuable personal traces (p. 40). Their a priori generalisation and qualifications are in contradiction with professional experience.

It is not possible either to align with experience the final part of the definition of detection, according to which only making the hypothesis of a person's guilt likely "justifies commencement of proving" (s. 40). That is confirmed further by a comment that many simultaneous activities contribute to detection and provides evidential answers to seven golden question

(p. 41). There is no need to complicate imagining of things that interlock or fuse with one another.

Let us take a banal example. In a famous investigation li 2 Ds 14/66 conducted by the Voivodship Prosecutor's Office in Cracow witness Jan A. described the appearance of "a young man, who (14.04.1966 at approx. 13:25) ran out of the gateway of 12, Sobieskiego Street house [where he seriously wounded 7-year-old Małgorzata P. – J.G.] and turned into Kremerowska Street", etc. This testimony constituted an important link in the chain of activities, which all contributed both to detection and proving that Karol Kot had perpetrated a series of crimes against human life. Anyway, not only Jan A.'s testimony evidently okayed double roles (p. 41). The deservedly analysed problem can be found also in other places (e.g. on p. 43) where Kabzińska criticises literature of the subject and aligned practice of treating a facial composite as solely instrument for detection. This indicates the rarity of instances where this material is presented in court.

In addition to lots of accurate observations of strictly pre-court nature some slightly controversial ones happen. Due to their practical and universal context they cannot remain uncommented. In particular, the opinion that "pre-court activities have to be legitimized by criminal proceedings law" (p. 45). Therefore, occurrence of situations sanctioning the status of material and procedural justice as targets of criminal proceedings in the area of the facial composite should be mentioned. In order to conform to the rule of *suum cuique* an investigative or judicial organ may and often ought to undertake activities, which are not forbidden by law and still meet the criteria of ethical (moral) honesty, characterised simply as decency (Waltoś, 2003; Gurgul, 2015). For example, at the turn of 1950s and 1960s, the undersigned carried out noteworthy reconstructions in cases against Jan T., suspected (among others) of two manslaughters in Beskid Niski region and Stanisław N. suspected of causing a railway catastrophe on M.-W. route with many victims. Also, an experiment was performed with use of a railway engine and a cargo train. The criminal proceedings code that was then in force did not admit such activities. However, different juries admitted those unregulated but fair evidential items and used them as the bases of their decisions. The opinion that evidential bans should be perceived as exceptions from the rule of "freedom of argument" (Doda, Gaberle, 1997) have long prevailed.

On page 52 the Author correctly touches upon this issue, when she discusses the interview and documenting information from a witness. However, she incorrectly claims that "art. 143 par. 1 of the criminal proceedings code did not mention [...] identification line-up or confrontation" (p. 52). As

stipulated in point 5 of this article also "conducting an experiment, confrontation and identification line-up" require making a protocol. Besides, according to §2 "a protocol is made if [...] a person conducting an activity considers it necessary". A similar conclusion may be drawn from substantially accurate characteristics of a description of appearance as as a complex activity integrating elements of various non-homogenous interviews with different dynamics and unique purposes.

Methodological hints concerning interviewing a witness (time, speed, role of specialist, manner of asking questions) are valuable (pp. 46, 52, 53, 57, 65). It is worth to emphasise, at least in a concise way, the complementarity (!) of efforts made by the investigative authority and specialist/draughtsman, as well as a specialist in interviewing the witness providing the description of a perpetrator. In executing this activity individual (unique) experiences, as well as overviews of possibilities and profits that are achieved *in concreto*. Secondly, I would expose more the detective and evidential value of a probable and shortened portrait, and even just single, distinct characteristics of the wanted individual. Knowing those, it is principally possible to direct and thus cut down the cost and time of proceedings. Thirdly, I would advise to avoid missing the fundamental issues deriving from multi-aspect knowledge about human memory, its types and dependence on emotions, language and speech (Nitsch, 1921; Raińczuk, 2016; Vetulani, 2017). I do not need to remind here of multiple profits related to appreciation and, in consequence, recording in protocol, utterances of the interviewee, with optimal preservation of witness's individual vocabulary reflecting the local qualities: nativity, dialect and jargon.

In order to visualise realism of those observations I want to recall my personal experience. I was told that a suspect, P.W. had hit his neighbour with "przetok" (dialect name for a big sieve) or "bucok" (dialect for a thick stick), witness P.Z. portrayed an arsonist as a person whose walk was "serious and połogi (dialect for uneasy walk)" and his ears "flappy", Z.M.'s eyes were described as "wild, running around" and were in fact a symptom of horizontal nystagmus. By noting those words as they are said one can avoid many a complication during a trial. Instead of potentially delusive translating natural names to "understandable" for the recipients (Gurgul, 2017; Jaegermann, 1991; Schopenhauer, 2014; Beccaria, 1959), a wise person will peek into a dictionary by J.A. Karłowicz, A. Kryński and W. Niedźwiedzki, which will allow him to understand what a witness wanted to say and has said. Therefore a suggestion for "correcting discrepancies in witness's story caused by lack of knowledge" on face morphology

or “unfamiliarity with anthroposcopic vocabulary” (p. 48) may threaten the course of justice.

Fourthly, even seemingly obvious recommendations like immediateness of making a drawing of a perpetrator (p. 43, 56, 58, 64) need to be interpreted with moderation, a kind of happy mean should be applied. This may be made easier to comprehend by a grim sentence passed by a judge (*nomen omen*) a fan of statics, blinded by his pursuit of high success rate. The article begins with folk proverbs, such as “eager court is rarely fair” and “a fair judge mustn’t be eager”. An example of that can be a bizarre case of unjustly sentencing a military colonel for killing a land owner and robbing 50 thousand of ruble. The judge several times interrupted the testimony of the key witness (owner of a horse station), when he commenced an utterance with a phrase: “all from the beginning and in order”. The impetuous judge did not allow the witness to continue and finally ordered him to leave the court. Eventually, the real perpetrator confessed on his deathbed urged by his guilty conscience (Sołtan, 1927).

Chapter 3 rich in erudition is dedicated to “Mechanisms of processing human faces” (pp. 67-102). It does not contain any definite conclusions. It does not have satisfying replies in many serious and difficult questions (p. 73 and others). This part of the book begins from the direction of thought fashionable in psychology and related areas concerning neurobiological background of face processing mechanisms. It throbs with swiftly changing information on mood, emotion, sex, and age. Mood has an effects on person’s appearance. This information should more precisely define the tactics of preparative proceedings, including the rule of not delaying the interview. The features individualising a face are divided to distinctive characteristics (hair, eyebrows, nose, mouth, cheeks) and configurative characteristics, which include distances and proportions between these elements (p. 67).

The discourse on the subjects such as prosopagnosia, i.e. a disorder causing inability of recognizing faces, including one’s own face, makes one aware of purposefulness of applying in course of investigation a theses that anything is possible. Undoubtedly anything is, as even a person suffering from that cognitive disorder shows some subtle signs of recognizing (p. 69). The interesting presentation of manipulating face elements explaining the multi-sidedness of appropriate reconstruction of characteristics and recognising a face (fig. 5 and pp. 74-49) brings to mind the considerations of Tadeusz Tomaszewski. Designing new examination methods for the needs of the judiciary is a dynamic process

constantly subject to improvements. It can be read between the lines: novelties are not to be put off for “better times” but applied with a reasonable reservations. The selection, presentation or interpretations of obtained information/facts are always a question of openness of the mind on one hand and on the other: the sense of responsibility, being a fundamental ingredient of lawyer/prosecutor’s ethics. For the sake of formality I shall add an observation that responsibility in the real meaning of the word is the inner need of a jurist and a voluntary, unenforced act (Tomaszewski, 2012; Davies, 1998; Fromm, 1971).

By the way, a reasonable space for novelties and facing tensions over the uncertainty of choices, ambiguities and contradictions are deciding quite a lot when it comes down to the lure of various investigative undertakings. This also includes the reconstruction of a man’s appearance. The section on *Wydobywanie informacji o twarzy z pamięci* (*Digging out the information on face from the memory* pp. 80-88), is a nice reading, which is sometimes proven in practice however normally deprived of the nice articulation as presented by the Author. The process in question assumes the form of reproduction and recognition; both of them are bristling with almost unsolvable obstacles.

Kabzińska reasonably attributes – *mutatis mutandis* – a high rank for questions as tools optimising the transmission of physical description in a verbal code (*passim*). These are served in moderation and generally speaking, induce intellectual unrest by discovering weak points of supposedly „certainties” etc. Because of that, processing of a visible image of face into the language of interrogation and drawing is improved. The phenomenon which should be remembered is also the failure to recognise a real perpetrator by none of the witnesses in a line-up. (Herren, 1976; Łukowski, 1924; Czeżot, 1976; Wójcikiewicz, 2009; Gorzkiewicz, 2016).

A reservation should be made here that even one “pressing” question addressed to a witness may result in a tragic mistake. I will provide a sinister, however true example. Ryszard Z. left the wedding party in S. around 10.00 pm. A moment later, an accidental passer-by heard a characteristic “crack as if someone hit something with a wooden board”. Then, the man looked into that direction and the only thing he saw – in darkness of the night – was the silhouette of a person and “two white bars on the calves”. Requiring additional information from the man would be pointless. The following morning, another passer-by found Ryszard Z.’s dead corpse on the path leading to his house. On the critical day, another person spotted a strong, chunky driver – Stanisław H. wearing rubber boots. The informer

remembered that the upper sole was turned outward showing white linen. A one-drawing sketch of "physical appearance" – due to relevant association – has led to a fast identification of H. who pleaded guilty of killing Z. by hitting him on the head with a board. The motive involved a male competition about a woman.

The moral which stems from this, quite unique casus, can be expressed by German saying that „*Kleinigkeiten sind schön*” ('Little things are beautiful'). Generally speaking, the matter lies in the imagination and *quasi* tampering of small things, also in the area of psychological variables, estimates and systems, which have the impact on reproduction (pp. 85-89). The first group consists, for instance, of age, sex, conditions of observation, crime features and characteristics of a criminal offender. Whilst statistical data may suggest that the quality of a facial composite increases with a child's age, this still remains faulty. In case of witnesses growing old, we come across the defects of perception, attention and memory; all these processes have an individual course (pp. 89, 90). There are also divergent classifications of a memory, which are tightly correlated with emotion, growing old, rhythm of forgetting and sole results of research done in the group of juvenile and older witnesses (Gruza, 2008; Kwiatkowska-Darul, 2007; Vetulani, 2017; Ruling of the Supreme Court, case no. III KR 428/79; the ruling of the Court of Appeal, case no. II AKa 173/00).

Kabzińska clearly listed the specifics of the process of reproduction of a criminal's appearance by the witness who is intellectually retarded (p. 91, 92). I would like to remind that the Author had earlier described an illness called prosopagnosia. In order to expand the horizons essential for investigative practice, the publication which depicts the experiences of a prominent – at various stages of life – judge, prosecutor and attorney of a former Lvov appeal office, dr. Alfred Laniewski should be recalled (Laniewski, 1938; Łyczywek, 1998). Because of the same reason it should be mentioned that one of the protagonists of heart-captivating short stories by Maria Kuncewiczowa, blind Michał „watches with no seeing”. Loss of eyesight was compensated with sharpening of his hearing and smelling abilities, which served just like “seeing” (Kuncewiczowa, 1980). In turn, Kazimierz Kirejczyk (1958) argues that a deaf person who is not absorbed with hearing, can see better and more precisely than some persons who have both good sight and hearing. I will summarise the above by saying that the creation of a facial composite demands a certain deal of flexibility and forethought in making a whole out of non-cliche materials.

Additionally, this essay makes us aware of the need to expand the lawyer's knowledge with neurobiological and cognitive aspects of facial perception and memory. The Author convinced me that without this knowledge one cannot face the problems and judicial requirements as described above (p. 102).

From similar reasons, chapter 4 *Funkcja wykrywcza portretów* (Detection role of facial composites, pp. 103–118) can be also considered as a compulsory reading for lawyers. An interesting insight into the topic is accompanied by considerations which are familiar to a detective solving real criminal cases. For a start, I fully agree that the criterion pertaining to a facial composite's purpose is the possibility of recognizing a factually depicted criminal (p. 104). A problem lies in the fact that in a broader, practical perspective, the “appearance” of a person is determined not only by external, *stricte* physical characteristics, but also by the internal ones, which can be read out from intention and act (Wolter, 1947; Tavis, Wade 1999; Horgan, 2015; Kała, Wilk, Wójcikiewicz 2017). When adequately identified, they can massively contribute to the determination of one's identity. A proper indicator of the effectiveness can be sought in typing of the offender. On the other hand, the requirement for “final and legally-binding conviction” is characterised by certain deal of exaggeration (p. 103). From the point of view of public safety, the mere knowledge on the person who committed crime cannot be overestimated, as the police may monitor the criminal's activity and catch him red-handed (Bauer, 1969). As to the final nature of conviction, one should draw appropriate conclusions, from law-based limitations of evidential procedure (see: Article 180-183 of the Polish code of criminal proceeding). Gathering of information is not forbidden.

The statement that only these results of laboratory analysis which reflect trial-related reality constitute the basis for concluding on their usefulness, is of particular value. The thesis (covering the scope of experimentation with witnesses, also described in Chapter 6) that participants of experiments do not bear the same responsibility as eye witnesses, should be approved as well (p. 105). Therefore, one should not automatically correct the practice with the effects of fake experiments as – paraphrasing a well-known saying of Karolina Lanckorońska in *Wojenne wspomnienia* (*Memories of war*) – the participant of experiment “did not survive, so he does not understand” what eye witness experienced in real and personally. Particularly in cases, if he or she was unduly aggrieved (Tomaszewski, 1963; Kępiński, 1983; Innes, 2001; Wójcikiewicz, 2000).

Although it may look like being a judge in someone's own case, however I cannot resist the temptation of reminding a real case depicting the sensitivity in a book which nearly masterfully treats these issues, and has a vital meaning in practice. The undersigned, just after graduating from the University was interviewed as an aggrieved witness by a judge on the matter of Nazi crimes against Polish children in Ludwigsburg Investigative Centre. At that time he could almost "see" the persons who had tortured him in 1942 and thus he described them for the protocol. But a minute later, when he was shown a set of SS officers photographs, he suddenly became aware of enormous moral and legal responsibility for categorical identification of the guilty individual. This was accompanied by a multitude of nagging doubts and fear of the state of his memory. Under the pressure of those scruples the certainty gave way to uncertainty even though the sense of grievance was relatively fresh.

The consequence of the fact that a participant of an experiment (whoever this person may be) does not feel emotions of that kind will not be levelled even by absolutely perfect method of conducting such experiment; this should be repeatedly reminded in order not to breach the rule already quoted here: each person has what lawfully deserves. With this view in mind, the Author states that professionally made facial composite may constitute a valuable piece of evidence, however does not provide for pleading someone guilty when presented alone (p. 109). What can be added more in situations when facial composites presented in courts sometimes do not conform to basic standards (p. 110 and others).

The studies of detection and evidential effectiveness of facial composites, drawings, computer-assisted and holistic (*passim*) pictures make the professional use these techniques in practice. A variety of context behind concrete cases seems to justify the impossibility to measure the results of such proceedings. The reason or reasons of each failure can be easily identified.

On the other hand, I will risk saying that the things are quite different when it comes to the cognitive success. The experience demonstrates that the outcome of investigation is determined by impulses and ideas of volatile provenance. I think that each lawyer-practitioner has come across the positive effect of unexpected "thrust" at least once. What is more, the stimulants happen to be incredibly tangled up and therefore the parameters for effectiveness when expressed with "yes" or "no" are questionable, which does not stay in contradiction to a well-rooted conviction that in conducting pre-trial proceeding one should systematically check "Ekspertyza sądowa"

(Court Expertise), follow it in practice and, with intuition in hand, try to tune the details to the facts.

The above considerations have already tackled the subject matter of Chapter 5 which discusses *Evidential function of facial composites (Funkcja dowodowa portretów pamięciowych)* (pp. 119–140). Some important aspects of the topic have been presented by a variation of experiment which explains how portraits of the perpetrator which are not similar, influence the evaluation of: a) accurateness of demonstration by line-up; b) adequacy of chosen conditions for monitoring; c) level of persuasion of evidence to prove someone guilty, d) guilt, e) reliability of defendant's alibi (p. 119). The experimental group, when being presented with the portrait resembling the suspect, responded in favour for the victim of robbery and the suspect (p. 120).

The distribution of responses should not ruin the organisation of the investigation nor decrease the optimism of the investigator. In such situations, one should reflect on the philosophy of metaphor by Józef Czapski that even the most imperfect deed "opens new doors – lets the new breath in" (Sobolewska, 2017). An overview of the number of well-designed experiments, which one should know, strengthen the views that the state of uncertainty is prevalent everywhere. All results are probable and useful in the process of searching the truth, if this is a skilful, accountable and experienced lawyer who handles them.

A hasty character of a positive identification during presentation in a line up as extremely convincing proof of defendant's guilt (p. 121 and others) becomes weaker with growing professional experience. It finally disappears after experiencing a trauma due to a committed drastic error. At the same time, in order to streamline the discussion again, a more attention should be paid to the phenomenon of uniqueness of everything which takes place during any investigation or proceeding.

Therefore, any doctrine models may have a limited application. Additionally, when reading that legal apprentices when confronted with the analysis of a certain case file, have acknowledged the proofs of the suspect's being guilty or innocent as more convincing than it was recognized by lay persons (p. 131), it is worthwhile asking whether they took advantage of the thesis that extraverbal communication may be even more important than a verbal one (Kępiński, 2001; Parandowski, 1986; Hajduk, 2015; Dubois, 2016; Popkin, Stroll 1994). The words can be less explicit than a hand gesture, for instance, and the evidence should be evaluated with consideration to general circumstances of the case, hence also recognizing the communication with a hand gesture or winking at someone.

Naturally, I completely approve of justifiable conclusions that trial parties may refer to the evidential potential of the image as a perfect supplement of the material collected in a case (p. 138). A contradiction should be made, however, to the recommendations provided therein (p. 138) that law enforcement can refer to this potential only when "the generated image corresponds to the one of the suspect...". If the portrait does not meet this condition, then – according to the Author – the task of the attorney is to point to the image as exculpatory evidence.

Now, the heart of the matter is expressed in the thesis that, irrespective of winds of history or bad habits of making life easier, the prosecutor/police investigator should respect the rule of objectivity! (article 4 of the Polish criminal proceedings code). Nobody and nothing can release the prosecutor from the hybrid obligation of acting "for" and "against" the defendant. A proper attitude contributes to the Good, which – according to the philosophers - is identified as the Beauty and the Truth (Stróżewski, 2004; Kotarbiński, 1986; Platon, 1958; Ingarden, 1987; Tatarkiewicz, 1970; Stomma, 2006; Wyrzykowski, 2008).

To summarise, I strongly recommend the book by Dr Joanna Kabzińska as it illustrates a huge, properly documented progress in the area of experimental research regarding a facial composite.

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