Summary

The paper provides an account of the linguistic image of ‘oburzenie’ (‘outrage’) in contemporary Polish. The author points out that the emotion in question occupies a distinctive place within the category of ‘emotions such as anger.’ Firstly, it often has positive undertones. However, a more fine-grained analysis reveals various points of view involved in the axiology of ‘oburzenie.’ Secondly, it usually implies an unaccepting, contesting attitude, even though of a rather passive kind. The experiencer merely wants to indicate his / her position on an issue, without getting further involved. Thirdly, quite recently "oburzenie" has became a key word for certain social movements, and the semantics of the notion is changing. The new contexts suggest that it is gaining more active and goal-oriented meaning, thus becoming similar to the English "outrage".