Abstract
The article is focused on the professional ethics of social work in the context of the philosophy of education. The authors analyse its educational pitfalls seen as a possible tension of personal ethics and professional ethics. Analysing the altruism issue (one of the essential values in social work) the authors reflect on the relationship of autonomy and heteronomy of will (e.g. regulated by institutional codes) in moral acting.

Keywords: ethical education in social work, personal ethics, professional ethics, altruism, autonomy, heteronomy

Introduction
The motive for writing of this text was the statement: “Professional ethics … is not a study of what makes a ‘good’ or successful person, but what makes a good professional. […] We think virtue ethics and the teleological method are so important for professional ethics because, to the extent that if professional ethics is about more than ordinary ethics it is about the practicalities of doing the job well” (Bowles et al. 2006, pp. 61 –62). This statement suggested a possible difference between a ‘good person’ and a ‘good professional’. Regarding that both – a ‘good person’ and a ‘good professional’ – can be understood as a certain result preceded by a process of education and training, it was decided to give some thought to possible relations of professional ethics of social work (including ethical training of future social workers) and selected issues of theoretical ethics reflected in the