This chapter argues that the nineteen-sixties were the cradle of Janus-Man. It concludes that the ‘politics of nostalgia’ that became the trademark of
Western society turned this ideal of going forward and back at the same time into a highly successful political and cultural formula. The question of whether there is too much nostalgia and too little thinking of the future and critical knowledge about the past is a complicated one. Author discusses about the ways nostalgia is used in politics in the Anglo-Saxon world, Western Europe and the now former Eastern Bloc countries. He sees that determining what nostalgia is can be problematic. The problem is compounded by the fact that the recent history of nostalgia is different in America than in Poland. The hypothesis of the chapter is that modern day society has developed a Janus-faced character since the Sixties, but it was not recognized as such.

Keywords: America; Anglo-Saxon world; Janus-face; modern society; nostalgia; politics; Western Europe

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