

Book Review - Profiles

S. Maggi, *Mobilità sostenibile. Muoversi nel XXI secolo*, Bologna: il Mulino, 2020, pp.167, ISBN 9788815286765.

With this book, Stefano Maggi addresses a topic that is very current today such as sustainable mobility. The analysis broadly reconstructs the historical evolution of the transport system with particular reference to the Italian context. Transport policies, essentially by road, have in a certain way hindered the spread of practices now considered virtuous such as rail transport and public service mobility. Unlike other countries, urban space has been heavily occupied by cars expropriating pedestrians (especially children and the elderly). Various problems have arisen such as pollution and a growing insecurity of the streets in small, medium and large cities: spaces have become increasingly inaccessible, dangerous, unhealthy. Hence, also thanks to the stimuli of European legislation, the need to plan interventions to launch sustainable mobility - including sharing mobility and mobility as a service (Maas) initiatives but also proximity mobility - which can contribute concretely to urban life by promoting virtuous behaviour also on the part of citizens. In the last part of the book, the author gives a particular role to mobility education and to those urban intervention projects concerning sustainable mobility that have pursued some sustainable development goals such as giving back the cities to pedestrians, offering them the opportunity to fully enjoy public spaces.

I. Pitti, D. Tuorto, *I giovani nella società contemporanea. Identità e trasformazioni*, Roma: Carocci, 2021, pp. 204, ISBN 9788829004522.

This book takes into consideration the way through which youth position themselves within different social spheres - from gender to intergenerational relations, from work to consumption, from participation in the public sphere to relationships with institutions - and investigates the changes that re-define characteristics and boundaries of youth. Observing the social space in which the younger generations act, the authors highlight the anomic character of contemporary society and support the need to put the youth question at the center of the public debate. Through sociological lens, they interpret some emerging youth identities as adaptation strategies to the social tension of contemporaneity, underlining their transformative and innovative potential.

G. Dalla Zuanna, D. Vignoli, *Piacere e fedeltà. I millennials italiani e il sesso*, Bologna: il Mulino, 2021, pp. 200, ISBN 9788815291127.

This book investigates the important role of sexuality in the couple relationships of the *millennials* generation. On the basis of two surveys carried out in the last twenty years, the authors show that pornography and autoeroticism are now more widespread than in the early 2000s, the influence of religion on the intimate sphere is weaker, the gap between behaviours of boys and those of girls has shrunk, different dimensions of homosexuality and bisexuality emerge. However, it is not a sexuality free from bonds, oriented only to pleasure: people in couples say they are much more sexually satisfied, loyalty to the partner is practiced and considered an important value, young people declare they want to get married and are inclined to have children.

T. Consoli, A. Meo, *Homelessness in Italia. Biografie, territori, politiche*, Milano: Franco Angeli, 2020, pp. 256, ISBN 9788835109723.

This book collects a series of essays on the theme of homelessness, one of the most extreme forms of poverty and marginalization in advanced societies, underlining its social relevance. The essays, presenting the results of empiri-

cal investigations carried out in various contexts and with different research methods, examine forms, changes and dynamics the phenomenon assumes in Italy. The book offers a rich and articulated picture: the heterogeneity of the homeless population and the multiple configurations of poverty and housing deprivation reveal the complexity of the links between structural factors and individual conditions. The editors of the book draw attention to the need to rethink the public dimension of homelessness, starting with the social representations of this phenomenon as social problem and their effects in terms of policies adopted to counter it and of services provided.

D. Arditì, *Getting Signed Record Contracts, Musicians, and Power in Society*, Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020, pp. 256, 9783030445874.

Though streaming, social media, and viral content have turned the recording industry upside down in one sense, the record contract and its mythos persist. As Arditì shows, musicians in the United States still flock to auditions for *The Voice* and *Idol* brands or paying to perform at record label showcases in the hopes of landing a deal. In this book, the author explains how belief that signing a record contract will almost infallibly lead to some measure of success – the “ideology of getting signed” – is alive and well. Working at the intersection of Marxist sociology, cultural sociology, critical theory, and media studies, Arditì unfolds musicians’ contract aspirations as a cultural phenomenon that reproduces modes of power and economic exploitation in the music industry, despite the advent of digital technologies in the era of SoundCloud.