

Book Review - Profiles

P. Jedlowski, M. Cerulo, *Spaesati. Partire, tornare tra Nord e Sud Italia*, Bologna: il Mulino, pp. 224, ISBN 9788815386694.

More than half of Italians do not live in the place where they were born and often travel regularly between multiple cities. In everyone's biography there are places left and rediscovered, attempts to integrate, disorientation, but also liberation and conquests. A set of ambivalent emotions and experiences which constitutes the focus of this comparison between two sociologists, also conducted starting from their personal experiences: a professor from Milan who settled in Calabria and his student who experienced a reverse mobility.

F. Pastore, *Migramorfosi. Apertura o declino*, Torino: Giulio Einaudi Editore, 2023, pp. 153, ISBN: 9788806260361.

Immigration continues to be synonymous with disadvantage and marginalization. The crises of the last decade have worsened the situation, hitting foreigners more heavily than citizens. Italian society is increasingly stratified based on origin and skin color. At the root, there is a dramatic cultural and political delay. The media continues to obsessively attribute immigrants to two opposing stereotypes: threatening intruder or poor victim. In this volume, the author highlights how in the recent past every serious reform project has been abandoned in favor of political initiatives characterized by emergencyism and improvisation. Meanwhile, mistrust and frustration are increasing both among Italians and among migrants and their descendants. The metamorphosis of Italian society that the first mass arrivals of immigrants had triggered at the end of the last century remained incomplete, raising urgent questions that could no longer be postponed.

S. Portelli, L. Rossomando, L. Tozzi, *Le nuove recinzioni. Città, finanza e impoverimento degli abitanti*, Roma: Carocci, 2023, pp. 144, ISBN: 9788829021772.

The concentration of wealth in the hands of a few and the consequent impoverishment of the rest of the population corresponds everywhere to the attempt to "enhance" parts of cities and collective resources to transform them into instruments of profit. The financialization of social housing in Milan, the privatization of subsidized housing in Rome and the transformations of the social fabric in a working-class neighborhood of Naples are the three examples of this dynamic presented by the authors of this book. As happened with the enclosures at the dawn of capitalism, when lords and nobles fenced off lands and common goods to accumulate income, today the ruling classes – from local entrepreneurs to the financial elites who own most of the world's wealth – aspire to appropriate all of this which still remains outside the market: not only urban spaces but also welfare, associations, the third sector, even critical thinking.

R. Sciarrone, F. Esposito, L. Picarella, *Il gioco d'azzardo, lo stato e le mafie*, Roma: Donzelli, 2023, pp. 218, ISBN: 9788855224970.

The Italian gambling market, among the largest and fastest growing in the world, is worth over one hundred and thirty billion euros a year. Its development is mainly due to the progressive expansion of the offer of games over the last thirty years, favored by political choices aimed at increasing tax collections for the benefit of the state budget. However, the gambling market generates significant negative externalities. In addition to the problems connected to pathological gambling, the authors of the book analyze the vulnerability of this economic sector to organized crime. Starting from the results of an extensive empirical research, this book delves into the regulation

processes of the gambling market – taking into consideration both physical network gaming and online gaming – analyzing in particular the role played by the mafias. The study contributes to a more precise knowledge of the relationship between gaming and mafia phenomena in order to offer policy proposals for the current public and political debate.

A.L. Tota, A. De Feo, L. Luchetti, *Inquinamento visuale. Manifesto contro il razzismo e il sessismo delle immagini*, Milano: Mondadori Education, 2023, pp. 318, ISBN: 9791220600873.

Are there forms of symbolic pollution, such as visual pollution? How many times does an image hurt our gaze? This book is a manifesto to monitor the effects that images (TV series, advertising, social media, fashion, sport) can have on our everyday lives, values and beliefs. Images, if polluting, can consolidate racism, sexism and homophobia inside and outside of us. In this book, three scholars of different generations analyze the contemporary media and digital space, proposing a new perspective, aimed at destabilizing precisely those visual discourses that legitimize social discrimination: it is the perspective of eco-vision and the ecology of imaginaries. The media are analyzed as contested spaces, in which the dominant principles of vision are brought back into play to give life to alternative vision projects.