

Book Review - Profiles

G. Alberti, D. Sacchetto, *The Politics of Migrant Labour. Exit, Voice and Social Reproduction*, Bristol: Bristol University Press, 2024, pp. 286, ISBN: 9781529227734.

The question of labour turnover has been variously examined across labour and organization studies but it has not been studied systematically in relation to international migration. In this book the authors tackle the question of labour – the churning of workers in and out of workplace organizations – from the perspective of migrant labour. Building on the critical strands of labour and migration studies they pay attention to the social composition of labour, focusing on the specific drivers and subjective and social dynamics that link the phenomenon of labour instability to international migration.

C. Bertone, *Il familiare è politico. Attrezzi di ricerca per uno sguardo posizionato*, Milano: Meltemi, 2024, pp. 170, ISBN: 9791256151004.

This volume addresses one of the most discussed topics of our time: the changes that the family is undergoing today. In the debates on how it should function – whether it should be rethought, abolished or defended and in what form – broader visions of society in general are also inserted. Starting from a critical perspective, which pays attention to the relationship between contemporary feminist and queer movements, the author proposes a critique of the heterosexual structure of the family in order to interpret the most intimate daily experiences and highlight points of tension and possibilities for change, rediscovering a radically transformative horizon that is up to the challenges of the present.

T. Bonini, E. Trerè, *Algorithms of Resistance. The Everyday Fight against Platform Power*, Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 2024, pp. 256, ISBN: 9780262547420.

Algorithms are all around us, permeating more and more aspects of our daily lives. While accounts of platform power tend to come across as bleak and monolithic, *Algorithms of Resistance* shows how people can resist algorithms across a variety of domains. Drawing from rich ethnographic materials and perspectives from both the Global North and South, the authors explore how people appropriate and reconfigure algorithms to pursue their objectives in three domains of everyday life: gig work, cultural industries, and politics. They reveal how forms of algorithmic agency and resistance are endemic and mundane and how the platform society is a contested battleground of contrasting forces.

H. Bouteldja, *Maranza di tutto il mondo, unitevi! Per un'alleanza dei barbari nelle periferie*, Bologna: DeriveApprodi, 2024, pp. 160, ISBN: 9788865485224.

In Europe and North America, the growth of a white working class fascinated by “populist” parties seems to reveal a deep social distress everywhere. With a rigorous and provocative analysis, the anti-racist activist author retraces the history of the French and European left to explain this enigma and imagine how to overcome it. Developing her reflection within the decolonial field, the author shows how – by privileging white voters and workers – left-wing parties and unions have laid the foundations for a “racial contract” that organizes social and labor relations. To defeat the far right, a difficult but necessary alliance is hypothesized between the “barbarians” of the postcolonial metropolises and the working poors in Europe, the racialized “second generations” and the “underdogs” hit by the crisis.

K. Clancy, *Ciclo. Storia e cultura dell'ultimo tabù*, Roma: Luiss University Press, 2024, pp. 282, ISBN: 9791255960355.

Menstruation is something half the world does for a week at a time, for months and years on end, yet it remains largely misunderstood. Blending interviews and personal experience with engaging stories from her own pioneering research, Kate Clancy challenges a host of myths and false assumptions. There is no such a thing as a “normal” menstrual cycle. In fact, menstrual cycles are incredibly variable and highly responsive to environmental and psychological stressors. The author takes up a host of timely issues surrounding menstruation, from bodily autonomy, menstrual hygiene, and the COVID-19 vaccine to the ways racism, sexism, and medical betrayal warp public perceptions of menstruation and erase it from public life.

N. Gabriel (ed.), *International Comparisons in Learning and Education. Eliasian Perspectives*, Cham: Springer, 2024, pp. 275, ISBN: 9783031609589.

This volume addresses the important role of education in society through the lens of theoretical concepts developed by Norbert Elias. This book sets out to challenge dominant perspectives within the sociology of education by reorientating traditional debates about socialisation, childhood, early years education, care, schooling and the curriculum, focusing on the relational learning processes that lie at the heart of pedagogic relationships between parents, teachers, children and peers. It also offers an innovative perspective on some of the key debates in childhood studies, bringing together and relating the different aspects of childhood through a generational lens.