C. Corposanto, A. Valastro, *Giovani e sesso. Uno sguardo sociologico all’indietro* (*Youth and Sex. A Sociological Retrospective Perspective*)

In this paper, the authors focus on youth and sexual activity, considering a time period that goes from the mid-sixties to the end of the nineties. To this end, the analysis, which is based on secondary data provided by a series of studies, will consider certain areas of significance, such as the beginning and the intensity of young people’s sexual life, the degree of importance of sex at a personal level, homosexuality and masturbation. This is aimed to develop introductory reflections on the theme of the evolution of sexual behaviour in youth, to highlight if and how, indeed, it has changed in relation to the succession of the different generations. At the basis, there is the idea – widespread in the collective imagination, though partly contradicted by the findings of a number of significant national research – that the latest generations of young and very young are sexually anticipatory, addicted to free and unrestrained sex, likely as they are to look for pure enjoyment and physical pleasure, and prone to unconventional behaviour and open to the so-called extreme sex.

V. Giordano, *La modernità tra comunicazione e silenzio* (*Modernity Between Communication and Silence*)

In the material and symbolic space of the industrial metropolis, and in the multiplication of experiences and tools provided by progress, the modern subject paradoxically discovers himself less able to communicate.

Through a reading of the texts of narrators and observers of the time – Simmel, Benjamin, Kafka and Melville – the author focuses on one of the most intense effects that socio-cultural change of modernity has had on people.

*A cura di Melina Rosenberg.

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D. Maddaloni, P. Diana, *Retorica dello sviluppo e pratiche di coping in un’area periferica dell’Italia meridionale* (Development Rhetoric and Coping Practices in a Peripheral Area of Southern Italy)

The emerging local development approach is centred on categories such as those of governance, network, activation, and trust. This change in the development discourse can be intended as an attempt to give political relevance to the local ruling networks while making civil society responsible. The authors build from the actor-oriented perspective as defined by Norman Long, in order to compare the rhetoric of the local government network, and the coping practices developed by a specific category of actors: self-employed workers and small entrepreneurs active in sectors – traditional craftsmanship, wellness, tourism – seen as relevant for the post-industrial development in a peripheral region of southern Italy, namely Irpinia.

S. Tusini, *Simpatrici e allocronici. Una riflessione sul profilo spazio-temporale dei migranti per rileggere il concetto di mondo sociale di Schütz* (Sympatric and Allochronic. A Reflection on Migrants’ Space-Time Profile and a Revision of Schütz’s Concept of Social World)

This essay provides a reflection on the space-time profile of migrants in advanced societies. Employing the concepts of sympatry, allochronism and social time, the conclusion is that migrants and natives are sympatric and allochronic groups; that is, while they are sharing the same space, they don’t share the same time. The time lag is theoretically and empirically argued and supported by statistical data in order to show the migrants’ non-coevalness condition. In particular, the concept of allochronism is carefully analysed and purified from ideological connotations to give a heuristically meaningful role. Finally, the results are used to examine the Schütz’s concept of social world and the typology of relations that structured it (predecessors, successors, consociates, contemporaries). In the light of the above considerations, the latter seems inadequate to account for the space-time position of migrants and therefore requires a conceptual revision.


Considered one of the most extraordinary statements of modern physics, the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle has had a great seductive power on scholars of different disciplines. Its popularity, especially in the field of the social sciences, has been all the more striking as it related to a real transfiguration of its implications. In particular, its connection and conformity to the dictates of cognitive relativism and to the simple interaction between observing and observed systems.