Seminar
“Social Work in a globalizing world: voices and experiences from three continents"
(Arcavacata Campus, University of Calabria, Italy; May 26 - May 31, 2013)

Social Work Education and Practice in Italy
Emerging Issues Challenges and

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from
Summary

• Italy: some basic information
• Problems (foreign workers, elderly ppl, jail population, family) and solutions:
  – social services: a very brief history of s.s. in Italy
  – social workers in Italy:
    • How many?
    • Male/female?
    • Where? Regions and agencies
Italy: some basic information
united in 1861
population (01.01.08, ISTAT): 60.770.000
divided in 20 regions (regioni) and further divided in:
- 109 Provinces (province)
- 8.092 Municipalities (comuni)
8th for GDP, but only 27th in term of GDP per capita on purchasing power parity (32.647,46 US dollar)
Problems…and solutions…
same or different?
Is Italian society equitable?

• answer positive if based on a world perspective, however the same cannot on a European level

• Gini coefficient was 33.9 in 2011, below the European Union average level (30.7), way below the average in Norway (22.9) that is the most equal society in Europe and in the world, but much further from South Africa (63.1)

• gender inequality: 22% of the seats are held by women in Italian parliament (minimum 1% in Oman, maximum 56% in Rwanda; in Europe the maximum is 43% in Finland)

  (Eurostat, World Bank)
foreign workers

• 1 out of 4 workers is a foreigner in Australia

• 1 out of 6 in the USA

• 1 out of 9 in the UK

• 1 out of 15 in Italy

(source: Barba Navaretti G., Sole 24 Ore, 12.5.09)
Elderly people

• **life expectancy** at birth: 81 years in Italy. Only Switzerland, Hong Kong and Japan does better (82 years). Sierra Leone has the lowest level (48 years).

• **11.9 million people** were aged 65 and older **in Italy**, or 20% of the total population.

• **35.9 million people** were aged 65 and older **in the United States**, or 12% of the total population.

Jail population

- **Italy**: 61,058 people are in jail (100 in every 100,000 inhabitants)
- **USA**: 2,200,000 people are in jail (1,000 in every 100,000 inhabitants)

Fonte: Sole 24 Ore dd. 05.04.09
The Welfare Diamond:
(Evil, Pijl, e Ungerson, 1994)
Italian families are getting smaller and smaller due to:

- the decline in fertility (1.42 children per woman in 2008)
- the ageing of the population
- the increase in marital instability (in 2008 180.3 divorces per 100,000 married were granted).

Consequently, 28.1% of the families are composed of one person living alone, 27.3% have 2 components, 20.8% have 3, 17.8% have 4 and only 5.9% have 5 or more.

(Sabbadini, Romano, & Crialesi, 2010)
Families in Italy (2007)
Source: Sole 24 Ore, 15.02.10

- 23.2 families in Italy
- 2.5 members (average)
- 57% families with children
  - 47% with only 1 child
  - 42% with 2 children
  - 11% with more than 2 children
- 20.8% children born from unmarried parents (9.2% in 1999)
Marriages and divorces (per 1.000 persons) 2008 (Source: Eurostat and CDC)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Marriage</th>
<th>Divorces</th>
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<tr>
<td>EU27</td>
<td>4,87 (2007)</td>
<td>2,0 (2005)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>4,12</td>
<td>0,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>6,8</td>
<td>3,6 (2005)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Social services in Italy: a very brief history

1861 (unity - Kingdom of Italy): independent charity
1890 (Crispi act): Government controlled charity
1977 (DPR 616/77 act): Government controlled social services
2000 (328/00 act): social services network

Role of the State

- The State, that is the **largest collective actor**, paid **42.2% of the GDP** in providing good and services and its **cash deficit was 4.0% of GDP** in Italy in **2010** (minimum and the maximum percentage recorded by the World Bank for the government expense respectively 11.00% in Laos and 63.1% in Ireland which has also the worst cash budget deficit (31.3%). On the contrary, Kuwait had the highest surplus, that is 17.5% of GDP (World Bank, n.d.).

- Since a **deficit** cannot be sustained in the long term, expenses cuts and/or tax increase are the only known way to produce budget balance. Social care and services are usually the favourite “victims” when the first of the two options is adopted. → Euro crises from South Europe
Italy a “pension State”?  

- in 2006 Italy, whose gross expenditure on social protection accounted for 26,6% of GDP (26.9% in the EU), used 60,5% of this amount for old-age and survivors' benefits.

- Sickness/health care absorbed the 26,8% of total social benefits, disability 5,9%, family/children 4,5%, unemployment 2,0%, housing and social exclusion 0,3%. All these percentages are quite below the EU ones (Puglia, 2009).
Social workers - how many?

- **35,754** social workers in in **Italy** (60 in every 100,000 inhabitants) (source: regional registers - “Albo”; 12.31.08; www.cnoas.it)

- **595,000** social workers in the **USA** (200 in every 100,000 inhabitants) (source: US Department of Labour; 01.01.06; www.bls.gov)
Social workers (assistenti sociali) how many?

- 35,754 social workers in the regional registers (“Albo”) (12.31.08) VS.
  - 321,000 doctors
  - 320,000 nurses
  - 134,000 engineers
  - 91,000 surveyors
  - 82,000 lawyers
  - 80,000 architects
  - .......

(information from national/regionals registers)

A. Sicora
**Social workers – where?**  
**members registered on 12.31.08**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regione</th>
<th>N.iscritti</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abruzzo</td>
<td>1.106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basilicata</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calabria</td>
<td>1.882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campania</td>
<td>3.663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emilia Romagna</td>
<td>1.902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friuli Venezia Giulia</td>
<td>766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lazio</td>
<td>2.783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liguria</td>
<td>917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lombardia</td>
<td>4.353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marche</td>
<td>1.096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molise</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piemonte</td>
<td>2.070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puglia</td>
<td>2.878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardegna</td>
<td>1.101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sicilia</td>
<td>5.176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toscana</td>
<td>1.797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trentino Alto Adige</td>
<td>634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbria</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valle d'Aosta</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veneto</td>
<td>2.269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totali</strong></td>
<td><strong>35.754</strong></td>
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A. Sicora
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>INHABITANTS</th>
<th>S.W. MEMBERS</th>
<th>S.W. MEMBERS FOR 100.000 INHABITANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SICILIA</td>
<td>5.108.067</td>
<td>4.572</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALABRIA</td>
<td>2.070.992</td>
<td>1.590</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOLISE</td>
<td>329.894</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABRUZZO</td>
<td>1.276.040</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUGLIA</td>
<td>4.090.068</td>
<td>2.218</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>SARDEGNA</td>
<td>1.661.429</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>BASILICATA</td>
<td>610.330</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA</td>
<td>1.184.654</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td>CAMPANIA</td>
<td>5.796.899</td>
<td>2.763</td>
<td>48</td>
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<td>UMBRIA</td>
<td>831.714</td>
<td>395</td>
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<td>LIGURIA</td>
<td>1.641.835</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>VALLE D’AOSTA</td>
<td>119.610</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCHE</td>
<td>1.450.879</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>TRENTINO ALTO ADIGE</td>
<td>924.281</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>LAZIO</td>
<td>5.242.709</td>
<td>2.087</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>TOSCANA</td>
<td>3.527.303</td>
<td>1.390</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>VENETO</td>
<td>4.469.156</td>
<td>1.577</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOMBARDIA</td>
<td>8.988.951</td>
<td>3.157</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMILIA ROMAGNA</td>
<td>3.947.102</td>
<td>1.377</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIEMONTE</td>
<td>4.291.441</td>
<td>1.444</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALE ITALIA</td>
<td>57.563.354</td>
<td>27.117</td>
<td>47</td>
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</table>
Female vs. male presence

How many social workers are women in Italy?

female presence (“Sole 24 Ore” report - 10.22.07):

• minimum: firemen (0.3%),
• maximum: nursery teachers (99.5%)
• 73.4 social workers are women
Social workers' professional register  
(DPR 328/01 act) – art. 21

Section A – “assistente sociale specialista”:
works out and directs programs in the field of welfare and social services  
(back office)

Section B – “assistente sociale” (= social worker):
works in all phases of social interventions with the client/user  
(front office)
Where do social workers work in Italy?
Almost 9 in every 10 social workers work in (local and national/"federal") Government agencies.

- 39.50% local welfare (municipalities and others)
- 34.60% National Government
- 7.50% Public health system
- 7.20% Private agencies
- 5.20% Corporate
- 6.00% Other public agencies
- 6.00% Other

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84.3% of the Italian social workers work in a public body, that is an organization: ("indizi sintomatici")

- controlled by national/local government
- whose board of directors and/or the top manager is named by the State (or a local government)
- that continuously receives money from the State (or a local government)
- declared “public” by an act
- ......
Public bodies where social workers work: nazional level (6%)

- **Stato**
  - Ministero dell’**Interno** → prefettura (109 province) → some actions related with immigration and drug users
  - Ministero della **Giustizia**:
    - Uffici di Servizio Sociale per Minorenni (USSM): assistenza a **minorì** autori di **reo**
    - Uffici di esecuzione penale esterna (UEPE): assistenza ad **adulti** autori di reato

- **Istituto Nazionale per l’Assicurazione contro gli Infortuni sul Lavoro (INAIL)**
Public bodies where social workers work: local government (39.5 %)

- **Regioni**
  - funzioni di indirizzo, programmazione, coordinamento e vigilanza (back office MA eccezione in Val D’Aosta)

- **Enti locali**
  - Comuni, province [residuo passato], comunita’ montane [Abruzzo…], (+ città’ metropolitane, comunita’ isolane, unioni di comuni)
  - N.b. 8.100 **comuni** (2,7 mln ppl Roma vs. 34 ppl Fiera di Primiero PN) → **gestione associata pro** programmare, progettare e realizzare sistema locale dei servizi sociali (ente gestore su territorio corrispondente a distretto sanitario)
Public bodies where social workers work: Servizio Sanitario Nazionale (34.5 %)

- Aziende Sanitarie Locali (ASL) e Aziende Ospedaliere
- Where? mix health and social needs
  - Children and their mothers (aree materno-infantile),
  - Elderly people (Anziani),
  - Disabled persons (handicap),
  - Psychiatric patients (patologie psichiatriche)
  - Drugs and alcohol addicted (dipendenze da droga, alcool e farmaci),
  - HIV patients, terminal patient, .... (patologie per infezioni da HIV e patologie in fase terminale, inabilità o disabilità conseguenti a patologie cronico-degenerative)
Public bodies where social workers work: other public bodies (5.2 %)

• Istituzioni Pubbliche di Assistenza e Beneficenza (IPAB)
  – Created by Crispi act in 1890)
  – 4,200 in 1999
  – Rest houses, charities, day nurseries, ….
  – Progressive transformation in…

• Aziende Pubbliche di Servizi alla Persona
  – E.g. in FVG they can be “ente gestore” of a “social district”
Organizzazioni del terzo settore dove ci sono aa.ss. (14,7%)

- **Cooperative (7,2 %)**
  - A: pro assistenza
  - B: vs. emarginazione (lavoro di disabili, tossici, ecc.)

- **Fondazioni e associazioni (7,5 %)**
  - Organizzazioni di volontariato
  - Associazioni di promozione sociale (attività’ per propri associati es. Unione Italiana Ciechi)
  - Organizzazioni non lucrative di utilità sociale (ONLUS) – cat. a fini fiscali

N.B.: **piccole dimensioni** 73 % fondazioni < 10 dipendenti; org. volontariato con media di 39 volontari
Social work in Italian universities

• **L-39 - Servizio sociale (Social Work) (three year 180 CFU):** 45 programs in 38 universities
  • Minimum: 15 CFU in Social Work and 18 CFU field practice
• **LM-87 – Social work (master 120 CFU):** 36 programs in 36 universities
  • Minimum: 15 CFU Sociology and Social Work and 10 Field practice

• Assetto organizzativo:
  • Solo 11 “incardinati” di Servizio Sociale nell’Università italiana (1 ordinario, 3 associati, 7 ricercatori)
  • Budget cuts in Italian universities (Ministry of University): - 20% in 2013 & - 22% faculty (2006-2012) il

*NB: 1 CFU = 25 ore di impegno studente (all’Unical 1 CFU = 7 ore in aula)
Università della Calabria

• TRIENNALE: Laurea interclasse di Servizio Sociale e Sociologia: 2 anni in comune, 1 anno finale “caratterizzante”

Y

• MAGISTRALE: Scienze delle Politiche e dei Servizi Sociali
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<th>Anno 1</th>
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<td>1. Diritto privato con elementi di diritto di famiglia (9)</td>
<td>1. Psichiatria (6)</td>
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<td>2. Politica sociale (9)</td>
<td>2. Socializzazione politica (9)</td>
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<td>3. Sociologia (9)</td>
<td>3. Psicologia dello sviluppo (9)</td>
<td>3. Sociologia della devianza (9)</td>
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<td>4. Storia contemporanea (9)</td>
<td>4. Sociologia delle relazioni etniche (9)</td>
<td>4. Studi di genere (9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Istituzioni di diritto pubblico (6)</td>
<td>5. Famiglia e mutamento sociale (9)</td>
<td><strong>5. Tirocinio 2 (12)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Società, cultura e comunicazione (9)</td>
<td>7. Psicologia dinamica (6)</td>
<td>7. Famiglia e mutamento sociale (mutuato) (9)</td>
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<td>8. Statistica sociale (9)</td>
<td>8. (Metodi e tecniche del S.S. (9))</td>
<td>8. Statistica sociale (mutuato) (6)</td>
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<td>9. (Principi e fondamenti del S.S. (6))</td>
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### MAGISTRALE: Scienze delle Politiche e dei Servizi Sociali - Offerta didattica

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<th>Anno 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Diritto regionale e degli enti locali (6)</td>
<td>1. Economia delle aziende no profit (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Politiche sociali (9)</td>
<td>2. Metodologia della progettazione sociale (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Psicologia clinica (9)</td>
<td>3. Pubblica amministrazione e imprese no profit (6)</td>
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<td>4. Ricerca sociale applicata (6)</td>
<td>4. Lingua inglese 2 (5)</td>
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<td>5. Storia dei servizi sociali (6)</td>
<td>5. Sociologia delle religioni (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Lingua inglese 1 (3)</td>
<td>6. Sociologia dell’educazione (6)</td>
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<td>7. <strong>Metodologia del servizio sociale (9)</strong></td>
<td><strong>7. Tirocinio (10)</strong></td>
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<td>8. Sociologia dell'organizzazione (6)</td>
<td>8. Diritto dell'Unione europea (mutuato) (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Sociologia della salute e dell'ambiente (6)</td>
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<td>10. Analisi delle politiche pubbliche (mutuato) (6)</td>
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