



1. INTRODUCTION

From a demo-sociological point of view Genoa is characterized by:

- ❑ a high presence of **immigrants**

65.589 in the whole province with an increasing percentage of 184% in the last 10 years: over 50% are **women**

50.415 people concentrated in the city of Genoa.

- ❑ a high presence of **elder** : **26,7%** of the inhabitants is **65 or more** (the oldest region in Italy!)

- ❑ as for families, **43,9%** is composed of **1 individual**.

- ❑ Trend: up to 2050 we can suppose *the elder will be 33,6%* (with 7,8% of over 85 years old)!



2. The issue of VIOLENCE in Genoa

These former aspects are linked to the spreading of the phenomenon



From **specific experiences** to fight it acted in the last years



We chose some **studying-cases** as “thinking tanks” and “good practises laboratories”



Anti- trafficking in human beings actions/1

by Francesca Martini

psychologist and pedagogist, expert in educational processes, specialist in projects in favour of victims of trafficking, slavery and exploitation

Trafficking of human beings means:

- sexual exploitation of women and children
- labour exploitation (Adults in slavery conditions)
- begging exploitation (Children in slavery conditions)

The Italian legislation has 2 tools to contrast trafficking in human beings:

- **Law n. 228 of 2003** -
“Provisions against the Trafficking in Human Beings”,
providing both for short term assistance programs (**art.13**)
and for prosecution of traffickers.

- **Article 18 of the National Law on Migration** (Legislative Decree n° 286 of 1998),
providing for long term protection programs for trafficked persons
(assistance, recovery, residential facilities, trainings, job placement, residence permit,
social inclusion)



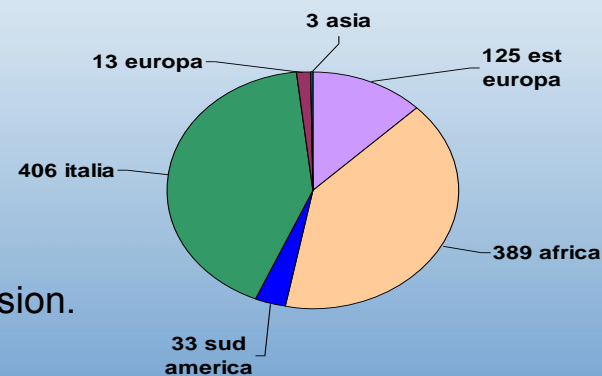
Anti- trafficking in human beings actions/2 In Genoa

- **Free Help-line 800290290**
- Project “**New Horizons**” to implement the programs deriving from the article 13 – Law 228
- Project “**Beyond the Road**” to implement the programs deriving from article 18 of the National Law on Migration



Anti- trafficking in human beings actions/3 Free Help-line

- to detect women's problems
- to Inform on existing services
- to Inform on the Migration Law
- to inform on how to escape from slavery
- Counselling sessions, protection's program and social inclusion.
- identification of potential victims
- territory check



• Calls	3680
• First contacts	969



Anti- trafficking in human beings actions/4

Actions of the project “New Horizon”

- Filter on first access
- Victim’s Identification
- Counselling
- Intake
- Finding appropriate accommodation
- Legal Assistance
- Support aimed at reporting the traffickers to the police
- Official accompanied repatriation to homeland

Actions for the project “Beyond the Road”

- Intake
- Social Support
- Finding accommodation
- Teaching Italian
- Psychological counselling
- Job and educational training centres
- Learning by doing in companies*
- Job inclusion
- Autonomy and empowerment



Anti- trafficking in human beings actions/5 Future perspectives

- **Anti- trafficking counter:** increasing number of women victims of gender's violence turning out to be trafficking's victims
- Specific **gender's training** provided to:
 - all operators and people contacting the **Anti- trafficking** counter
 - young people in order to arise their awareness about gender's violence
 - foreign people coming from different areas of the world where the **relationships between women and men** are determined by Koranic principles and not by individual convictions
 - elderly men because they are the main "**consumers**" of women victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation.



Community for minors seeking for political asylum and refugees/1

- Tangram experience -
By Simona Binello

Pedagogist, specialist in educational projects for vulnerable groups.

• **Tangram** is one out of eight communities of **S.P.R.A.R** (National System for protecting minors seeking for political asylum and refugees).

It takes care of **immigrant minors** who went through **wars, domestic conflicts, famine**, who were deeply traumatized by **violent events**.

Since 2007 the Tangram Community housed **45 boys**. Considered a virtuous example for the whole system S.P.R.A.R :

n. **38** boys found a regular job
n. **7** boys abandoned the Community



Community for minors seeking for political asylum and refugees/2 Tangram's methodology and purposes

The Centre is conceived as a “symbolic zone” where is possible

- to implement a process of **individuation of oneself** to contrast anti-human dynamics as a result of one's community loss;
- to fight a process of **victimization**: vs. maintaining the refugee in a permanent condition of subordination
- to create a dimension where minors can gain a life's goal impossible in homeland
- to go through the trauma by revitalizing a realistic thought



Community for minors seeking for political asylum and refugees/3 Tangram – *Actions*

- Building a set of shared rules between operators and refugees to learn a different human community based on justice, instead of crime, persecution and death
- Learning that women and men belong to the same mankind sharing the same rights. Everyone has to be judged only on the basis of individual characteristics.
- A permanent specific training for the operators focussed on different cultural backgrounds to contextualize the single individuals.



Mental disease centres and University : two realities for the development of women's autonomy

by Daniela Ratti

Psychologist and psychopathologist, officer of the National Health Service; professor at the University of Genoa (Sociology and Medicine for the Emergencies); deals with psychotherapy for women who have suffered violence.

On March 2007 Regione Liguria approved the Law "Intervention on the Prevention of Gender Violence and Measures for Supporting Women and Minors victims of violence"

Main goals:

- institution of against-violence centres in each province to support the victims;
- actions of prevention and awareness on gender violence (Legislative decree 1066 of 14th September 2007)
- temporary housing for supporting women in changing their situation
- a system of regional advisors/observers on violence and minors to monitor violent events in Liguria and to evaluate the efficiency of programmes financed to fight violence.



Mental disease centres/1 FAMILY VIOLENCE Main violence against women

Some suggestions:

- ✓ To fight this complex phenomenon it is necessary to engage Institutions and social context/community of the Country
- ✓ In Italy the domestic violence rate is – officially - lower than in other States, but it seems there's a **submerged phenomenon**: over 90%!
- ✓ Often domestic violence comes from partners (93%) or ex-partners (96%). As for rape, the majority of them are not reported to the police (91,6%)
- ✓ Up to 90% of women are raped during pregnancy, to the point where sexual abuse is the second cause of death for pregnant women, right after haemorrhage.
- ✓ A deep change in health centre operators, as well as in the Institutions which manage and organize each operators' actions, is needed to fight domestic violence



Mental disease centres/2

Supporting actions for women – weaknesses

- the majority of violent acts are not reported to the police
- often women believe that *maintaining* the relationship with their violent partners is safe
- Contacts with institutions are felt as compulsory, which compromises the nature of their relations.
- awareness of their difficulties and pain is very low or lacking
- women seem to suffer the Institutions' actions because of the negative connotation associated to them: the psychiatric impact of the Institutions makes women feel even more victimised. After being abused, women risk psychiatric stigmatisation!
- women often decide to hide the violence under a more reassuring *report* of injury by *casual* accident.
- health operators from Public Services often get some difficulties in recognizing violence and abuse, if victims do not clearly ask for help.



Mental disease centres/3

Supporting actions - *Negative answers by operators*

- not recognizing or minimizing violence
- denial: operators “see” violence but often push women to feel guilty by *siding/sympathizing* with violent men.
- *Overuse and misuse of psychological treatment*: operators give a psychological answer to women, even if their question is about economic help, rights, health care etc.
- operators have the worst prejudices; i.e.: victims are masochists or *accomplices in violence*



Mental disease centres/4

STRATEGIES TO IMPLEMENT SUPPORTING ACTIONS

- Operators' change of mind as well as a new Institutions' approach
- Intervention of different kind of professionals to support women, just to assure long term psychological and social actions.
- Starting point to improve the clinical approach to interpersonal violence: early diagnosis and the chance to detect some particular clinical *events*.
- Specific education and training for social workers about this issue. Despite the growth of the phenomenon against women and children, this topic is not part of the standard curriculum for health and social workers!
- Nowadays the treatment of the abusers (usually male) is not sufficient for various reasons, such as:
 - The process of treatment being initiated forcefully;
 - The abusers' mental state (which is rarely balanced);
 - The abusers' unawareness on their mental conditions.

Often, abusers suffer from mental illnesses *compatible with Borderline Personality Disorder*



University/5
Educational *actions* in the academic domain

Gender's violence

as a "liquid" emergency (Bauman):
globalized and cross phenomenon

- Experiments on an **educational pattern** to prevent violence against women focussed on *sentimental/feelings' ethic* and "respect of others" as individuals different from the subject.
- Identifying an educational pattern for the youngsters to prevent violence against women, based on feelings' ethic and a deep analysis of sexual violence together with cultural and sexual patterns.
- Studying the violence-hiding strategies
- For these purposes, academic lessons mix together theory with experience.

In order to achieve that, classes mix theoretical knowledge and shared experiences: there are some special witnesses (whose demographics are similar to the student's) who share their experience on the subject of violence.

To give the students the means to form their own perspective and position on the notions they are thought.



VIOLENCE AGAINST ONESELF AS CAREGIVER/1
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT FOR WOMEN DEALING WITH CARE
by Umberto Lavolpicella

Psychologist and therapist

He works in both the field of clinical psychology and work psychology. He's a trainer and supervisor in private and professional realities concerning social services, schools and healthcare facilities.





VIOLENCE AGAINST ONESELF AS CAREGIVER/2

Analysis coming from a long experience about supervision
for female operators dealing with elder,
in particular in domiciliary care.

Some characteristics:

- Female workers often epitomized by family problems
- Fragile caregivers working in a care context with other fragile subjects.
- “Compensative” reasons for frustrations from private life – poor of feelings and gratifications.

Some recurrent elements:

low “self-esteem” and a little self-confidence with the following devaluation of oneself’s
“aggressiveness” vs. others and depression.

These operators seek for isolation to lighten psychological pressure and desperation
to escape social duties and others’ expectations.

For this can drink (often by one’s own) or abuse anxyolitics or drugs

VIOLENCE AGAINST ONESELF AS CAREGIVER/3

