
CALL FOR PAPERS

RASSEGNA ITALIANA DI SOCIOLOGIA



Intersectionality and beyond

Special issue 3/2016

deadline for abstract submission: June 30th, 2015

The editors will communicate the result of the accepted abstracts by 15th July 2015.

deadline for full submission: December 15th, 2015

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This call of *Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia* suggests a reflection on the topic of intersectionality and its potentials in contemporary social sciences. The notion of intersectionality has been present in international debate for at least twenty years, but only in recent times this concept has spread beyond the field of gender studies where it was originally elaborated. In the 80s and the 90s, Kimberlé Crenshaw introduced this concept to make accountable the plurality of discrimination forms suffered by black women, opening a wide debate about the intersection of discriminations related to gender, colour and social class. The idea of intersectionality represents nowadays an important analytical device in sociological theoretical debate and research not only in gender studies and discrimination, but also in the investigation of social stratification and social agency.

The aim of this call is to critically discuss intersectionality as a concept that looks beyond the research on difference (gender, generation, ethnicity, class and so on) and can expand its analytical range moving further from the fundamental field of gender studies. The call invites reflection on the success and the application of intersectionality in its theoretical, methodological and epistemological aspects, also with the help of examples from quantitative and qualitative research.

The object of this single issue can be developed in different ways, but the following aspects will be evaluated with particular attention:

- A critical evaluation of the idea of intersectionality as a theoretical instrument of analysis of contemporary forms of discrimination, subordination and oppression.
- An evaluation of the transformation of the categories of class, gender, race-ethnicity and of the social location defined by their intersection, according to the contemporary processes of globalization.
- The exploration of the intersection among new forms of categorization, beyond the classical trilogy of class/gender/race-ethnicity.
- The possible application of the idea of intersectionality moving on from the forms of domination/subordination and oppression (the matrix of domination) and of ‘non-additive ways of understanding social inequality’.
- The contribution of intersectionality to the analysis of the categorization processes, investigating its capacity to highlight the ambivalent and dynamic character of processes of categorization: on the one hand, as binding elements which impose themselves with institutive force; on the other hand, as ambivalent practices that open the possibility of resistance and autonomy.
- The contribution of intersectionality to the articulation of the link between agency and structure, showing how different categorizations act not only ‘adding’ disadvantages or privileges but creating peculiar social locations which are neither the mechanical effect of reified social differences, a structural features of society which imposes its consequences on individual life, nor the personal achievement of autonomous and isolated individuals, who can act freely, independently of contextual restraints.
- Methodological and research-design issues involved in intersectionality research.

The special issue will be published in English.

All interested authors can send an English abstract of 300 words and 5 keywords by **30th June 2015** to : enzo.colombo@unimi.it and paola.rebughini@unimi.it
 The articles – **written in English** – have to be sent to the editors by 15th December 2015 and should not exceed 50.000 signs.