

## *English summaries*\*

(in alphabetical order)

F. Corradi, *Elementi per una sociologia dei contagi sociali, con un'analisi di caso (Elements for Sociology of Social Contagion: a Case Study)*

After an interdisciplinary review of literature on the contagion phenomena, the author focuses on the simplest of all compartmental epidemiological models in order to test its applicability and its heuristic value in the empirical analysis of various cases of social contagion. The case study, the first «Black Monday» of 2015 of the Milan Stock Exchange, shows that in contexts similar to on-line trading where investors have no face-to-face interactions and anonymity is the rule, panic is contagious and spreads in a very specific way: exchange volumes and their reading in combination with buying and selling orders become the main contagion carriers.

C. Ruggiero, *La politica delle tre «P»: personalizzazione, populismo e popolarizzazione in dieci anni di elezioni europee (The Politics of the Three «P». Personalization, Populism and Popularization in Ten Years of European Elections)*

The European elections of 2014 are a mix of established electoral practices and innovative campaign strategies, which take the form of formulas of political communication arising from different doses of the same three basic ingredients: personalization of leadership, populist rhetoric, popularization of politics. More and less explicit traces of these elements can be found in the recipes of the major competitors, Matteo Renzi, Beppe Grillo and Silvio Berlusconi, and are hereby identified through a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the language used while they were hosted at the Italian popular TV talk-show *Porta a Porta*, a few days before the elections and in identical television conditions. To verify the relevance of these three elements identified, in the formulas

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of Italian political communication over the past decade, six more episodes of the same program on elections for the European Parliament in 2009 and 2004 were selected in order to analyze the language used in speeches of the left-wing, right-wing and anti-system political leaders of the time.

A. Russo, *Élite, slack e politiche pubbliche nel Mezzogiorno (Élite, Slack and Public Policies in the South of Italy)*

The article analyzes the role carried out by the local extractive elite groups in the process of modernization of the South of Italy, both at a micro and systemic level. At a micro level, the article focuses on institutional incentives that most directly affect individual action in the political and economic context. At a systemic level, the article highlights the perverse effects induced by individual choices aimed to maximize short-term interest. This situation determines corruption and dynamics that negatively impact economic performances and propensity to technological innovation in the regions of Southern Italy.

L. Sabetta, *Funzioni latenti e paradigma indiziario: termini di una convergenza (Latent Functions and Evidential Paradigm: a Convergence)*

The aim of this contribution is to reconstruct the affinity existing between the concept of latent function (R.K. Merton) and the notion of evidential paradigm (C. Ginzburg). The article raises the possibility of a combination of the two perspectives, from a methodological and trans-disciplinary point of view. The unprecedented nature of the similarities found forces to re-examine the underlying logic in the latent functions as well as in the evidential paradigm, emphasizing some elements that appear not necessarily clear to the authors themselves.

P. Saitta, *Poteri e resistenze. Economie informali, illegalità, subalternità (Powers and Resistances. Informal Economies, Illegalities and Marginalism)*

The essay explores the links between «informal economies» and the concept of «resistance». The author argues that the illegalities of the marginal classes should be looked at through their connection to those of the élite classes and the Government. Within this framework, the informal economy is both the outcome of a set of material conditions aiming at the subordinated inclusion of entire classes of citizens, and a sign of the desire of those citizens to evade the limits imposed on them by legislations and social hierarchies. In contrast with the dominant rhetoric on public order, informal economy is seen in this context as a particular area of engagement and effort of the «marginals» aimed to create paradoxical forms of inclusion.