

Rebel children of wellbeing

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PROSPETTO 1. TASSI DI OCCUPAZIONE, DISOCCUPAZIONE E INATTIVITÀ. Maggio 2011, dati destagionalizzati

	Valori percentuali	Variazioni congiunturali	Variazioni tendenziali
		in punti percentuali	
Tasso di occupazione 15-64 anni	56,9	0,1	0,0
Tasso di disoccupazione	8,1	0,1	-0,5
Tasso di disoccupazione giovanile 15-24 anni	28,9	0,5	0,4
Tasso di inattività 15-64 anni	38,0	-0,1	0,3

Parte del problema giovanile

Sul «Mercato del lavoro 2010–2011» aumentano i giovani che non lavorano e né studiano: sono circa il 29.6% solo nella fascia tra i 25–30 anni. In crescita anche gli «scoraggiati».

Si aggrava il fenomeno dei neet (not in education or training nor in employment), cioè chi risulta fuori dal mercato del lavoro e non è impegnato in un processo di formazione.

La recessione ha inoltre inciso sul passaggio dai contratti a termine a quelli a tempo indeterminato: «prima della crisi quasi il 31% dei giovani passava l'anno successivo ad un lavoro permanente, contro il 22% attuale».

In Italia i giovani che scelgono di lavorare sono pochissimi, appena il 29,1 per cento, contro il 40,4 in Francia, il 45,1 in Spagna, il 52 in Germania, il 59,8 per cento nel Regno Unito, per rimanere ai paesi con cui di solito ci compariamo.

Il fenomeno «neet» mette in discussione sia il funzionamento dei sistemi scolastici superiori sia le politiche del lavoro rivolte alle nuove generazioni: nella fascia 16–24 anni questo problema investe più marcatamente il mondo della scuola secondaria e dell'università e si sostanzia con la scelta di abbandonare prima del termine il proprio percorso di studio senza però scegliere al contempo la via del lavoro, nella fascia 25–30 anni, invece, l'attenzione va rivolta sulla difficoltà di accesso nel mercato del lavoro e lo scarso appeal del nostro sistema di formazione.

Reasons of the heart

1.-young people react to problems of uncertainty regarding their present and future economy.

they lack ontological security.

they do not trust in the continuity of their identity and the constancy of the material and social environment in which they act.

2.-historically young people experience uneasiness in the culture.

3.-young people remain loyal to the family.

Object relations are still there

4.-young people have lost faith in value systems in the face of adults' non-compliance.

the social contract is failing

Uneasiness in culture

Uneasiness in the culture

- ▶ *Civilization and Its Discontents* :
- ▶ Young people have always experienced the tensions between the instincts and impulses of the individual and the greater conformity required by civilisation. One of the most basic instincts present in human beings is aggression, an instinct that by its very nature is destabilising and impulsive and (in a word) antisocial. Coping with, controlling, or redirecting this aggressive instinct is vital to forming relationships with other human beings
- ▶ Happiness depends on
 - relationships
 - exposure to the external world
 - biological frailty of human beings

- Different worlds: worlds of life
- young people and adults do not live in the same world.

They experience differences regarding limits,
boundaries,

roads, pathways, guidelines, benchmarks.

These differences result in intergenerational conflicts

- ▶ • The ideological and cultural differences between new and old generations is a phenomenon consistently present and, therefore, has always divided society. The parents, or people of their age, in the eyes of the young seem to live a rational, apathetic, reassuring life
- ▶ older people living horrified at the thought of a change
- ▶ • Young people at all ages have tended to feel that all that belongs to the world of "the old" is as alien and oppressive, as an attack on their spontaneity.

- ▶ One thing is certain: young people do not approve of the country and the future they have before their eyes. Many of them feel part of a generation of disadvantaged, precarious, which has been deprived of resources, rights and perspectives, through the fault of those who have had a bankruptcy or misuse of its dominant position.

WEALTH AND HAPPINESS

- ▶ Harvard University psychologist Daniel Gilbert
- ▶ "Stumbling on Happiness," :
wealth increases human happiness
when it lifts people out of poverty
and into the middle class
but that it does little to increase happiness
thereafter.

Money and happiness

The nonlinear nature of how much happiness money can buy: global surveys that ask people how content they feel with their lives.

In a typical survey people are asked to rank their sense of well-being or happiness on a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 means "not at all satisfied with my life" and 7 means "completely satisfied."

American multimillionaires: average happiness score was 5.8.

Homeless people in Calcutta came in at 2.9.

the Inuit of northern Greenland,

who do not exactly lead a life of luxury, 5.8

cattle-herding Masai of Kenya,

who live in dung huts have no electricity or running water, 5.8

The social contract

Social contract

Set of mutual rights and obligations

Binding people with their polity:

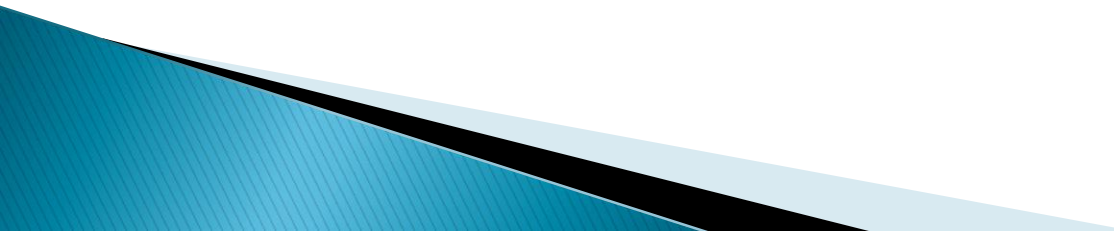
You will enjoy the rights

And reap the benefits of the social order

If you live by its rules

And fulfill the responsibilities of membership

The social policy contract

- ▶ The intergenerational transfer of resources
 - ▶ Through the mediums
 - ▶ Of taxation and social expenditure
- 

JUSTICE: MUTUAL ADVANTAGE

- ▶ According to this view, an arrangement is just if each party to it has good reason to believe that it provides him or her with the best benefit she can obtain compared to the costs she is required to make as part of the arrangement. On this view, justice can be likened to a rational bargain in which each party to an arrangement tries to get the best deal that he or she can from cooperating with others.(30) The obligations of justice a mutual advantage conception entertains will not be ones that require people to make sacrifices or take on burdens that do not have a 'pay-off' or corresponding proportionate benefit for them in return. There is therefore, no obligation of justice for people to make unrequited sacrifices for the sake of present or future individuals. Whatever contribution they make to the common good, it is fair only if it is balanced by at least as much benefit to themselves. A mutual advantage approach thus seems like a promising basis for a benefiter-pays principle.

- ▶ * The mutual advantage approach makes assumptions about people's motivations which many find implausible or troubling. For example, those who assume that present taxpayers ought to provide educational services for the young do not generally suppose that their obligation turns on whether they will get a decent return for their sacrifices.(32)
- ▶ * The mutual advantage approach is also open to the criticism that those with little bargaining power that is, those who have great needs and little ability to provide benefits will get the worst deals. For example, if bad economic circumstances have made it difficult for most members of a generation to save for old age, then they could not, on a mutual advantage view, expect to get much, if anything, from their successor generations. Moreover, the mutual advantage conception of justice cannot take into account, and has nothing to say about, the fairness of the conditions which affect the bargaining power of individuals or generations and their ability to pay.(33)



JUSTICE: ENTITLEMENT

- ▶ This entitlement conception of justice appeals to an intuitively plausible moral idea: that individuals ought to have what they deserve, and that, so far as possible, social and economic arrangements should ensure that this happens. Desert or entitlement views of justice are usually qualified in an important way. They stipulate that whatever benefits and burdens people end up with in their lives, this will be fair if those benefits and burdens have resulted from people's free choices, and if everyone has started on an equal footing. So, if all have had an equal start in the way of initial capacities and initial resources, then they will deserve whatever the outcomes are (favourable or otherwise) of their choices. It is not hard to see how this entitlement view of justice lends theoretical support to a 'user-pays' principle. People should get what they pay for because in choosing to pay they're entitled to it. People shouldn't have to pay for what they don't benefit from, because the cost isn't the result of a choice they have made to acquire the benefit. One of the underlying themes of entitlement-based views is that people are to be seen as responsible for their own choices, when they are fairly and freely made.

- ▶ Most people do not doubt that there are intergenerational obligations. Nevertheless, difficulties concerning the nature and existence of an 'intergenerational social contract' raise questions about the extent of these responsibilities. Do we have a responsibility for the well being of future citizens that is similar to our responsibility for the well being of our contemporaries, or should we think of our obligations to our successors as being similar to the obligations we have to people in other countries? If the former, then according to most theories of justice, we have extensive responsibilities for their well being. If the latter, then a more minimal conception of our responsibilities may apply.⁽⁴⁴⁾ Such minimal responsibilities might arguably mean that we should avoid harming them, but it is not clear we would be obliged to ensure that their standard of living is comparable to ours. And they in their turn may have no special responsibility to us. 'Benefiter-pays' policies, by ensuring that each generation takes budgetary responsibility for itself, seem to fit this less demanding conception of the 'intergenerational contract'.

MANCHESTER RIOTS 2011

- ▶ **How sad to live in a society that won't invest in its young**
- ▶ The riots crystallised the fear and loathing felt by the older and wealthy. For our children's generation, the prospects are bleak
- ▶ Polly Toynbee
 - guardian.co.uk, Friday 19 August 2011 19.30 BST
 - [Article history](#)
- ▶

UNITED KINGDOM

- ▶ This is no time to be young. In the shadow of depression, the future could hardly look bleaker for those leaving education now, or for those coming after them. Many who jump for joy at getting their grades may emerge from university fearful about their prospects – and much worse soon for those with triple the debts. Rites of passage may become dead ends of disappointment. Some will soar – but many more than previously will not find work to match their talents, qualifications or even quite modest ambitions for a job and a home.

- ▶ Historians will, I hope, be shocked that we let austerity bear down hardest on the young. No more mouthing of political platitudes that "the children are our future" in a country that is inflicting extraordinary damage on their chances, while protecting the privileges of the older and better off. In good societies it is the natural instinct to invest most in the young. Only a profoundly sick society would be doing the opposite. But there are more votes in the old than in the young and an ageing population fears and despises young people with even greater intensity than usual

- ▶ How well the riots crystallised that generation-hate. To a Manchester judge sentencing two young girls caught stealing jeans from a shop window, they were not just "selfish" but "symptomatic of the Facebook generation". As chronicled in the classic study Hooligan by Geoffrey Pearson, every generation always thinks the next is going to perdition: apprentice rioters, peaky blinders in the 1880s, teddy boys with flick knives, mods and rockers, punks, ravers – or indeed Cameron's Bullers. But each generation grows up into respectable parents, ready to be terrified to death of the next one. This time the fear and loathing is worse now the old have power, money, votes and demographics on their side.

- ▶ Let's reprise where cuts have fallen hardest. Nearly a million young unemployed, a shocking one in five out of work, rises to more than 30% in places like Middlesbrough. The young will suffer for it all their lives, as research shows most never regain their footing, destined to a life in and out of low-paid work. Connexions, the service that picks up the lost and gives careers advice to all is cut to shreds: over 30% cut already, professionals replaced with cheaper staff. Just when young people most need help on what school subjects to take, on BTecs, HNDs and apprenticeships, the government is replacing careers advice with an online service, with no one to question their choices and prod them forwards. The disastrous abolition of the educational maintenance allowance will make many wrongly opt out altogether. Add in the future trouble stored up in the cuts to Sure Start, teen pregnancy prevention, anti-gang or other early interventions and prospects look bleaker still.

- ▶ It's an odd irony, and no doubt one he feels himself, that [David Willetts](#), author of the best book on the broken intergenerational social contract, is now responsible for making university so much harder to access. [The Pinch: How the Baby Boomers Stole Their Children's Future](#), is a devastating critique of our "selfish giant" of a postwar generation, where 45-65s hold 52% of the wealth, and the under 45s only 13%. The expansion of universities, he writes, has helped the middle classes secure their own children's advantage in "a kind of parental arms race", giving most extra places to their daughters and sons, not to working-class children. What's more, their children now marry into their own class more than before, due to "assortative mating", meeting at university, while he finds the professions all but sealed off from children of low-income families.

- ▶ What this Tory is saying is that inequality got worse. That's what the A-level results show us more brutally than ever as the 6.5% of private school pupils gained three times more of the A*s that send them to top universities. Since private schools spend around three times more per pupil, that's no surprise. He happens to slice inequality between generations – but he is describing the great widening class divide we are bequeathing to the next generation.

THE YOUNG PAY

- ▶ The young pay for the financiers' calamity while my generation keeps its bus pass, winter fuel allowance and hefty state subsidy to pension contributions. If you fall below the new 50% tax rate, apart from a bit more VAT, nothing much has been taken from the likes of us to ease the national crisis. Austerity falls on the young while my generation enjoys the untaxed proceeds of three house price booms, shutting out the next generations from home ownership. The stock markets are crashing with global food and oil prices rocketing as unchecked speculators turn to commodities instead. Meanwhile the social history and geography of riots suggests more mayhem to come from the poorest places. Why wouldn't there be?

Mimetic desire

René Girard:

Competing for the same goods

For whom the bells toll

- "Poverty is striking ever more young people.

25% disoccupation rate in 2006

in the group under 35 years old

Many of today's young workers, after working 40 years, expect to receive pensions

of just over 400 euros a month,

a cipher below the absolute poverty line. "

This is because the economic system is unbalanced

in favor of those who now receive a pension

(two-thirds of social spending is allocated to this function)

- The feeling among the younger is that older people manage the resources and inputs to their advantage
- the feeling is that the real social issues are the lack of generational change in universities, at work, in the professions, in politics.


The feeling is that the old ruling class has not fulfilled one of the main tasks of the leadership of a country: to imagine and plan without mortgage the future of her children.

Instead, drawing on public spending,
They have secured for themselves a standard of living above the real possibilities,
downloading on the shoulders of future generations the burden of debts.

The crisis of the pension system is emblematic of the generational character of the social question.

- the feeling is that there has been a huge waste of resources.

Many young people oppose the privileges of the
bureaucrats,
of the members of professional orders,
of companies operating under oligo-monopoly,
they oppose the collusion of the corrupt and the
abusive,
young people feel that any spending or regulations of
the State
that distorts the logic of the market, finds successful
curtailment
which develops into injustice



No debt

Marcel Mauss

MARCEL MAUSS

GIVING CREATES DEBT

BECAUSE OF A PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCALITY

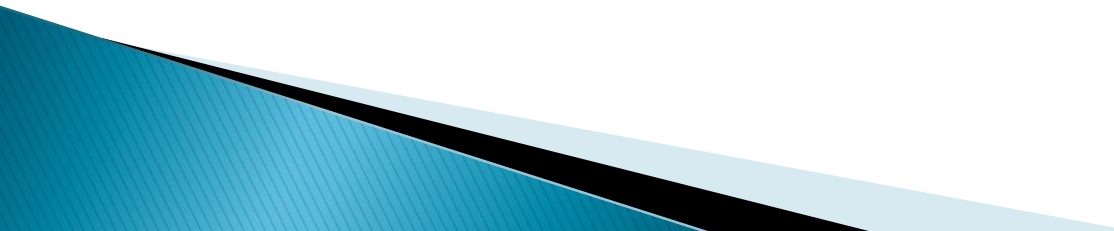
ESPECIALLY

IF YOU GIVE THE OTHER IN NEED

IN ORDER TO SATISFY THEIR NEED

How to create ingratitude

IF YOU GIVE
WITHOUT EDUCATING IN RECIPROCITY
YOU ARE FAVORING THANKLESSNESS,
THAT IS
ABSENCE OF DOUBT:
THE MESSAGE IS
YOU AND ONLY YOU DESERVE EVERYTHING
I AM ONLY SERVANT TO YOUR DESIRES



**I have no debt to society
society is in debt with me**

THE HOPE: THE FAMILY

- 2008 survey
of the Italian Society of Pediatrics
"Habits and lifestyles of adolescents"

- *Survey conducted by the SIP (Italian Society of Pediatrics), SIMA (Italian Society of Medicine 'Adolescence) under the patronage of the Ministry of Youth.*
- *Using a questionnaire responses closed for a national sample of 1312 children, boys (628) and girls (666) (18 not shown).*
- *The survey was conducted during October and November 2009.*

The questionnaires were administered at school during the hours of lessons, in the teacher's presence.

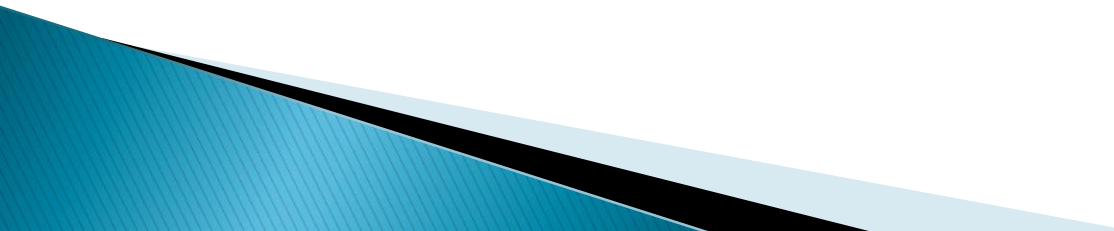
Age classes from 12 to 14 years.

The sample was composed of boys and girls residing in the following regions:

Piedmont, Lombardy, Trentino Alto Adige, Emilia Romagna, Tuscany, Lazio, Molise, Basilicata, Campania, Puglia and Sicily.

VALUES

- ▶ • Here is the scale of values expressed by the children:
- ▶ • - family 95.6%
- ▶ • - 87.8% work
- ▶ • - friends 87.7%
- ▶ • - fun 82.2%
- ▶ • - study 79.5%
- ▶ • - sport 73.4%
- ▶ • - money 66.6%
- ▶ • - boy / a 64.7%
- ▶ • - religion 49.8%
- ▶ • - 34.9% voluntary

- ▶ Young people
 - ▶ 1.-trust police officers and police,
 - ▶ 2.-hate journalists and politicians
 - ▶ 3.-believe in the "push" the world of work,
 - ▶ 4.-believe at the same time
 - ▶ the value of work, family and friends.
- 

- When they have a problem, for advice they turn to:

- - friends / classmates 44.7%

- - 41.9% mom

- - Dad 20.0%

- - brothers / sisters 18.2%

- - none 10.5%

- - a teacher 3.3%

- ▶ • 70% of teens believe that the rules imposed at home by Mom and Dad are adequate.
- 19.4% said the rules imposed at home by mom and dad are too many, while for 11% are too few

- Young people feel that parents affect their decisions regarding the following situations (on a sliding scale):
 - - eating habits 65.2%
 - - free time 55.1%
 - - join the school sup. 37.7%
 - - friends 34.3%
 - - 33.3% clothing
 - - sport to practice 25.0%

