

Call 2015

Digital among us Education, family and social responsibility

ISTAT research from 2013 on the consumption of new technologies of Italian citizens contains different background data which indicate that it is necessary to start a reflection on the relationship between the worlds of education, media and socialization of minors.

In particular, in relation to the social capital, data show that there is a progressive increase in the technological equipment of families. Moreover, those families who are “technologically equipped” have their children still included as part of the family nucleus. The highest percentages of media consumption are concentrated among those between 15 and 19 years of age. However, the use of personal computers and Internet has been intensified among those between 11 and 14 years of age. This age group is, thus, characterized by a radical transition related to the generational digital consumption.

In relation to these background data, there is a need to reflect critically together on the ethical and social responsibilities of the socialization agencies and on their role of educational mediation linked to the socio-cognitive, emotional and communication development of minors.

In which ways is it possible to intervene, according to an educational perspective, to attribute an educational value to the media? In which way can entertainment consumption be converted into a socialization consumption? How can the cultural mediation of parents be strengthened to cope with and support the relationship between children and media?

It is necessary to examine in depth social relations in the main socialization contexts (primary the school and the family) in order to analyse educational and relationship models developed in different contexts of socialization and the ways in which they intervene and condition the media consumption style, access to technology and the development of cognitive and affective attitudes of minors.

In line with these first reflections, the call will take into consideration the abstract proposals on the following topics:

- Media representation of protected categories like minors, immigrants, disabled, etc. in relation to the question of social responsibility of media;
- Ethics and the respect of privacy in the study and

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analysis of media and children;

- Family mediation and the role of social capital in relation to the technology consumption;
- The relationship between the parents' lifestyles, family models and minors' development of media consumption styles;
- The world of social community groups and research projects and field interventions in the area of media education.

This call is made under a multidisciplinary perspective and it gathers sociological, psychological and pedagogical contributions classified as:

1. Critical theory contributions
2. Illustrative article on the research experiences,
3. Reports with the data from research,
4. Technical-methodological research,
5. Critical analysis of field interventions.

Deadlines:

- Deadline for submitting abstracts: March 30, 2015
- Communication related to accepting the abstracts: April 20, 2015
- Submission of articles: July 15, 2015
- Review of the article by referees: September 30, 2015
- Submission of the article after review by referees: October 30, 2015
- Publication of the article: December 2015