

<p style="text-align: center;">Research program: <i>“Gender violence and transformation of masculinities”</i></p>

Annex Code 4

Department of Human and Social Sciences

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Research subject:

The overall project goal is to contribute to the prevention of gender violence developing a deeper understanding of its causes and increasing attention on how masculinity is evolving across cultures and disciplines. Based on the field of Men's Studies, the conceptual framework of the research conceives violence as a social-cultural construct, part of the male genealogy, because of the concrete acts of violence inflicted by men on women and because of the patriarchal order that sees men as perpetrators of violence on one hand, and victims of male domination on the other.

By achieving its goals, the research focus on the relationship between men and women and refers to different gender models, roles and representations of masculinity and femininity, aiming to bring out the cultural causes of violence and related gender stereotypes.

In a second stage the research will compare academic studies with the critical reflection of men's groups engaged with antiviolence activism. We will collect the development of actual men's consciousness raising groups, in order to capture the “nascent state” of other male experiences and recent movements.

In addition, the project aims to develop instruments and strategies to raise awareness of new generations and all community members about the topic of gender violence, helping to promote a culture based on equal and non hierarchical relations between women and men.

Research structure:

The project entails the following steps:

1. Analysis of Men's Studies literature and its significant contributions in the international debate, especially in the anglosaxon one.
2. Collect information and hypothesis of public/private stakeholders (local and/or national institutions, scholars, third sector organizations, educators, members of men's group...) involved with the themes of gender violence, process of masculine identities construction and related issues.
3. Mapping of the Italian situation regarding the men's group of activists, identifying the best practices that will be analyzed in depth by case studies using qualitative methods.
4. Dissemination by means of conference, publications, and theatre performances involving associations, local institutions, organizations and policy-maker