

giulia paola di nicola

DONNE E POLITICA

quale partecipazione?

Testimonianze di: A. Nenna D'Antonio,
V. Finnbogadóttir, P. Gaiotti De Biase,
I. Gandhi, E. Marinucci, M. E. Martini,
J. Mayence-Goossens, B. Rangoni Ma-
chiavelli, R. Rossanda, R. Russo Jervolino,
M. Thatcher

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Giulia Paola Di Nicola, Donne e politica. Quale partecipazione? (Women and Politics. Which ***What***I LIKE WHAT INSTEAD OF WHICH - YOU DECIDE!**) (Participation), Città Nuova, Roma 1983

Relations between women and politics are strongly discussed because it is a problem of democracy and not just of women. Lack of women in politics cannot be without consequences.

From the Preface by P. Gaiotti De Biase: "The sociological perspective offers - thanks also to the amplitude of the material examined and proposed in the frame of a problem that remains open, without ideological ties and conclusive answers - an attentive and deep approach to the present time in the contemporary political vicissitudes, conditionings, disappointments... At the bottom of women's rivendication there is more than a sacrosanct subjective right: there is the utopia of the resetting, in the collective political plan, of the spheres of interests of humanity, with the acknowledgment of the historical-political key value, for the future of demographic and affective problems, of daily well-being and of the organization of life".

Taking into account women's uneasiness in "managing" social and political participation, the author presents different forms of "submerged" and "weekly and daily" participation. The

author suggests an increase in the forms of participation, in order to also value women's informal participation: often times women participate without being seen, or they are hidden and invisible in relation with masculine participation, which is historically more visible in the rooms of politics. Women have influenced politics, even in a strong way, starting from their roles of lovers, mothers, daughters, spouses. In this light it is not only a problem of quantitative representation (how many women are in Parliament), but rather a problem of education, trying to overcome the **atavistic** habit to delegate to men the roles of visible representation. The book is complete with interviews and data from various levels (local, national and international). Particularly meaningful are the testimonies of women engaged at high levels (such as Indira Gandhi and Margaret Thatcher). Their concrete experiences merged with the socio-political analysis on the topic of participation. These reflections also touch anthropological and religious levels. The guideline is positive: women's participation in politics can contribute to the quality of democracies and is decisive in many contemporary topics, such as euthanasia, environment, procreation, drugs, and the caring of the underprivileged.

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Preface by

Paola Gaiotti De Biase

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