



Giulia Paola Di Nicola (a cura), *La città che voglio (The Town I Want)*, Andromeda, Colledara (TE) 1999

The title of this book is a strong and incisive expression to announce the topic of this survey collection sponsored by UNICEF: Abruzzi towns seen by adolescents. The team of experts, coordinated by G. P. Di Nicola, has collected the required boys and girls (839, a sample and stratified random), who denounce the problems of towns that provide an inadequate amount or poor stimuli to adolescents and children who often feel abandoned to degradation and deprived of green spaces not infested by dogs. The survey has found a wide range of adolescents who both live in and intensely love their town, asking for all: cleanness and animation of roads, ecology, equipped green spaces, outdoor exhibitions, beauty of monuments, public squares where they could meet friends, corners reserved to socialization, play, pleasure, and exchanges of information face to face. All these requests do not seem to go off equal step with personal responsibility. Are they just a cry of claims that do not correspond to obligations?

The authors conclude that the civic attitude of adolescents demand a greater cultural preparation, an education to responsibility toward public goods. We should have boy-citizens, who are not only users of towns but also co-operators to the preservation and enrichment of their city atmosphere. They should also contribute to plan and to make the town more liveable being consulted and considered capable to discuss issues with adults.

These random adolescents ask for a mayor who knows their problems and who is an honest and capable man or

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## INDEX

<b>Preface</b>	11
Presentation	
<i>Giulia Paola Di Nicola</i>	17
Materials and Methods of the Survey	
<i>Carlo Antonelli</i>	19
<b>City Adolescents</b>	
<i>Giulia Paola Di Nicola</i>	39
1. The random	39
2. A familiar environment	40
3. Socialization	44
4. Rooms of life	54

5. Participation and values	69	<p>woman. Each author, according to his specific competences, starting from claims and desires of adolescents, has elaborated reflections and suggested possible tracks to cover, particularly for those who have the responsibility of the public, for cultural and social operators who want to concentrate their attention on a top quality city life. That is important for all people, but above all for adolescents who live in their city as the space of exploration between family and world, in the present and in which to construct a future.</p>
6. Considerations	73	
<b>From Indifferent Cities to Hopeful Cities</b>		
<i>Eide Spedicato–Giovanni Bongo</i>	77	
1. From indifferent room...	77	
2. To room of inequality	81	
3. Different persons, different rooms	87	
4. Hope cities and children	92	
<b>Proposals of Social Politics For A "Child Friendly City" Attilio Danese</b>	95	
1. Living in a city maze	95	
2. For a more human city	102	
3. A culture of child friendly town	129	
<b>Three towns</b>		
<i>Stefano Mariotti</i>	133	
1. Survey	133	
2. Three cities	137	
3. For a sustainable city model.		
Possible lines of participation	143	
4. Instruments. Three proposals	157	