IN MEMORY OF GIUSEPPE SICA

There are people who worked hardly and intensely, and for this reason leave a bright trace in their friends’ memory. Giuseppe Sica, who suddenly died in 2008, was one of them.

Graduated in the brand new Faculty of sociology in Trento in 1972, he was part of a generation of students that started to involve in social movements in an epochal era. When studying, he was a social worker with at-risk adolescents: as a consequence of this dual interest, all his life long he has been both a fine scholar and a passionate builder of transformative experiences and new forms of social help. Later, he has been one of the first member of AIS (Italian Association of Sociology), and also member of the Tuscany Association of Psychologists, of the Italian Association for Etno Anthropological Sciences (AISEA) and finally member of the ANEA, National Association of Environmental Sciences.

As for sociological theory, his essay on Habermas (Habermas e il metodo della sociologia critica, 1982), after more than 25 years is still a matter of interest for its systematic and precise approach. In the welfare services, he co-operated as a psychotherapist for more than twenty years with the Justice Department; he worked for the Association for Group Theories and Techniques (founded by Enzo Spalto). Finally he has been scientific director of the Emergency Psychology International Institute, and at the same time president of the Emergency Psychology International Association.

Professor of Social Psychology and of Cultural and Communication Sociology at the University of Pisa, he has been one of the founders of the AIS Sociology of Education research group. His last intellectual and moral heritage is the international association “Sociologi senza frontiere” (Sociologists without borders).

A man whose temper was not always easy, Giuseppe Sica had a delicate and friendly attitude towards both his friends and colleagues (“...par delicatessse// j’ai perdu ma vie”). We will remember him through his work, and we express to his family our sincere grief.

Carlo Catarsi