The 2<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of the JOURNAL SCUOLA DEMOCRATICA "REINVENTING EDUCATION" will be hosted online June 3 through 5 2021, by Scuola Democratica, Centro Interuniversitario per la Ricerca Didattica (University of Cagliari and University of Sassari), <u>II Mulino</u>. The challenges posed by the contemporary world have long required a rethinking of educational concepts, policies, and practices. The question about education 'for what' as well as 'how' and 'for whom' has become unavoidable and yet it largely remained elusive due to a tenacious attachment to the ideas and routines of the past which are now far off the radical transformations required of educational systems. Scenarios, reflections, and practices fostering the possibility of change towards the reinvention of the educational field as a driver of more general and global changes are centerstage topics at the Conference and will have a multidisciplinary approach from experts from different disciplinary communities, including sociology, pedagogy, psychology, economics, architecture, political science, etc. We hope with this opportunity to confirm the participation obtained at the first edition of the conference. Organizers, promoters and partners of the Conference wish to invite educators, teachers, researchers, scholars, academics, scientists, professionals, experts and policy makers to join the conversation and bring the disciplines towards a more integrated set of alliances by:

- promoting a trans and inter disciplinary discussion on urgent topics;
- fostering debates among experts and professionals;
- diffusing research findings all over international scientific networks and practitioners' mainstreams;
- launching further strategies and networking alliances on local, national and international scale;
- providing a new space for debate and evidence to educational policies.

We invite you to submit ABSTRACT/PAPER for your presentation at the **Panel session**:

## I.10 RESEARCHING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GENDER AND EDUCATION: INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGIES AND OPEN QUESTIONS IN TIMES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Convenors

Gabriella Seveso (Università Milano-Bicocca); Lisa Brambilla (Università di Milano-Bicocca); Brunella Fiore (Università di Milano-Bicocca)

Keywords

education; gender; COVID-19; gender-sensitive research; research methodologies

In the field of education, gender research is a theme of great interest to all those with a professional role in the education services sector, whether directly in schools and universities, or at the policymaking level. This interest, which over time has become increasingly systematic and committed, is driven by empirical evidence suggesting that the construction of gender, alongside and in intersection with other categories such as socio-economic, religious, or cultural status, can translate into forms of disadvantage with the power to significantly affect subjects' limitations, opportunities, and life trajectory choices (both individual and collective), with repercussions for the entire social, economic, and cultural system. Within each gender order, the education system (formal, non-formal and informal) may still today be viewed as one of the main channels that produces, transmits, and reproduces inequalities. Consequently, education is one of the domains in which disparities and discrimination can and should be addressed via joint intervention by education practitioners, teachers, schools and other education services. Research on gender and education is therefore crucial to advancing our knowledge of - and, ultimately, to fighting - the inequalities that arise at the intersection of these two domains: it is important both to investigate how gender inequalities play out in educational settings and to analyse, evaluate, and implement interventions designed to enhance scholars' and practitioners' understanding of the epistemological and analytical importance in education of the category of gender.

The health, social and economic crisis created by COVID-19 has amplified and brought to light the multiple issues relating to gender in the domain of education and professional development. It has also affected research - drastically in some cases - in terms of disrupting the opportunities, timing, and methods that had been planned prior to the emergency. Yet, this same scenario has also lent itself to the use of ad hoc investigations and methods.

With a view to stimulating and informing future research, which should be conducted as flexibly and reflexively as possible, this panel, which is designed in collaboration with the ABCD Interdepartmental Centre (University of Milano-Bicocca), will present a body of gender sensitive studies conducted in educational settings (either continued or initiated during the public health emergency), and in particular: analyses of evolving patterns of gender differences, inequalities, dynamics, and relations and how these expressed themselves in the context of the changes caused by the pandemic and its short-, medium-, and long-term fallout; the implications for research projects of physical distancing requirements and the emergency, innovative and strategic responses that these restrictions have elicited.

The papers included in this panel will lay the ground for further developments in qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method research methodologies and enrich the growing literature on research in pandemic and public health emergency scenarios. Ethical, organizational, practical, and cultural issues raised by theoretical reflection, current happenings, research projects, and the existing literature are all of strong interest to this panel.

Specific themes of interest include:

-explorations, analyses, and reflections on the how the pandemic has impacted research projects on the theme of gender in education, including in terms of how it has affected the work of researchers;

-the introduction and implementation of innovative research techniques (such as online interviews, the use of journals or interviews by letter, surveys, app-based methods, the use of social media to collect data) chosen to facilitate the implementation of research projects during the pandemic: as responses to the emergency but also as bearing strategic value;

-presentations of gender-sensitive studies, theoretical or empirical, on the gender-related impact of the pandemic in the domain of education (schoolwork, relations between schools, families and communities, the design of educational interventions and services).

## ABSTRACTS/PAPERS SUBMISSION

## HOW TO SUBMIT

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted by **April 4, 2021** (<u>check Conference Dates and Deadlines</u>). ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted via the <u>pre-conference tool</u>.

Please <u>do not submit your ABSTRACT/PAPER by e-mailing it to the Convenor(s)</u> of the Panel session you chose. Convenor(s) will receive submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS automatically from the <u>pre-conference tool</u> and they are going to reject <u>ABSTRACT/PAPER</u> submitted to their e-mail addresses.

Language for ABSTRACTS/PAPERS is English.

You can submit an ABSTRACT or in case you prefer a PAPER. <u>Be careful: DO NOT SUBMIT BOTH AB-</u> **STRACT AND PAPER**. EITHER YOU SUBMIT THE FORMER OR THE LATTER.

ABSTRACT/PAPER should include:

- 1. Title (limited to 20 words in UPPER CASE)
- 2. Author's name and surname, institution, and email address

3. Five keywords

4. ABSTRACT's text (limited to 500 words). In case you decide for the PAPER, text will be 3.500 words min. 5.000 words max. In the submission text, please write: ABSTRACT or PAPER after the title. Example: FAMILY BACKGROUNDS AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS. A CASE STUDY (PAPER)

## The Conference formula is: 1 SUBMISSION = 1 FEE (check FEES webpage)

It is possible to submit a maximum of 2 ABSTRACTS/PAPERS per person (double submission must concern 2 different Panel Sessions). Each ABSTRACT/PAPER is eligible if it is backed by an **APP FEE**. **Co-authors who do not submit ABSTRACT/PAPER as first author may access to the Conference via the discounted P FEE** (check FEES webpage).

The submitting and presenting author must be listed as the first author in the <u>pre-conference tool</u>. Please note that the submitting author will receive all correspondence about the ABSTRACT/PAPER. Therefore, we recommend that the submitting author details that are entered are the same details as those of the presenting author.

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS may not be edited/uploaded after final submission.

Before you submit, please make sure the following requirements are met:

- ABSTRACT/PAPER must be allocated to a specific Panel session. Therefore, you must select the proper Panel when submitting. For a complete listing of Panel sessions please <u>click here</u>.

- If possible, write your ABSTRACT/PAPER highlighting methods, outcomes, references. Word count is affected by inclusion of references.

- Convenors and the Scientific Committee will review all submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS. Notification regarding acceptance and scheduling will be sent to the submitting author via the **pre-conference tool**.

Please note, if your ABSTRACT/PAPER is accepted, you will be permitted a maximum of 20 minutes for oral presentation.