

## **Could memory be a tool for social work?**

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In this paper the author wishes to explore how memory and its form of communication after traumatic events can be considered a tool for social work. This view of social work is seen as an answer to the needs of society, in the forms of participation, recognition, freedom, justice, analysis of past and present time, even though they diverge from the most commonly known forms of personal care in answer of specific needs.

In the past years, the author studied the experience of the association “Casa della Memoria” (House of Memory in Brescia) born after the terrorist attack on May 28, 1974, in which a bomb explosion during an antifascist manifestation killed eight people; it also wounded one hundred people and changed the life of people who were affected, although not physically. The Association is the starting point of several initiatives, focused towards the collaboration with civil society, the development of democratic processes, and the spread of a shared memory.

Through a bibliographic research of the publications issued by Casa della Memoria and the participation to its initiatives, it was possible to identify its contribution in the action of social work also in a community work way.

The peculiarity resides in the fact that, even though is born from a mournful event, it succeeds in being exemplary and generative with its very activity, the Association becomes witness in first person in showing how it is still possible to seek reconstruction, reparation, showing the availability of narration towards the people. The actions of memory, done by Casa della Memoria, seem to empower and encourage social fabric and spread motifs of reparation and resilience.

In her Phd the author is carrying out research on these topics: memory, responsibility and resilience, and is studying in depth the connections between memory and social work.