

Sustainable Mobility

For an happiness mobility

Introduction

I decided to write a thesis on the political philosophy dealing with an issue that in many ways is foreign to my path studies, environmentalism, mainly for two reasons:

- Obviously for my personal attitude towards the issue;
- And second, I had an experience that has influenced me a lot, it is a work experience that I made between the second and third year of the university, that saw me riding around Italy riding a tandem with a radio reporter, to tell the stories of an Italy -sensitive pedaling .

This second experience was very educational and perhaps as never before I realized the fragility of the system of our country.

Weakness is not so much due to the economic crisis, but caused by the lack of an idea of the development of our country that was not different from that anchored in paradigms in vogue in the past.

Let me say that in Italy the solutions to the various problems are found and formulated according to a methodology which belongs to the last century .

I decided to delve into a specific topic of environmentalism: mobility, why this topic? Why deal with an issue that proves to be a difficult subject for those who have followed a path in engineering studies of mobility?

First of all I consider "Mobility and environmentalism" are two pieces of a larger narrative whose purpose is to redesign the individual lifestyles .

Because the solution is addressed in the course of the thesis , focusing on an ethical approach to the analysis of the topic.

Chapter I Environment and mobility

"Man has lost the capacity to foresee and prevent.

It will end that will destroy the Earth"

1.1 Include the environmentalism .

Well, we need to tackle the challenges of the contemporary world, the global village as some would say , who finds himself faced with new and ever more urgent issues that affect all of us in the first person, without discrimination due to sex , income and geographical origin .

Despite the various challenges and crucial as economic and social ones , now is clear that the policy and any development paradigm must deal with a constraint of resources increasingly stringent.

Is not enough, the issue of environmentalism is born recently and precisely it born passed the half century of the twentieth century, in fact one of first works was "silent spring" written by Rachel carson, an American writer who accused the died of nature at the man and his air, water pollution caused by the high level of exploitation.

Of course, something is changing, it is developing a new cultural foundation, created by some elements who are playing an important role, such as:

- The increase in the fear of environmental and technological risks, man-made disasters are enriching extensive literature on the risks contemporaries;
- The growth of the inefficiencies of the solutions to urban problems caused by the current state of technology;
- The crisis of science, the scientific method and of scientific truth;
- The rejection of this world more and more artificial and indomitable logic of industrial production and consumption;

The scarcity of time, even less resources available and accessible, affecting an increasing extent on the quality and welfare of individuals .

And 'well known fact that our planet loses every year its ability to regenerate the resources available, the speed with which the man with his personal needs burning intensity increases the resources available .

The various challenges are that of the preservation and restoration of planet earth, a challenge is certainly not easy to deal with. One of the most important goal achieve in the past It was the compromise about Sustainable development in the 1987 made by Bruntland Commission.

It says "*sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*".

Nonetheless this sentences it has not been represented a new point to start, but it has been a conservator compromise unable to change deep what it was the economical and political system.

The situation is change? Unfortunately not, only small challenge into sustainable way are made in , but of course we can say it is not enough. With the end of ideological division it is opening a new deal, but we have no idea about how it will be?

Ah the end it becomes important to internalize the theme of environmentalism in the political debate, not by putting partial solutions and limited in time, but revolutionary and durable.

What is the objective? We need to define new targets that call into question the dominance of the economy on the other spheres, which put man at the center of the debate thought in relation with nature.

In few words: we need a new green deal, only follow this way we can look the future and try to bring the " pre-something" opposed at the actual world defined as " post – global".

1.2 Mobility

The environmental is, as we says before, an important topic able to change the actual and unfair paradigm of development, we want focus our attention on a particular field: the mobility.

We can start by defining mobility as: the physical movement of a person in a well-defined space.

But we want treat this issue in different way trying to start from what are needs that drive the man to move, and so we look the simple act of daily routine to exceptional gesture that happens once in a lifetime.

We move for everything: to work, to buy groceries, to study, to find better opportunities and we move even to buy the personal means of transport.

The inability to meet all our needs while standing still, sitting comfortably on the couch at home is the basis of the need to move.

To understand how much important and necessary for everybody to move, we can look how is changed the concept of city in relationship with the mobility.

In fact if when the modern cities born they were considered the place where the people live, with the industrial revolution during the eighteenth and the ninetieth century the cities have become where live the major part of the people, but now in the second millennium the cities has become the place where the people move around.

As well the form and the meaning of the city is deeply change, now the space urban are extended for kilometers and kilometers and it born the metropolis.

The mobility is considered an important benchmark to value the livability of a place, in fact a change in the asset of urban mobility can have a deep consequences on the quality of a life of a community.

1.3 Mobility and sustainability

We have explained what does it mean mobility, now we are going to explain the mean of another important word in our work: sustainability.

And we want try to define a new paradigm to combine development and mobility, because is one of the fields where you can have the greatest influence on changing urban environments and not.

What means "sustainable mobility"?

So for "sustainable mobility" shall mean the movement of a subject in a physical space, which makes choices that are efficient from the point of view of allocation of resources, trying to meet today's needs without damaging those of future generations. Sustainable mobility is one of the issues most is developing in the last period due to the increasing number of problems related to social unrest and environmental legal road conditions and diseases such as congestion of city traffic.

The citizens are active and critical policies in the field of mobility, are very careful about the viability of a city and between the different indicators considered for the livability of a place there appears to be just the "air quality and ease of movement".

The problem is that invariably these plans are drawn up almost exclusively by technicians and engineers who deal with the issue of mobility is not starting from the needs of the citizens, but drawing up plans on the basis of norms and interests of potential companies to be involved. Then simply establishes a pattern of overall benefits and costs, where the latter do not correspond with the possible benefits of the community. The criteria take into account the project with the least cost to the public purse and the timing for implementation.

1.4 Mobility and discrimination

"the woman who didn't stand up"
Rosa Parks Montgomery 1955

Times have changed, but discrimination remained, we would witness some difficult, fortunately, in a case such as Rosa Parks, but an administration that works to the development of a specific plan that favors the car will perform an act of discrimination affecting those who cannot drive or who simply prefer alternative methods of moving and not taking the slightest negative externalities on the environment.

We should understand how much is sustainable the current model and how it is in an increasingly urbanized world a serious condition of discrimination and inequality.

A little reflection that we must make concerns the method of how we deal with environmental issues, often in fact , you do it as an end having the feeling of " moral duty " in performing the action that would be "right."

But what pushes to take the right action to a citizen? Where does the change in the moral and ethical code in a person ?

In this case, who should play the educational role, providing an example of best practices lifestyles , it is the political class, who should create an sustainable environment able to favor green actions.

This is not to think in the abstract, but to think of a possible alternative lifestyles compared to those data, which we daily take for granted and that for the most suitable and optimal .

Chapter II Political aspects.

"If we don't take care politics, the politics will take care us"

2.1 The policy does not decide.

We will pass by the government of the people to the government of things.

In the second chapter, we explore the " political aspects " of and mobility .

We will start from the assumption that we have to try to make an effort against the dominant thinking and now more than ever is an important endeavor worthwhile to break the taboo.

One of these dogmas about the epistemological field of science and its followers .

Why choices involving residents of a community, but could potentially involve larger groups of people are exclusively in the hands of technicians?

The truth that I have found is that the current crisis is political rather than economic .

The current political class has abandoned the role of policy makers driving , unable to make decisions has delegated the role of public administrations , managers and technicians , unable to be identified as the bearer of ethical values to follow and reproduce .

For if it is not a totally wrong choice, but as a modular mobility plan without consulting those who are the demands and needs of the citizens?

Who will pay for any wrong choice in allocating resources? And yet , we are so confident that increasing the supply of public spending engrave on people's lives by improving it?

If the policy is at the service of citizens, how we can meet their demands without even knowing their needs.

Patterns of mobility planning to date have seen the dominance of quantum gauges whose sole purpose is to increase the performance and decrease the waiting time in traffic. The result is there for all to see , the traffic that is has never been eradicated.

And the traffic is not the disease but a symptom of a multiplicity of causes.

2.2 Subject to change and values.

"The change is up ... first individually and then collectively come"

Paletti-Change-

Should think about the new proposals , but we must be careful not to fall into the trap of being able to think of finding optimal solutions for every occasion.

The cultural and economic peculiarities weigh on the success of a public policy . To this more than to look for solutions , another action should be taken , or to be identified new tools for interpretation of reality, based on the different characteristics , because every community has diverse cultural and economic elements .

More solutions that apply to everyone, must be sought ideals and ways of doing that compose the interests and close down social divisions avoiding , in this way, conflicts.

But this process is difficult to implement because the figures involved in this role, strap play a role that is not easy and that the crisis has made it even more marginalized in the debate, the politicians .

There is a certain subordination of politics and personalities that make up towards economists and technicians. The policy is weak and fails to give sufficiently strong responses to the challenges of the twenty-first century.

The basis of this work , as often happens there must be simple questions , the ones that usually are taken for granted , but if we pay attention lead to identify new interpretations.

Starting from the needs of the citizen , it is not a political slogan but it should be the axiom on which to formulate and justify public policies in every field and even more so in mobility.

Think about what it is like to go and mobility declined, setting itself the goal of achieving an efficient plan not only from a technical point of view and mechanic, but that is fair and livable for humans.

2.3 New interpretations and goals.

"The trend is not destiny"
Corrado Poli

The issue of urban traffic covers various ethical values:

- Health Risks;
- Environmental responsibility for global warming;
- Social justice and the distribution of public resources.

We talked about a revolution both in the field of environmentalism in that of mobility, what are the steps from which will go?

This change certainly part of a cultural revolution that promotes the emergence and spread of new practices, but these "good deeds" which goals should have as a reference?

What is the direction that the company must follow?

Let's try to draw up a set of goals by dividing them into three main groups:

- Social: equity, well-being and health of people, the preservation of a cohesive community;
- Environmental: reduction of pollution of air, water and noise, preservation of green and open spaces and therefore the biodiversity of flora and fauna.
- Economic: efficient mobility for local economic development.

If we want to change things voters should encourage a change of the ruling class and politics of this country. But we have good mind and those who are the targets, we need a clear vision and clear to pursue.

Conclusion

In this thesis I have tried to do two things:

- emphasize the importance of two issues : the environment and politics,
- and try to indicate new approaches for the development of thought and methods of operation.

The mobility declined in a sustainable manner can become a great test laboratory for experimentation and social policies . But it takes a change in the electorate and the political class , are two subjects that live in symbiosis and that influence each other. Perhaps the difficulty is to understand which of these two entities can not only start but develop and reinforce this change.

At the same time environmental issues may suggest new models of development that can take the place of the old stories of the last century .

The capitalist system of production must oppose a system that has the heart of its activities, the relationship between nature and man .

From this report we have been reborn , we ecologists, green we begin to conduct our social and political battles .

We need to overcome the idea that things should be done by force, and at any cost, to the construction of infrastructure we can contrast a greater efficiency in services , which fortunately direction some countries are following .

But we must keep in mind the objectives and not to come to terms with the compromises that can now be seen as great results , but tomorrow cages become conservative .

There are many unresolved questions and issues addressed marginally between the various decisions I had to make at the beginning of this work definitely falls to not only deal with a case but to address the issue of sustainable mobility from an overall point of view and ethical .

At the base of mobility , as in many other fields there are our actions and our behavior, we must start with us to change the system and we have little time to do it.