

L. Toresini / R. Mezzina (eds.)

# Beyond the walls / Oltre i muri

Deinstitutionalisation in European best practices in Mental Health

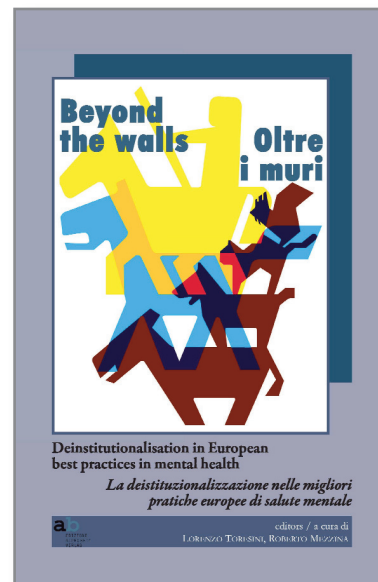
2010, 455 p.  
English/Italiano  
Euro 24,00  
ISBN 978-88-7223-161-6

Throughout the world, in the last thirty years, governments have been increasingly involved in the development of policies and strategies focused on the introduction of community-based mental health systems, which have been substituting old institutional approaches. Nevertheless, efficient services which are able to deliver comprehensive and high-quality responses have been developed only in a relatively small number of places, and this is especially the case in large cities. On the other hand, there are very clear directives paving the way for the introduction of these elements, which are provided, on the one hand, by the European institutions, and, on the other, by the WHO.

In the book "Oltre i muri/Beyond the Walls", eighteen speakers from different parts of Europe describe and analyse the exemplary experiences they have developed over the last few years or decades. In each of these experiences the common goal has been the *a priori* defence of the rights of the sick person as the basis for care. The book is in English and Italian, and is thus accessible throughout Europe. It aims at becoming a lead text in providing guidance for the development of European best practices.

Such practices are based on a common set of experiences which refer to the concept of **DEINSTITUTIONALISATION**. Clearly, the term no longer refers exclusively to the process of dismantling the central and total psychiatric institution, but also and especially to the body of practices which contribute and make it possible to go beyond the "microphysics" of institutionalization, which continues to infiltrate to a varying degree more or less all mental health services, even those which have undergone substantial reform.

All of these themes and others as well are tackled, in the first instance through the description of how each model of practice was developed, as an alternative to institutional facilities which were in the meantime closed, by the 18 authors of the book **OLTRE I MURI - BEYOND THE WALLS**. The walls in question are, of course, those of asylums.



Collana  
**Docu**

- Victor Aparicio Basauri
- Michael von Cranach
- Giovanna Del Giudice
- Peppe Dell'Acqua
- Stefano Egidi
- Kerstin Felderer
- John Jenkins
- Andrea Kaltenbrunner
- John Mahoney
- Theodoros Megaloeconomou
- Roberto Mezzina
- Damien Murray
- Guido Pullia
- Susannah Rix
- Jean-Luc Roelandt
- Sashi Sashidharan
- Lorenzo Toresini
- Liliana Urbina