

Amunì

It is a Libera project, that started in 2011 in Sicily, in the cities of Palermo and Trapani, for young people between 16 and 20 years-old, subjects of criminal proceedings from the Juvenile Court and engaged in a mending path.

The majority of them is convicted for its first crime and follow a path with Libera within a broader educative project that the Court and the social workers have created together. These young persons have to go through their « test period », which is the suspension of their trial and their custody to social services to follow a path of growth that, if everything goes well, can nullify the crime they committed. In order to succeed, they have chosen, with their educators, the path of the social and responsible antimafia.

“Amunì” is an exhortation in Palermo’s dialect that can be translated by « let’s go », aimed at these young people who are encouraged to take back their lives and take their fate into their own hands.

This is the main idea behind the socio-educational paths promoted by Libera for the minors of the penal area. These paths are supported by adults able to suspend their own prejudices and to see, as we ask of the young people, beyond the crime that has made the minor part of this penal area. The young people of the penal area then have to repay justice, trying to mend, indirectly the crime they have committed, but also and maybe above all, they have to obtain social justice because our society must repay so many of them that have been, since their early childhood, abandoned in conditions of disadvantage and social and cultural poverty.

An idea that became a project

Thus our idea has become concrete : we wanted to realize a broad project able to make young people experiment tangible things while they were confronted to themes such as the one of legality or social justice.

Amunì saw the activation of 12 paths in various regions of Italy with the commitment of approximately 270 young man and women. Amunì is founded on the idea to promote to these young people « new » and « other » realities (mafias confiscated assets, the relatives of mafias innocent victims, solidarity associations, cultural and sportive activities). We ask them to « stay inside » the things and the situations, avoiding to fall into a scheme that would present a « good pattern » and a « bad pattern ».

The project seeks to encourage a rupture with misrepresented patterns and social representations that determinate the style of life of these young people. The formative proposition was developed along the guidelines of Memory, Commitment, Citizenship and Travel. Travel is one of the main element characterizing our paths. Travels to discover, to share, to learn and to discuss.