

BOOK REVIEW

Diversity and Complexity

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"Diversity and Complexity" partly draws on Camilla Pagani's multiannual research work on children's and adolescents' attitudes to diversity (especially relating to culture and species) and in her interest in the role of complex thinking in these attitudes. However, the scope and the meaning of the book are both deeper and broader, as the author clearly indicates also in the Preface, which provides an excellent view on the conceptual framework of the book itself. The particular interest of *"Diversity and Complexity"* especially lies on two theoretical assumptions: a) the importance to adopt a broad definition of diversity and b) the belief in the absolute necessity to examine humans' relationship with diversity within the conceptual framework of complexity theories. The consequence of this approach is that humans' relationship with diversity is represented in all its potential networks of meanings. The role of art in the understanding of diversity is also underlined, as well as, among others, the role of the observer, of the narrative mode of thinking, of the visual act, of uncertainty, and of responsibility. Interestingly, two chapters are dedicated to the relationship with diversity as it is expressed in cinema and photography and in literature. The contribution of the social sciences in the study of the human relationship with diversity is also discussed in a chapter, authored by Dr. Flavia Cangià, who was a research assistant of Dr. Pagani's. The issue of education is omnipresent in the book and especially in the two chapters where the relationship between racism and complex thinking and between empathy and complex thinking are discussed. Finally, transdisciplinarity, a concept that in particular has been elaborated by Morin, is considered as another essential aspect of the complexity approach. Last, but not least, the book develops as a complex system itself. This means, among other things, that the presence of the Subject is continuously acknowledged and underlined.

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