The article analyses first the disciplinary and epistemological contexts of SNA; after, it compares the different theoretical approaches referable to SNA: the structural, the formalist, and the interactionist one. Then, two main methodological approaches are being compared: the «hard SNA» and the «soft SNA», the first one — typical of the micro-analysis — which considers the relational structure as the goal of research; the second one, which uses relational data as a tool for the theory building at the meso and macro levels. Further, SNA is proposed as an interdisciplinary and multi-purpose way-out from the theoretical dualism holism vs. individualism, particularly according to the structural interactionist approach. Finally, the four different explicative theories integrated in SNA (the theory of weak ties, the theory of the structural holes, the theory of clustering, and the theory of relational coordination) are discussed as middle-range theories.

**Key words**: social network analysis, micro-meso-macro level, structural interactionism, methodological individualism, holism.

**P. Iagulli, Self and emotions in symbolic interactionism**

The idea which inspires this essay is to enquire on the place of emotions within what is probably the most «subjectivist» sociological perspective: symbolic interactionism. I will try to demonstrate that there was substantially no space for emotions in what can be defined «classical» symbolic interactionism, that of George H. Mead and Herbert Blumer: this is surprising, but only to a certain point. Symbolic interactionism began to thematize emotions starting from the generation of scholars that can be defined post-blumerian (Shott, Scheff, Heise). The reason for this «delay» is also cultural: this scientific field was, at least in part, a child of its time, i.e. the expression of an «emotional culture» which began to assert itself in a significant manner, especially in the United States, starting from the second half of the Seventies.

**Key words**: self, emotions, Mead, Blumer, post-blumerian symbolic interactionism.

**G. Toscano, Field and Social World. Definitions and applications in comparison**

The aim of this paper is to compare the notion of «field» by Pierre Bourdieu e the *sensitizing concept* of «social world» by Anselm Strauss. Bourdieu and Strauss start from different theoreti-
cal assumptions: the former from a conflictual conception of society, the latter from a Symbolic Interactionist perspective. Nevertheless, both their concepts share the same stance, as they avoid a knowledge of social phenomena seen as «things in themselves» and they both reject an image of society fractured into units lacking mutual relations. Furthermore, both concepts emphasize a constant feedback between structure and action and assume the point of view of social aggregates. The issue has been analyzed considering problems of field and world visibility and the definition of their boundaries.

Key words: field, social world, symbolic interaction, visibility, boundaries.

A. Caforio, Life and language of objet. Some anthropological hypothesis

Some markings by very well known authors about object-centered love in Western societies and traditional ones have been well brought out in this article. For instance, Margaret Mead’s observations on the issue of the social role of object love teaching in first childhood bringing up have been properly seen into. Besides, Claude Lévi-Strauss’ sharp markings of symbolic object importance in regard to all societies have been looked into to a great extent in the same essay.

Key words: objet, western societies, role, symbol, traditional societies.

D. Simon, The Problem of Man and Sociology: Filippo Barbano’s juvenile sources

Filippo Barbano, one promoter of the ‘sociological renaissance’ in Italy after World War II, discussed as a student a thesis (1947) upon Personalism in the legal and christian philosophy. His main source was Norberto Bobbio’s historical personalism which concerned the Person as ‘relationship’ and normative value with a fundamental attitude to communication. Barbano emphasized then the role of the person as concrete agent, to whom Christianity provided a foundation for a joint and several living-together.

Afterwards Barbano met american sociology and was confronted in particular with its attempt toward an ‘integrated science of man’ with special attention to the concept of ‘basic personality type’.

This was declined in an anthropological sense at a high level, which recalled Marcel Mauss’ ‘total man’, concrete and far from the speculative trends of classical european sociology.

All this lead Barbano to formulate (1955/58) a program for theory and research, which had to combine thought and experience, along the lines of the most recent american sociology, seeing man in action within a moving social context.

Key words: person, science of man, action, communication, basic personality type, theory and research.