

S U M M A R I E S

A. ARDIGÒ, *Trends and experiences of Catholics in society, and the 2nd Vatican Council: introduction to a typological hypothesis*

The author examines society's need for religion and the sacred, within the framework of social changes. Initially, reference has made to T. Luckmann, especially where he emphasizes how a religious need becomes gradually modified to the believer's growing autonomy as regards Church religion.

However, the author immediately moves away from Luckmann's predictions, pointing out the numerous exceptions. He states that it is rather a matter of a revival of overt devoutness, even if such a revival often has its ambivalent and ambiguous aspects. The author, therefore, tries to pick out the actual trends in the religious phenomenon. His analysis gives six possible trends in the different "Catholic spheres"; these trends correspond to an equal number of connexions between religiousness and Church religion.

F. DI ORIO, *Mathematics and model theory in Social Sciences: a methodological approach*

Mathematics remains at the centre of the scientific discussion regarding the description of "quality" in terms of "quantity".

In Sociology, mathematics is directly connected to empiric reality through the model theory.

To construct a mathematics model of phenomenon, means to pick out significant quantities, in order to quantify them and to assume functional relations that will subsequently be the object of quantitative verification.

M. AMBROSINI, *Family and "Welfare State"*

Some recent studies connect the increase in social state services - "an offer of public happiness" (Ardigò) - with progressive privatization, symptoms of loss of meaning, signs of an identity and role crisis in the contemporary family.

The genesis and characteristics of today's Welfare systems, particularly family services and advisory bureaux are synthesized in the first part of the article; in the second part the relationship between the *Welfare State* and the family is developed; the family is considered "a living world" which cannot be emptied without grave social consequences because the family is an irreplaceable place of loving solidarity among human beings.

G. CAPRARO, *Analysis of correspondences applied to religion in Puglia (Italy)*

The working process of the article is a factor analysis. It is applied to the religion field during data processing while researching the relationship between *Religion and Family* in Puglia (Italy). From the six factors examined three stand out clearly, which by themselves explain more than half the total variance. The first factor "Institutional Reference to the Catholic Church", and the second "Religious Experience" define a factorial area, which is divided into four sectors corresponding to the new religious typology: modern institutional religion, popularised traditional religion, magic-sacred practices, non-commitment to religion. The method is used to interpret the present changes in this field.