

Women's Documentation Centre
Ferrara (Italy)

Report activities

<http://www.european-women.eu/ferrara-italy.html>

Computer course

- time: december 2010 /january 2011
- Nr. participants: 18 women over 55
- Total hours 30

Questionnaires

- Constitution Working Group - about 12 women
- Meeting for a discussion on women to be contacted
- Meetings to explore with the pattern of questionnaire
- Compilation and collection of questionnaires (38)
- Choice of five questionnaires to be proposed at the meeting in Ceske Budejovice

*How to collect questionnaires – total number **38***

- 8 - members of the Women's Documentation Centre
- 3 - mothers
- 8 - members of the School Duino (Trieste)
- 10 - members of the Social Centers
- 3 - community theater
- 6 - women who have had important public roles

some statistics

<i>n.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>education</i>	<i>occupation</i>	<i>Marital status</i>	<i>own children</i>	<i>grand mother</i>
1	72	university	teacher	married		
2	80	university	teacher	widow	2	1
3	82	university	teacher	divorced	2	1
4	90	elementary	housewife	widow	3	3
5	72	university	teacher			
6	77	high	accountant	widow	2	4
7	82	elementary	public administrator	married	1	1
8	88	university	teacher - singer			
9	71	middle	health worker	widow	2	1
10	82		teacher	widow	2	0
11	77	middle	trade unionist	married	1	
12	85	university	teacher		5	
13	76	elementary	textile worker	widow	6	2
14	82	high	employed	widow		

<i>n.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>education</i>	<i>occupation</i>	<i>Marital status</i>	<i>own children</i>	<i>grand mother</i>
15	77			widow		
16	81	high	designer	widow		
17	72	university	teacher	single	1	
18	72	high	co-worker for her husband	widow		
19	70	middle	employed	single		
20	80	high	employed	widow		
21	88	high	employed	widow		
22	83	middle	saleswoman	widow		
23	75	elementary	housewife	married	2	2
24	80	elementary	backer and confectioner	widow	1	
25	71	university	teacher and editress	single	1	1
26	76	elementary	manageres	married	2	3
27	82	elementary	working	widow	3	4
28	71	university	teacher and psychologist	divorced	2	4

n.	Age	education	occupation	widow	own children	grand mother
29	75	middle	cashier	widow	2	1
30	81	elementary	agricolural workers	widow	2	3
31	70	elementary	agricolural workers	married	1	1
32	72	high	employee	divorced	1	1
33	77	elementary	housewife	widow	2	4
34	80	elementary	modiste	widow	2	4
35	83	elementary	cook	widow	2	2
36	87	elementary	agricolural workers	widow	2	2
37	76	elementary	worker	widow	1	
38	75	elementary	salesgirl	married	1	1

Education %

Marital status %

Elementary	middle	high	university	married	widow	single
42	14	19	25	21	62	17

1.2 How do you classify your life, your life style: %

A	B	C	D	E	F	another
18	29	39	10	2	0	2

A - very good, I am satisfied

B – good, even though all my wishes did not come true

C – I am satisfied

D – tolerable

E – I am disappointed

F - I am not satisfied and I intend to change it

1.3 What do you wish for the most when you think
about the future: %

A	B	C	D	E	F	Another
40	1	4	13	24	12	6

- A - health
- B – work
- C – hobby
- D – have something to live for
- E – peaceful old-age
- F - peaceful death

What we propose
for an in-depth interview

Questionnaire n. 2

An 80-year-old who was born in Belluno but lives in Ferrara, she is a retired teacher with a degree in Mathematics. A widow with two children and a granddaughter, she professes to be very satisfied with her life.

Interview

(...) Nowadays I no longer take the long trips I used to because I get tired easily. I enjoy the affection of my children and young relatives, I read a lot and I still do voluntary work. I have an interest in politics and the cultural affairs of my city.

Questionnaire n. 7

An 82-year-old woman, married, with a daughter and grandson, a retired administrator in the public sector, she was educated to elementary school level. Satisfied with her life, she thinks it is vital to have something to live for.

Interview

(...) In recent times I have read a lot, travelled and met up with friends. Furthermore, I'm attempting to write an account of my social activities – meeting those associates still living in order to honour a complex series of testimonies of civic responsibility and participation, of energy and beauty, of sacrifice and satisfaction.

Moreover, I have taken up voluntary work for the Italian Women's Union again.

Questionnaire n. 8

An 88-year-old woman born in the countryside, in a village on the banks of the River Po, she has one daughter and two grandchildren. Most of her memories are from Venice and Australia; she was an opera singer for 20 years. After the age of 40 she went on to teach *bel canto*. A serene life is very important for her, she is very satisfied with her life, and for the future she hopes her daughters and grandchildren will be happy.

interview

(...) Nowadays, I don't have as many students as I used to, but some still come to go over their pieces – opera or piano. Then I've got two grandchildren (Francesca, who is 15, and Gabriele, 6) who are the lights of my life; I help them with their homework and I cook lots of treats for them (I'm a very good cook). And I never miss a visit to the theatre – both opera and plays. I'm also vice-president of the cultural magazine "Il Quadrivio".

Questionnaire n. 10

An 82-year-old woman born in Bondeno in the province of Ferrara, she has a high-school diploma and has always worked as a teacher. She is a widow with two children but no grandchildren. Her mother was a cook and her father a blacksmith. She considers her life to be “tolerable” and hopes to keep her health in the future.

Interview

(...) At this time in my life I am the “lady of the house”. Although I have the help of many, I am still able to read, embroider, garden, cook and go for the occasional walk. The closeness of my daughters and son-in-law, although each of us maintains our own space, gives me daily contact and reciprocal aid. Almost all of my friends are dead, and even the death of my dog was painful for me. I keep all of them in my thoughts and thanks to this I still have energy. As regards my future, it will be enough for me to be able to look after myself. I don't believe in the hereafter and I hope to die suddenly, without becoming a burden to my family.

Questionnaire n. 25

A 71-year-old single female former teacher of Chemistry, Science and Geography at high school and Mathematics and Scientific Observation at secondary school with a degree in Chemistry and licensed to teach the Natural Sciences, she is currently Editor and President of the Women's Documentation Centre (*Centro Documentazione Donna*) and has one son and one granddaughter. In future she would like to continue working, enjoying good health and having something to live for.

Interview

This is a good time in my life; I really enjoy both my job as editor and my work with the Women's Documentation Centre – in both roles I have the occasion to frequent interesting people I'm very fond of.

some pictures

Women's Documentation Centre



Ceskè Budejovice – aprile 2011

Teatro Comunitario di Pontelagoscuro (Ferrara)



Ceskè Budejovice – aprile 2011

Il Quadrifoglio

The Center originated as a "SENIOR CENTER" This is subsequently transformed into CENTRE FOR SOCIAL PROMOTION forge a pact between the generations, the grandparents who generously "give" and the grandchildren who learn in a special way, the solidarity and pleasure of living together.

See you in Ferrara

