

Fabrizio Bernardi
Teresio Poggio

Home Ownership and Social Inequality in Italy

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Department of Sociology and Social Research
University of Trento, Trento (Italy)

ABSTRACT

In this paper we present the results of a study regarding the relationships between home ownership and social class in Italy. Using data from the 1998 *Survey on Household Income and Wealth*, we have performed an event history analysis on the chances and ways of home ownership attainment. At a theoretical level we look into the debates concerning the “consumption classes” and the “risk/globalised society”, that suggest home ownership has become rather class undifferentiated and that, in general, social class is currently losing significance as a predictor of concrete life chances. Furthermore, we discuss some institutional specificities of the Italian housing system. The empirical results show that, contrary to the assumptions whereby “consumption classes” and “risk/globalised society” perspectives are based, class differences in home ownership entry have instead increased in younger cohorts.

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[Link to the book web pages.](#)