

## Long Abstract – Monographic Section

*SOCIAL AGRICULTURE BETWEEN NEW AND OLD SOCIAL WORK PRACTICES, THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES AND POLICY INNOVATIONS.*

*edited by Angela Genova and Tiziana Tarsia*

---

*Social Agriculture and Social Work: An Analysis of the Relationship between Past and Present.*

Carlotta Mozzone

The article examines the relationship between social agriculture (SA) and social work, highlighting the historical, theoretical, and operational links between these two distinct yet epistemologically connected domains. SA, as the innovative use of agriculture for inclusion, emerges as a practice capable of integrating individual well-being, community cohesion, and sustainability. Within this framework, social work – historically attentive to the nexus between environment and social justice – finds in SA a promising new frontier of intervention, aligned with the principles of eco-social work and community-based social work.

While the connection between environmental sustainability and social work has been widely examined internationally, in Italy this perspective remains fragmented and historically underdeveloped. This contribution addresses the gap by offering a comparative analysis that interweaves contemporary experiences with historical practices from the 1950s and 1960s, shedding light on often-overlooked cultural and operational continuities.

Adopting a qualitative and multidisciplinary approach, the article demonstrates that SA does not represent an entirely new phenomenon, but rather the evolution of long-standing community-based practices rooted in local contexts. The analysis proposes a reinterpretation of social work as a key actor in shaping generative, place-based and sustainable welfare models. In conclusion, it advocates for a more structured recognition of the role of social work in the co-design of agricultural and social initiatives, through interdisciplinary training and policies that enhance its specific expertise in managing complex social and environmental processes.

*Cite me: Carlotta Mozzone, “Agricoltura Sociale e Servizio Sociale: analisi di un rapporto tra passato e presente” in “Welfare e Ergonomia (ISSN 2421-3691, ISSN e 2531-9817), 2025, 1”, pp. 51-61.*

*Doi: 10.3280/WE2025-001004.*