This paper could be considered as an outcome of the Research "Employment and Women's Studies: the Impact of Women's Studies Training on Women's Employment in Europe". (A RTD Project of the 5th Framework Programme of the European Commission).

The most important transformation process that have taken place in Italy in the last forty years is the change in Women's working habits and the increase in female activity rates from the '70s onwards. The key factors of this transformation were: the passage from an economy strongly tied to the agricultural sector to an industrial one in the '50s; the spreading of the tertiary sector in the '70s; the urbanisation process; the increase in schooling and changing in the roles within the family. But our data show that there are still gaps between men and women in their access to various occupations as well as in career progression. Women are more frequently offered part-time or precarious jobs. Another source of concern is the persistence of some cultural limitations. For many women, entering the labour market still means having to choose between work and family. In any case entering the labour market for women meant also a change of job representations: nowadays is part of Women's social horizon and personal identity.

**How do young Women's Studies student face to this situation?**
Job insecurity leads to stress and anxiety, but above all it makes it difficult to make long term plans. This paper is based on 100 questionnaires and 30 deep interviews done in all Italy between December 2001 and July 2002 to Women's Studies Students. Aspirations, expectations and projects mentioned by the young women we interviewed are placed in this changing picture and have to deal with territorial peculiarities, difficulties in entering the labour market and the uncertainty which is attached to work.