

They are generally of small stature and dark skin. Many are smelly because they keep the same clothes for weeks. They build shacks in the suburbs. When they get closer to the city center they rent expensive apartments in crumbling buildings. They arrive in two looking for a room with kitchen use. After a few days they become four, six, ten.

They speak incomprehensible languages, maybe antique dialects. Many children are used to begging, often in front of the church women and older men plead mercy, with petulant and plaintive tones. They have many children who they struggle to maintain and they are very united among themselves. It is said that they are dedicated to theft and, if stopped, can become violent.

Our women avoid them because they are both unattractive and wild and because of widespread rumors of rapes of women consumed when returning from work. The powers that be have opened our borders but, above all, have not been able to select from among those entering the country to work and those who think they can live on gimmicks or even criminal activities.

I propose that preference is given to those from Veneto and Lombardy, slow of understanding and ignorant, but more willing than others to work. They are suited to homes that Americans refuse so that their families remain united and they do not dispute the salaries. The others, those who have reported much of this first report, come from southern Italy. I invite you to check the documents of origin and repatriate them. Our security must be the first concern.

*Report from the Inspectorate for Immigration in the U.S. Congress on Italian immigrants in the United States, October 1912."*