**III A Gioiosa Marea**

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**Lingua Inglese**

**Ciao ragazzi! Molti di voi hanno scelto già l’argomento da portare agli esami. Tre di voi mi hanno chiesto di studiare qualcosa a proposito della mafia, che si è sviluppata in America.**

**Questa lezione parlerà proprio di questo. Nella video lezione, vi leggo questo testo.**

**The American Mafia**

The American Mafia, or the Italian-American Mafia, is a higly organized Italian-American criminal society. The organization is also called “Cosa Nostra”. The name derived from the Sicilian Mafia, because the organization originally emerged *as an offshoot* (come una derivazione) of the Sicilian Mafia. But the organization absorbed other Italian-American gangsters and Italian crime groups living in the United States and Canada that were not of Sicilian origin.

The Mafia in the United States emerged in *impoverished Italian immigrant neighborhoods (nei quartieri poveri in cui vivevano gli italiani),* in New York, New Orleans or Chicago. During the late 19th century and early 20th century there were waves of Italian immigration especially from Sicily and other regions of Southern Italy. The American Mafia cooperates with other Italian crime groups, such as the Camorra of Naples and the ‘Ndrangheta of Calabria. The most important unit of the American Mafia is the “family”.

Nowadays there are five main Mafia families, known as the Five Families: the Gambino, Lucchese, Genovese, Bonanno and Colombo families.

The word “mafia” derives from the Sicilian adjective “mafiusu”.

The American Mafia has a strict hierarchical structure, created by Salvatore Maranzano in 1931. He created the Five Families, each of which would have a boss, underboss, capos, soldiers and associates. The boss is the head of the family.

The American Mafia has a lot of rules. If one of the members breaks one rule, he can be killed by another member of the family. One rule is called “Omertà”: never talk to the authorities. Another rule is “Blood for blood”: if a family member is killed by another member, no one can commit murder in revenge unless the boss gives permission.

On January 20, 2011, the United States Justice Department (Dipartimento di Giustizia) issued 16 indictments (accuse) against North American Mafia families and more than 110 arrests. The charges (accuse) included murder, robbery (rapina), narcotics trafficking, extortion, ecc. It was described as the largest operation against the Mafia in U.S. history.

**Questo testo è sulla Mafia in America, nella video lezione vi spiego tutto.**

**Per la prossima volta, traducete il testo in italiano e fate un breve riassunto scritto in inglese, senza copiare dal testo, come se voleste ripetere a me l’argomento.**

**Have a nice day!**