



The years between the 70s and the 80s in Italy are defined as the Years of Lead, to effectively represent an era in which an extremist political dialectic produced street violence, armed struggles and terrorism.

In 1977, "the daily generalization of a political and cultural conflict flared up and branched out into all social areas" (Primo Moroni and Nanni Balestrini), starting the last phase of the Years of Lead. This will see two of the most famous events: the kidnapping and murder of the secretary of the Christian Democrats, Aldo Moro, by the Red Brigades and the massacre of Bologna by the NAR.

The film *Colpire al Cuore* (Strike at the Heart) by Gianni Amelio tells the story of this period, narrated mainly from the point of view of young Emilio, the son of a university professor who receives a visit from a couple of his students. Emilio's sudden discovery that these two young men are Red terrorists generates at first an internal conflict in the boy, then a conflict with his father for his silent approval of violent political actions.

This character "anticipated the rejection of the new generations, who would soon become adults, towards the political violence and ideologies that had characterized the 1970s" (Umberto Berlinghini), a radical change that expresses the desire to get rid of the widespread violence to which Italy was sadly accustomed.