organizations themselves. There are good reasons for this. Mostly importantly, the Mafias need an ideological glue to hold them together, and we should not be

that 'the metropolis envy which identifies the Italian urbs with the very exemplum of modernity, the American city, presents the degradation, criminality and political terrorism of contemporary Italy as essential to its vitality'. As Catherine O'Rawe notes in her contribution to this roundtable on the series for television, the Roman setting may also be understood as an idealized re-evocation of a place and time associated (however erroneously) with ideological certainties and unambiguous social and political stances missed by many twenty-first-century Italians.

As capital of the Italian state and, traditionally, - , d, Rome's violence and corruption metonymically stand for the corruption of the country as a whole.

encompassing perspective of the city, imply that the city and its citizens are under