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## Nota di contenuto

Cover; The Altruistic Brain; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction; Part ONE Evidence for Altruistic Brain Theory; 1 The Biological/Evolutionary Roots of Altruism; 2 Altruistic Brain Theory Introduced; 3 Primary Neuroscience Research Underlying Each Step of Altruistic Brain Theory; 4 Neural and Hormonal Mechanisms that Promote Prosocial Behaviors Once the Ethical Decision Is Made; 5 New Neuroscience Research: The Theory's Link to An Ethical Universal; Part TWO Improving Performance of the Moral Brain: REMOVING OBSTACLES TO GOOD BEHAVIOR

6 How Altruistic Brain Theory Changes Our Perceptions of Ourselves and of Altruism; 7 Why the Altruistic Brain Matters: Its Significance to Addressing Individuals' Bad Behavior; 8 Multiplier Effect: From Bad to Worse in a Social Setting; 9 No Easy Answers . . . But No Pessimism Either; Index

## Sommario/riassunto

Since the beginning of recorded history, law and religion have provided ""rules"" that define good behavior. When we obey such rules, we assign to some external authority the capacity to determine how we should act. Even anarchists recognize the existence of a choice as to whether or not to obey, since no one has seriously doubted that the source of social order resides in our vast ethical systems. Debate has focused only on whose system is best, never for an instant imagining that law, religion, or some philosophical permutation of either was not the basis of prosocial action. The only diverg