1. Record Nr. UNINA9910163122603321

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Titolo Anthropological lifetime in Japan: the writings of joy hendry

Pubbl/distr/stampa [S.I.]:,: Brill,, 2016

ISBN 90-04-30287-5

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (713 pages)

Collana The writings of ; ; 8

Disciplina 306.0952

Soggetti Ethnology - Japan

Anthropology - Japan Electronic books.

Japan Social life and customs

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and

index.

Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- From Scrambled Messages to an

Impromptu Dip: Serendipity in Finding a Field Location -- The Paradox of Friendship in the Field: Analysis of a Long-Term Anglo-Japanese Relationship -- Is Science Maintaining Tradition in Japan? -- The Modification of Tradition in Modern Japanese Weddings and Some Implications for the Social Structure -- Tomodachi k: Age-Mate Groups in Northern Kyushu -- Shoes: The Early Learning of an Important Distinction in Japanese Society -- "The Fix" in Japanese Society -- Marriage and the Family in Modernising Japan -- The Continuing Case of Japan -- Becoming Japanese: A Social Anthropological View of Child-Rearing -- Kindergartens and the Transition from Home to School Education -- Peer Pressure and Kindergartens in Japan -- Children's Contests in Japan -- St Valentine and St Nicholas Travel Abroad: Success and Internationalisation in Japanese Education -- Individualism and Individuality: Entry into a Social World -- Bags, Objects and Education in Japan -- Material Objects and Mathematics in the Life of the Japanese Primary School Child -- The Use and Abuse of Politeness Formulae: Some Social Implications -- Respect, Solidarity or Contempt? Politeness and Communication in Modern Japan -- Humidity, Hygiene, or Ritual Care: Some Thoughts on Wrapping as a Social Phenomenon -- To Wrap or

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Sommario/riassunto

Joy Hendry's collection demonstrates the value of an anthropological approach to understanding a particular society by taking the reader through her own discovery of the field, explaining her practice of it in Oxford and Japan, and then offering a selection of the results and findings she obtained. Her work starts with a study of marriage made in a small rural community, continues with education and the rearing of children, and later turns to consider polite language, especially amongst women. This lead into a study of \'wrapping\' and cultural display, for example of gardens and theme parks, which became a comparative venture, putting Japan in a global context. Finally the book sums up change through the period of Hendry's research.