

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910163945303321
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Titolo	What the f : what swearing reveals about our language, our brains, and ourselves // Benjamin K. Bergen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Basic Books, , [2016]
ISBN	1-5416-9874-6 0-465-09648-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (239 pages)
Classificazione	SCI034000LAN009000PSY031000
Disciplina	401/.9
Soggetti	Obscene words - Psychological aspects Swearing - Psychological aspects Blessing and cursing - Psychological aspects Languages, Modern - Obscene words - Psychological aspects Psychoanalytic interpretation Psycholinguistics SCIENCE / History LANGUAGE ARTS & DISCIPLINES / Linguistics / General PSYCHOLOGY / Social Psychology Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Machine generated contents note: 1. Holy, Fucking, Shit, Nigger -- 2. What Makes a Four-Letter Word? -- 3. One Finger Is Worth a Thousand Words -- 4. The Holy Priest with the Vulgar Tongue -- 5. The Day the Pope Dropped the C-Bomb -- 6. Fucking Grammar -- 7. How Cock Lost Its Feather -- 8. Little Samoan Potty Mouths -- 9. Fragile Little Minds -- 10. The \$100,000 Word -- 11. The Paradox of Profanity.
Sommario/riassunto	"Smart as hell and funny as fuck, this book explains why we can't stop swearing and what it tells us about our language and brains. Everyone swears. Only the rare individual can avoid ever letting slip an expletive. And yet, we ban the words from television and insist that polite people excise them from their vocabularies. That's a fucking shame. Not only is swearing colorful, fun, and often powerfully apt, as linguist and

cognitive scientist Benjamin K. Bergen shows us, the study of it can provide a new window onto how our brains process language. How can patients left otherwise speechless after a stroke still shout out "Goddamn!"? Why did Pope Francis say "fuck" in the middle of a speech? When did a cock cease to be a rooster? Why is "crap" vulgar when "poo" is just childish? And what are we shooting when we give someone the bird? What the F? Let me effing tell you"--

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