1. Record Nr. UNINA9910254673003321 Autore Grinde Bjørn Titolo The Evolution of Consciousness: Implications for Mental Health and Quality of Life / / by Bjørn Grinde Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Springer,, 2016 **ISBN** 3-319-43685-6 Edizione [1st ed. 2016.] 1 online resource (XV, 246 p. 70 illus.) Descrizione fisica 150.1988 Disciplina Positive psychology Soggetti **Evolutionary biology** Quality of life Neurosciences Philosophy of mind Positive Psychology **Evolutionary Biology** Quality of Life Research Philosophy of Mind Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Introduction -- Chapter 1. A Conscious Life -- Chapter 2. The Brain: Nota di contenuto Your Personal Necktop Computer -- Chapter 3. The Evolution of Nervous Systems -- Chapter 4. Conscious Brains -- Chapter 5. The Neurobiological Correlate -- Chapter 6. States and Disorders of Consciousness -- Chapter 7. Quality of Life -- Chapter 8. Environmental Concerns -- Chapter 9. Mental Exercise -- Chapter 10. In the Future. Sommario/riassunto This book gives the reader an understanding of what consciousness is about, and of how to make conscious experiences more pleasant. It expands on a new theory that describes the evolutionary trajectory leading to conscious life forms. In short, the evidence suggests that consciousness first evolved some 300 million years ago as a consequence of the introduction of feelings. Feelings offer a strategy

for making behavioural decisions. Besides playing a crucial role in the

evolution of the human mind, they are a key factor in regard to mental health and quality of life. Fortunately, the human brain is plastic. By exploiting available options for modulating the mind, it is therefore possible to impact on what sort of experiences the brain serves. More specifically, you can strengthen the capacity for positive feelings and reduce the sway of negative feelings. The text covers biological, neurological, psychological, and philosophical aspects of the mind.