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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- 1. PTSD Is a Culturally Bound and Imperialistic Concept: That's Not All Bad. -- 2. Trauma Is a Political Issue. Chronic Trauma Is an: Invisible Way of Life. -- 3. Extreme Trauma and its Intergenerational Transmission -- 4. The Meaning of Trauma and the Place of Neuroscience -- 5. Conclusion: How Massive Trauma Works. .
Sommario/riassunto	This book examines the social contexts in which trauma is created by those who study it, whether considering the way in which trauma afflicts groups, cultures, and nations, or the way in which trauma is transmitted down the generations. As Alford argues, ours has been called an age of trauma. Yet, neither trauma nor post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are scientific concepts. Trauma has been around forever, even if it was not called that. PTSD is the creation of a group of Vietnam veterans and psychiatrists, designed to help explain the veterans' suffering. This does not detract from the value of PTSD, but sets its historical and social context. The author also confronts the attempt to study trauma scientifically, exploring the use of technologies such as magnetic resonance imagining (MRI). Alford concludes that the scientific study of trauma often reflects a willed

ignorance of traumatic experience. In the end, trauma is about suffering. .

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