

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910272353203321
Autore	Mehta Uday Singh
Titolo	The Anxiety of Freedom : Imagination and Individuality in Locke's Political Thought / / Uday Singh Mehta
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cornell University Press, 2018 Ithaca, N.Y. : , : Cornell University Press, , 1992 ©1992
ISBN	9781501726385 1501726382 9781501726392 1501726390
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (186 pages)
Collana	Contestations
Disciplina	320/.01
Soggetti	Individuality Imagination Authority Liberty Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 175-181) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Introduction -- 2. The Critique of Scriptural Politics -- 3. Curiosity, Imagination, and Madness -- 4. Molding Individuality: Direction and Compromise -- 5. Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	The enduring appeal of liberalism lies in its commitment to the idea that human beings have a "natural" potential to live as free and equal individuals. The realization of this potential, however, is not a matter of nature, but requires that people be molded by a complex constellation of political and educational institutions. In this eloquent and provocative book, Uday Singh Mehta investigates in the major writings of John Locke the implications of this tension between individuals and the institutions that mold them. The process of molding, he demonstrates, involves an external conformity and an internal self-

restraint that severely limit the scope of individuality. Mehta explores the centrality of the human imagination in Locke's thought, focusing on his obsession with the potential dangers of the cognitive realm. Underlying Locke's fears regarding the excesses of the imagination is a political anxiety concerning how to limit their potential effects. In light of Locke's views on education, Mehta concludes that the promise of liberation at the heart of liberalism is vitiated by its constraints on cognitive and political freedom.
