1. Record Nr. UNISA990002359250203316

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Titolo Mathematiques modernes / Herbert Suter, Paul Burgat, Willy Richter

Pubbl/distr/stampa Neuchatel: Griffon, 1965-

Descrizione fisica v.; 22 cm

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Collocazione 510 SUT 1/1(IS IV 12/I)

510 SUT 1/2 (IS IV 12/II)

Lingua di pubblicazione Francese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Nota di contenuto <1>: 1965. - XVIII, 259 p.; <2>: 1966. - XVII, 248 p.

Record Nr. UNINA9910438061703321

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Titolo Youth Identities, Localities, and Visual Material Culture: Making Selves,

Making Worlds / / by Kristen Ali Eglinton

Pubbl/distr/stampa Dordrecht:,: Springer Netherlands:,: Imprint: Springer,, 2013

ISBN 9781283698078

1283698072 9789400748576 9400748574

Edizione [1st ed. 2013.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (239 p.)

Collana Explorations of Educational Purpose, , 1875-4457 ; ; 25

Disciplina 305.235

Soggetti Art - Study and teaching

Educational sociology

Anthropology

Creativity and Arts Education Sociology of Education

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Preface -- Acknowledgements -- Part I Contemporary Youth, VMC, and Nota di contenuto Local Place -- Chapter 1 Telling stories, forging links, researching lives -- Chapter 2 Understanding youth culture, visual material culture, and local places -- Chapter 3. Multi-sites: New York City, USA, and Yukon Territory, Canada -- Part II Making place, race, and gender: Ethnographic illustrations. From New York City and Yukon. Canada --Chapter 4 Representin' place: Place-making and place-based identities -- Chapter 5 (Re)constructing race: Racial identities, and the borders of race -- Chapter 6 Negotiating Gender: Gender Narratives and gender

Sommario/riassunto

This invaluable addition to Springer's Explorations of Educational Purpose series is a revelatory ethnographic account of the visual material culture of contemporary youths in North America. The author's detailed study follows apparently dissimilar groups (black and Latino/a in a New York City after-school club, and white and Indigenous in a small Canadian community) as they inflect their nascent identities with a sophisticated sense of visual material culture in today's globalized world. It provides detailed proof of how much ethnography can add to what we know about young people's development, in addition to its potential as a model to explore new and significant avenues in pedagogy. Supported by a wealth of ethnographic evidence, the analysis tracks its subjects' responses to strikingly diverse material ranging from autobiographical accounts by rap artists to the built environment. It shows how young people from the world's cultural epicenter, just like their counterparts in the sub-Arctic, construct racial, geographic and gender identities in ways that are subtly responsive to what they see around them, blending localized characteristics with more widely shared visual references that are now universally accessible through the Web. The work makes a persuasive case that youthful engagement with visual material culture is a relational and productive activity that is simultaneously local and global, at once constrained and enhanced by geography, and possesses a potent and life-affirming authenticity. Densely interwoven with young people's perspectives, the author's account sets out an innovative and interdisciplinary conceptual framework affording fresh insights into how today's youth assimilate what they perceive to be significant.

identities -- Chapter 7 Northern Landscapes: Place- and identitymaking in northern Canada -- Part III Education in the context of visual

material culture -- Chapter 8: Theoretical, methodological, and

pedagogical possibilities -- Appendices -- Index.