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Titolo	Stereotypes as explanations : the formation of meaningful beliefs about social groups // [edited by] Craig McGarty, Vincent Y. Yzerbyt, and Russell Spears [[electronic resource]]
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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Title; Copyright; Contents; Figures; Contributors; Preface; 1 Social, cultural and cognitive factors in stereotype formation; 2 Stereotype formation as category formation; 3 Subjective essentialism and the emergence of stereotypes; 4 The role of theories in the formation of stereotype content; 5 Illusory correlation and stereotype formation: making sense of group differences and cognitive biases; 6 Dependence and the formation of stereotyped beliefs about groups: from interpersonal to intergroup perception
Sommario/riassunto	Stereotyping is one of the biggest single issues in social psychology, but relatively little is known about how and why stereotypes form. Stereotypes as Explanations is the first book to explore the process of stereotype formation, the way that people develop impressions and

views of social groups. Conventional approaches to stereotyping assume that stereotypes are based on erroneous and distorted processes, but the authors of this book take a very different view, namely that stereotypes form in order to explain aspects of social groups and in particular to explain relationships between groups. In developing this view, the authors explore classic and contemporary approaches to stereotype formation and advance new ideas about such topics as the importance of category formation, essentialism, illusory correlation, interdependence, social reality and stereotype consensus. They conclude that stereotypes are indeed explanations, but they are nevertheless highly selective, variable and frequently contested explanations.

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