

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910450296703321
Titolo	Child rearing in America : challenges facing parents with young children // edited by Neal Halfon, Kathryn Taaffe McLearn, Mark A. Schuster [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2002
ISBN	1-107-12569-3 1-280-43405-8 0-511-17742-9 0-511-04240-X 0-511-14775-9 0-511-30263-0 0-511-49975-2 0-511-04546-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xix, 428 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	649/.1/0973
Soggetti	Child rearing - United States Parenting - United States Parents - United States Child health services - United States Family life surveys - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 407-412) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; Tables; Figures; Contributors; Acknowledgments; 1 Introduction and Overview; PART I CONDITIONS OF FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN; PART II CHILD-REARING PRACTICES; PART III DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES TO MOTHERS AND CHILDREN; PART IV FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS; Index
Sommario/riassunto	This rich and well-researched volume comes in the wake of intense national interest in young children. Leading scholars from diverse disciplines use relevant data from the Commonwealth Survey of Parents with Young Children to present new information about the lives of

families with very young children - how parents spend their time with their children, the economic and social challenges they face, and the supports they receive to improve their children's health and development. Such a broad portrait based on nationally representative data has not been attempted before. Drawing on their extensive expertise and research in the issues being addressed, the authors examine and elaborate on the survey findings. They synthesize the major themes emerging from the data and consider the family, community, and policy implications to frame and interpret the results. What emerges is a picture of the complex forces that influence families and child-rearing in the early years.

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