Record Nr. UNINA9910450895103321 Autore Winston Brian **Titolo** Media technology and society: a history: from the telegraph to the Internet / / Brian Winston London;; New York:,: Routledge,, 1998 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-33182-8 0-203-02437-0 1-134-76633-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (389 p.) Altri autori (Persone) WinstonBrian 302.23 Disciplina 303.483309 Soggetti Mass media - Technological innovations - History Communication - Technological innovations - History Communication - Social aspects Mass media - Social aspects Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Rev. ed. of: Misunderstanding media. 1986. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 343-360) and index. Nota di bibliografia Cover: MEDIA TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY: A HISTORY: FROM THE Nota di contenuto TELEGRAPH TO THE INTERNET; Copyright; CONTENTS; FIGURES; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: INTRODUCTION: A STORM FROM PARADISE: TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION, DIFFUSION AND SUPPRESSION; THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION AS HYPERBOLE; MODELLING CHANGE; 'INVENTION'; PART I PROPAGATING SOUND AT CONSIDERABLE DISTANCES; 1 THE TELEGRAPH; SCIENTIFIC COMPETENCE TO IDEATION: STATIC ELECTRICAL TELEGRAPHS; PROTOTYPES, NECESSITY AND 'INVENTION': DYNAMIC ELECTRICAL TELEGRAPHS; SUPPRESSION AND DIFFUSION: OWNING THE TELEGRAPH; 2 BEFORE THE SPEAKING **TELEPHONE**

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Sommario/riassunto

Challenging the popular myth of a present-day 'information revolution', Media Technology and Society is essential reading for anyone interested in the social impact of technological change. Winston argues that the development of new media forms, from the telegraph and the telephone to computers, satellite and virtual reality, is the product of a constant play-off between social necessity and suppression: the unwritten law by which new technologies are introduced into society only insofar as their disruptive potential is limited.