

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910453854503321
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Titolo	Dowry murder [[electronic resource]] : the imperial origins of a cultural crime // Veena Talwar Oldenburg
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Delhi ; Oxford ; ; New York, : Oxford University Press, 2002
ISBN	1-280-56113-0 9786610561131 0-19-803434-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (280 p.)
Disciplina	364.15/23/0820954
Soggetti	Caste - Political aspects - India Dowry - India - Criminal provisions Hindu women - Crimes against - India Hindu women - India - Economic conditions Uxoricide - Economic aspects - India Wives - Crimes against - India Electronic books. Great Britain Colonies India India History British occupation, 1765-1947
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [245]-255) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Introduction; Chapter 1 Conundrums and Contexts; Chapter 2 The Just-So Stories about Female Infanticide; Chapter 3 The Tangled Tale of Twisting a Safety Net into a Noose; Chapter 4 Engineering a Masculine World; Chapter 5 Local Customs and the Economy Grow Mustaches; Chapter 6 Writing Lives, Underwriting Silences: Understanding Dowry Death in Contemporary India; Epilogue; Notes; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	The Hindu custom of dowry has long been blamed for the murder of wives and female infants in India. In this highly provocative book, Veena Oldenburg argues that these killings are neither about dowry nor reflective of an Indian culture or caste system that encourages violence against women. Rather, such killings can be traced directly to the

influences of the British colonial era. In the precolonial period, dowry was an institution managed by women, for women, to enable them to establish their status and have recourse in an emergency. As a consequence of the massive economic and societal upheavals
