

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910454945003321
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Titolo	The disorder of political inquiry [[electronic resource] /] / Keith Topper
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2005
ISBN	0-674-04440-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (337 p.)
Disciplina	300/.72
Soggetti	Social sciences - Methodology Social sciences - Philosophy Political science - Methodology Political science - Philosophy Naturalism Power (Social sciences) Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 219-313) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: The Social Science Wars -- 1. Science Turned Upside Down -- 2. In Defense of Disunity -- 3. The Politics of Redescription -- 4. Reclaiming the Language of Emancipation -- 5. Sciences That Disturb -- Conclusion: Pluralism, Power, Perestroika, and Political Inquiry -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Engaging the work of thinkers such as Richard Rorty, Charles Taylor, Pierre Bourdieu, Roy Bhaskar, and Hannah Arendt, as well as recent literature in political science and the history and philosophy of science, Topper proposes a pluralist, normative, and broadly pragmatist conception of political inquiry, one that is analytically rigorous yet alive to the notorious vagaries, idiosyncrasies, and messy uncertainties of political life.