

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456378903321
Autore	Howland Douglas <1955->
Titolo	Personal liberty and public good : the introduction of John Stuart Mill to Japan and China / / Douglas Howland
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2005 ©2005
ISBN	1-281-99166-X 9786611991661 1-4426-7837-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (235 p.)
Disciplina	323.44
Soggetti	Liberty Common good Political science - Japan - Political science - 19th century Political science - China - History - 19th century 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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- A Note on Conventions -- Introduction -- 1. On Liberty and Its Historical Conditions of Possibility -- 2. Mill and His English Critics -- 3. Nakamura Keiu and the Public Limits of Liberty -- 4. Yan Fu and the Moral Prerequisites of Liberty -- 5. Personal Liberty and Public Virtue -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Blame for the putative failure of liberalism in late-nineteenth-century Japan and China has often been placed on an insufficient grasp of modernity among East Asian leaders or on their cultural commitments to traditional values. In Personal Liberty and Public Good, Douglas Howland refutes this view, turning to the central text of liberalism in that era: John Stuart Mill's On Liberty. Howland offers absorbing analyses of the translations of the book into Japanese and Chinese, which at times reveal astonishing emendations. As with their political leaders, Mill's Japanese and Chinese translators feared individual

liberty could undermine the public good and standards for public behaviour, and so introduced their own moral values ? Christianity and Confucianism, respectively? into *On Liberty*, filtering its original meaning. Howland mirrors this mistrust of individual liberty in Asia with critiques of the work in England, which itself had trouble adopting liberalism. *Personal Liberty and Public Good* is a compelling addition to the corpus of writing on the work of John Stuart Mill. It will be of great interest to historians of political thought, liberalism, and translation, as well as scholars of East Asian studies.
