Record Nr. UNINA9910456639303321 Autore Besnier Niko Titolo On the edge of the global [[electronic resource]]: modern anxieties in a Pacific island nation / / Niko Besnier Stanford, California,: Stanford University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8047-7764-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (327 p.) Collana East-West Center Series on Contemporary Issues in Asia and the Pacific 996.12 Disciplina Culture and globalization - Tonga Soggetti Electronic books. Tonga Social life and customs **Tonga Civilization** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Contents: Figures, Tables, Charts, and Maps: Note on Tongan Orthography and Transcription Conventions; Preface; 1. Straddling the Edge of the Global; 2. Tonga's Modernity; 3. Consumption and Cosmopolitanism; 4. When Gifts Become Commodities; 5. Modern Bodies on the Runway; 6. Coloring and Straightening; 7. Shaping the Modern Body; 8. Reconfiguring the Modern Christian; Conclusion: Sites of Modernity; Notes; References; Index Sommario/riassunto Life in twenty-first century Tonga is rife with uncertainties. Though the postcolonial island kingdom may give the appearance of stability and order, there is a malaise that pervades everyday life, a disguiet rooted in the feeling that the twin forces of ""progress"" and ""development""and the seemingly inevitable wealth distribution that follows from them-have bypassed the society. Niko Besnier's illuminating ethnography analyzes the ways in which segments of this small-scale society grapple with their growing anxiety and hold on to different

understandings of what modernity me