

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910457149203321
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Titolo	Against perfectionism : defending liberal neutrality // Steven Lecce
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2008 ©2008
ISBN	1-4426-8733-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (361 p.)
Disciplina	320.51
Soggetti	Liberalism - Philosophy Liberalism - Moral and ethical aspects Political ethics Political science - Philosophy Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- PART ONE. Three Classic Controversies -- 1. Putting Up with Heresy -- 2. Freedom for Eccentrics -- 3. Is Prostitution Unpatriotic? -- PART TWO. Liberalism Today -- 4. Should Liberals be Perfectionists? -- 5. The Continuity Thesis -- 6. Contract Killing: A Critique -- PART THREE. Defending Liberal Neutrality -- 7. Democratic Equality -- 8. Against the Epistemic Turn -- 9. Beyond the Basic Structure -- 10. How Political Is the Personal? -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In a democracy, political authority should be determined independently of religious, philosophical, and ethical ideals that often divide us. This idea, called liberal neutrality, challenges one of the oldest insights of the Western philosophical tradition in politics. At least since Plato, the concept of perfectionism has insisted that statecraft is akin to "soulcraft," and political questions about the justification of state power have followed from ethical questions about what is valuable in life and about how we should live if we are to live well. Against Perfectionism defends neutralist liberalism as the most appropriate political morality for democratic societies. Steven Lecce investigates the theoretical

foundations of liberalism, bringing together classic and contemporary arguments about the implications of pluralism for liberal equality. He surveys three classic debates over the grounds and limits of tolerance, and investigates the limits of perfectionism as a guide to law and public policy in pluralist societies. Lecce ultimately suggests a version of neutrality that answers the critiques recently leveled against it as a political ideal. Presenting sophisticated and groundbreaking arguments, *Against Perfectionism* is a call to rethink current concepts of law and public policy in democratic societies.

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