

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910461433103321
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Titolo	Cursing in America [[electronic resource] ] : a psycholinguistic study of dirty language in the courts, in the movies, in the schoolyards and on the streets // by Timothy Jay
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, : J. Benjamins Pub. Co., 1992
ISBN	1-280-49738-6 9786613592613 90-272-7405-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (287 p.)
Disciplina	401/.9/0973
Soggetti	English language - Obscene words - Psychological aspects - United States Blessing and cursing - Psychological aspects - United States Words, Obscene - Psychological aspects - United States English language - United States - Obscene words Americanisms Electronic books.
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]-272) and index.
Nota di contenuto	CURSING IN AMERICA; Title page; Copyright page; Acknowledgments; Table of Contents; Detailed Table of Contents; Chapter 1. What Are ""Dirty"" Words?; Cursing; Profanity; Blasphemy; Taboo; Obscenity; Vulgarity; Slang; Epithets; Insults and slurs; Scatology; What Is the Value of Classification?; Connotative and Denotative Usage; Colorful Metaphors; Context is critical; Time perspective; Summary; Chapter 2. When Children Use Dirty Words; Language Development; The Language of Infancy (Birth to Two Years); Anger and Dirty Words in Infancy; The Origins of Humor; Pre-School Humor. Some Final Thoughts About InfantsThe Language of Childhood (Two to Eleven Years); Childhood Humor; Elementary School Humor.; Childhood Name Calling and Insulting; Object Naming; Childhood Story Telling; From Childhood to Adolescence: Final Thoughts; Two General Issues of Sex Talk and Language at School; The ""Etiquette"" of Dirty Words and

Sex Talk; Conclusions About Sex Talk; The Issue of Dirty Language at School; The Emergence of an Obscene Lexicon; Field Study One; Field Study Two: Summer Camp (Hall & Jay, 1988); Summary of Field Studies; Conclusion; Chapter 3. Anger and Dirty Words  
Anger Expressed Through Cursing or Blasphemy; Anger Expressed Through Reference to Subnormal Thought; Anger Expressed Through Obscenity; Anger Expressed Through Reference to a Sex Organ; Anger Expressed Through Reference to Deviant Sexual Act; Anger Expressed Through Reference to Being Sexually Violated; Anger Expressed Through Reference to Social-Sexual Deviation; Anger Expressed Through Racial-Ethnic Reference; Anger Expressed Through Scatology; Anger Expressed Through Reference to Body Product or Process; Anger Expressed Through Items Associated with Body Products  
Anger Expressed Through References to Animals; Anger Expressed Through Reference to Animal Feces; The Context of Anger Expression; Social-Physical Setting; Speaker-Listener Variable; Discussion; The Etiquette of Anger Expression with Taboo Words; A Five-Stage Model of Anger; Stage 1: The Offending Event; Stage 2: The Degree of Anger; Stage 3: Attempts to Control Anger; Stage 4: Loss of Control; Stage 5: Retribution; The Value of Expressing Anger; Summary; Chapter 4. The Frequency of Dirty Word Usage; Why Word Frequency?; The Frequency Estimation Problem: Why There Are No Dirty Words  
Counting Oral Frequency: Almost Good Enough; A Frequency Count of Students' Colloquial English (Jay, 1980a); College Sample of Dirty Words; Elementary School Dirty Words; Discussion; Field Studies Versus Laboratory Studies; A Field Study of Offensive Speech; The Contextual Approach; Method; Results; Discussion; Laboratory Studies of Offensive Speech; Jay 1977 Ratings; Method; Results; The Massachusetts Study (1978); Word List; Method; Results; A Matter of Semantics; Of Words and Deeds; Conclusion; Chapter 5. The Offensiveness of Words: Sex and Semantics; Purpose of the Chapter  
Offensiveness versus Offendedness

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Sommario/riassunto

This is the first serious and extensive examination of American cursing from a psycholinguistic-contextual point of view. Several field studies and numerous laboratory-based experiments focus on the relationship between cursing and language acquisitions, anger expression, gender stereotypes, semantics, and offensiveness. Censorship, language content of motion pictures, First-Amendment fighting words, sexual harassment, obscene phone calls, and cursing at public schools are analyzed and related to sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic data. Many tables of word-by-word data provide empirical evi

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