

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910467657803321
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Titolo	Hypocrisy : the tales and realities of drug detainees in china // Vincent Shing Cheng
Pubbl/distr/stampa	PokFuLam, Hong Kong : , : HKU Press, , 2019
ISBN	988-8455-64-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (173 pages)
Collana	Hong Kong scholarship online
Disciplina	363.450951
Soggetti	Drug abuse - China Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Also issued in print: 2019.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [140]-156) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Tales of 'heroes' and 'saviours' -- Police and the 'hooks' -- Initiation ceremony in drug detention -- Prison authority and the 'inmate elites' -- Post-discharge reintegration and surveillance -- Appendix. Basic information of the former drug detainees.
Sommario/riassunto	Although the official propaganda surrounding the drug detainees in China is that of helping, educating, and saving them from their drug habits and the drug dealers who lure them into drug abuse, it is clear, according to Vincent Shing Cheng, that those who have gone through the rehabilitation system lost their trust in the Communist Party's promise of help and consider it a failure. Based on first-hand information and established ideas in prison research, Hypocrisy gives an ethnographic account of reality and experiences of drug detainees in China and provides a glimpse into a population that is very hard to reach and study. Cheng argues that there is a discrepancy between the propaganda of 'helping' and 'saving' drug users in detention or rehabilitation centres and the reality of 'humiliating' them and making them prime targets of control. Such a discrepancy is possibly threatening rather than enhancing the party-state's legitimacy. He concludes the book by demonstrating how the gulf between rhetoric and reality can illuminate many other systems, even in much less extreme societies than China.