

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910493746003321
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Titolo	Human Cultures through the Scientific Lens : essays in evolutionary cognitive Anthropology / / Pascal Boyer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, UK : , : Open Book Publishers, , 2021
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (vi, 280 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	306.42
Soggetti	Cognition and culture Ethnopsychology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The Naturalness of (Many) Social Institutions: Evolved Cognition as their Foundation / Pascal Boyer and Michael Bang Petersen -- Why Ritualized Behavior?: Precaution Systems and Action Parsing in Developmental, Pathological and Cultural Rituals / Pascal Boyer and Pierre Lienard -- Safety, Threat, and Stress in Intergroup Relations: A Coalitional Index Model / Pascal Boyer, Rengin Firat and Florian van Leeuwen -- Folk-Economic Beliefs: An Evolutionary Cognitive Model / Pascal Boyer and Michael Bang Petersen -- 1. Anthropology, Useful and Scientific: An Introduction / Pascal Boyer -- 2. Institutions and Human Nature / Pascal Boyer -- The Naturalness of (Many) Social Institutions: Evolved Cognition as their Foundation / Pascal Boyer and Michael Bang Petersen -- Why Ritualized Behavior? / Pascal Boyer -- Why Ritualized Behavior?: Precaution Systems and Action Parsing in Developmental, Pathological and Cultural Rituals / Pascal Boyer and Pierre Lienard -- 4. Social Groups and Adapted Minds / Pascal Boyer -- Safety, Threat, and Stress in Intergroup Relations: A Coalitional Index Model / Pascal Boyer, Rengin Firat and Florian van Leeuwen -- 5. How People Think about the Economy / Pascal Boyer -- Folk-Economic Beliefs: An Evolutionary Cognitive Model / Pascal Boyer and Michael Bang Petersen -- 6. Detecting Mental Disorder / Pascal Boyer -- Intuitive Expectations and the Detection of Mental Disorder: A Cognitive Background to Folk-Psychiatry / Pascal Boyer -- 7. The Ideal of Integrated Social Science / Pascal Boyer -- Modes of Scholarship in the Study of Culture / Pascal

Sommario/riassunto

This volume brings together a collection of seven articles previously published by the author, with a new introduction reframing the articles in the context of past and present questions in anthropology, psychology and human evolution. It promotes the perspective of 'integrated' social science, in which social science questions are addressed in a deliberately eclectic manner, combining results and models from evolutionary biology, experimental psychology, economics, anthropology and history. It thus constitutes a welcome contribution to a gradually emerging approach to social science based on E. O. Wilson's concept of 'consilience'. Human Cultures through the Scientific Lens spans a wide range of topics, from an examination of ritual behaviour, integrating neuro-science, ethology and anthropology to explain why humans engage in ritual actions (both cultural and individual), to the motivation of conflicts between groups. As such, the collection gives readers a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the applications of an evolutionary paradigm in the social sciences. This volume will be a useful resource for scholars and students in the social sciences (particularly psychology, anthropology, evolutionary biology and the political sciences), as well as a general readership interested in the social sciences.
