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| Descrizione fisica      | 1 online resource (169 pages)   |
| Disciplina              | 016.15335<br>347.066083   |
| Soggetti                | Forensic psychology<br>Cognitive psychology<br>Personality<br>Difference (Psychology)<br>Criminology<br>Social service<br>Forensic Psychology<br>Cognitive Psychology<br>Personality and Differential Psychology<br>Social Work   |
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| Nota di bibliografia    | Includes bibliographical references and index.  |
| Nota di contenuto       | 1 Introduction -- The Scope of Children in the Legal System -- An Introduction to the Book Chapters -- 2 The Witch Hunts -- The Salem Witch Trials -- Day Care Sexual Abuse Panic -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 3 An Introduction to Suggestibility -- Case Study -- Suggestibility -- Historic Views of Suggestibility -- Binet -- Modern Views of Suggestibility -- Source Monitoring -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 4 Memory Mechanisms and Developmental Factors of Suggestibility -- Memory -- Externally Driven and Internally Driven False Memories -- Case Study -- Henry Otgaar's Argument -- Age-Related Differences in Memory -- Knowledge Differences -- Language Differences -- Theory of Mind -- Own-Age |

Bias -- Social Influences -- Other Influences -- Children's Ability to Lie -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 5 True Cases of Child Eyewitnesses -- Nevis Nursery Case -- Devil's Dyke Rape Case -- Case of Jimmy Guard -- Poland Abduction Case -- Kidnapping of Elizabeth Smart -- Murder of Courtney Smith -- Disappearance of Maria Ridulph -- Conclusions -- 6 Children's Describing and Identifying Capabilities -- Are Children Capable Witnesses? -- Everyday Conversations with Children -- Children Answering Nonsensical Questions -- Forensically Relevant Conversations with Children -- Accuracy of Child Eyewitnesses at Describing -- Accuracy of Child Eyewitnesses at Identifying -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 7 External Factors of Suggestibility -- Question Types -- Question Repetition -- Delay and Repeated Interviews -- Interviewer Bias -- Stereotype Induction -- Interviewer Status -- Emotional Tone -- Current Interviewing Formats -- Case Study -- Case Study: Analysis -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 8 Individual Differences Relating to Suggestibility -- Interview Extract One—Child A -- Interview Extract Two—Child B -- Age -- Gender -- Socioeconomic Status -- Cognitive Factors -- Temperament -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 9 Juror Perceptions -- Case Study -- Case Study: Analysis -- Effects of Witness Age -- Effects of Interviewing Technique -- Effects of Witness Confidence and Shyness -- Juror Gender -- Juror Age -- Juror Personality -- Prosecution of Alleged Child Sexual Abuse -- Conclusions -- Suggested Further Reading -- 10 Conclusion.

#### Sommario/riassunto

"This is an excellent book. The book considers all aspects of children's performance as eyewitnesses. The book explains when and why children can be accurate witnesses. It includes many relevant real life cases from police interviews and legal cases. This book is well researched and very well written so it will be accessible to anyone, and can be highly recommended to parents, and to students of developmental psychology, sociology, law and linguistics." —Dr Mark Blades, Senior Lecturer in Developmental Psychology, University of Sheffield, UK "There is a nice coverage of how well children can serve as witnesses to a crime ... I am recommending this book as a valuable resource for academics and students in psychology, criminology, and law because there isn't another in the market that fully captures children's experience ... Not only is it good for academics, but a great resource for social workers, forensic investigators and practitioners working within the Youth and Criminal Justice." —Dr Tochukwu Onwuegbusi, Lecturer in Psychology, University of Lincoln, UK This book explores practices and influences that can increase or decrease the accuracy of children's testimonies. If a child falls victim to a crime, or becomes witness to it, they may well be questioned by the police. Perhaps even tasked with selecting a suspect from a line-up. But how reliable can a child be under such strenuous circumstances? Memory mechanisms and general developmental factors behind the capability of child witnesses are outlined, demonstrating their ability to describe or identify. Factors that affect jurors' perception of said children are also looked into in detail. There have been many instances in which poor interviewing practices with children led to false imprisonments. Said occurrences demonstrate how both situational factors and individual differences can potentially compromise children's eyewitness performance. Based upon what we now understand, can recommendations be made, so that, in a court of law, innocence is the key to achieving justice? Ben F. Cotterill is lecturer in psychology at Clemson University in South Carolina, USA. He completed his doctoral dissertation on how children's temperament relates to their eyewitness performance. Dr. Cotterill's research interests include personality

development, the reliability and credibility of eyewitness testimony, and testing police procedures used with children.

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