

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910743700403321
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Titolo	Care in a Time of Crisis : An Ethnography of Coercive Practices in Italian Acute Mental Health Provision / / by Eleonora Rossero
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2023
ISBN	9783031344183 3031344189
Edizione	[1st ed. 2023.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (310 pages)
Collana	Behavioral Science and Psychology Series
Disciplina	362.20945
Soggetti	Mental illness Psychology, Pathological Mental health Social psychiatry Ethnology Mental Disorder Psychopathology Mental Health Clinical Social Work Ethnography
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. On coercion in inpatient psychiatric settings -- 3. A necessary evil? Alternatives to coercive interventions -- 4. The Empirical Research: Context, Data, and Methods -- 5. Crisis and Its Places: Boundary-making in and Around Mental Healthcare Services -- 6. Combining Healthcare, Compassion, and Coercion Repertoires and Strategies to Provide (Good) Care in Acute Psychiatric Settings -- 7. Care in the time of crisis -- 8. An Empirical Ethics Approach to Acute Psychiatric Care: Advancing "Situated Suggestions" .
Sommario/riassunto	The book presents the results of an ethnographic study examining the post-deinstitutionalized organization and provision of acute mental health care in Italy. While the achievements of the "Basaglia law" which

imposed the closure of psychiatric hospitals in Italy in 1978 have been well-documented, this book sheds fresh light on its aftermath and possible continuing influence. The author examines two Italian regions – Piedmont and Friuli Venezia Giulia (internationally known to be the first Italian region to close down asylums) – respectively as representatives of the ‘restraint’ and ‘no-restraint’ models. Within each context, participant observation and discursive interviews have been conducted in Mental Health Centres (CSM) and acute psychiatric wards (SPDC) to explore care and coercive practices, as well as notions of ‘good care’ and values embedded in everyday working activities of these services. Situated suggestions for possible improvement of today’s acute mental health care are also proposed. This book offers a novel ethnography of mental health care in the Italian context that will appeal in particular to practitioners and scholars in the fields of critical mental health, cross-cultural psychology, the history of psychiatry and the sociology of health. Eleonora Rossero is a researcher in the field of the sociology of health, particularly mental health, as she works closely with healthcare services and professionals. Dr Rossero has published previously on the impact of Covid-19 on Italian mental health services, narratives of autoimmune diseases, psychiatric coercive interventions, and Italian de-institutionalization practices and cultures.
