

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778849803321
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Titolo	Decentring leisure : rethinking leisure theory // Chris Rojek
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : SAGE, , 1995
ISBN	1-4462-7909-X 1-282-55903-6 1-84860-965-5 9786612559037 0-585-35359-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (215 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Theory, culture & society
Disciplina	306.4812
Soggetti	Leisure - Social aspects
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. [201]-211) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Capitalism and leisure -- pt. 2. Modernity and leisure -- pt. 3. Postmodernism and leisure.
Sommario/riassunto	Chris Rojek considers the influence of such key social constructs as capitalism, modernity, and postmodernity on the ways we have come to perceive and use leisure. Within a capitalist framework, issues ranging from the meaning of workers' free time to the gendered nature of leisure are explored; the impact of modernity is examined next, offering accounts and analyses of the prevailing - and conflicting - theories. Finally, the author assays the cultural condition that has radically changed the idea of leisure: postmodernism.