Record Nr. UNINA9910781245703321 Autore Dowbiggin Ian Robert <1952-> **Titolo** The quest for mental health: a tale of science, medicine, scandal, sorrow, and mass society / / Ian Dowbiggin [[electronic resource]] Cambridge: ,: Cambridge University Press, , 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-139-08854-8 1-107-21866-7 1-283-19326-4 9786613193261 1-139-09226-X 0-511-99341-2 1-139-09175-1 1-139-08995-1 1-139-09277-4 1-139-09085-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (x, 248 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Collana Cambridge essential histories Disciplina 362.196/89 Soggetti Mental health Personality **Emotions** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Machine generated contents note: 1. Introduction; 2. A new egalitarianism; 3. Bricks and mortar humanity; 4. Mental hygiene; 5. A bottomless pit; 6. Emotional welfare. This is the story of one of the most far-reaching human endeavors in Sommario/riassunto history: the guest for mental well-being. From its origins in the eighteenth century to its wide scope in the early twenty-first, this search for emotional health and welfare has cost billions. In the name of mental health, millions around the world have been tranquilized, institutionalized, psycho-analyzed, sterilized, lobotomized and even euthanized. Yet at the dawn of the new millennium, reported rates of depression and anxiety are unprecedentedly high. Drawing on years of field research, Ian Dowbiggin argues that if the quest for emotional well-being has reached a crisis point in the twenty-first century, it is because mass society is enveloped by cultures of therapism and consumerism, which increasingly advocate bureaucratic and managerial approaches to health and welfare.