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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Torture: the goal of accountability and the world of impunity United States: de jure reform with torture lite and rendition Israel: soft compliance with judicial oversight of torture-lite France: supranational supervision but limited memory battles and accountability Argentina: the only case with prosecutions, reparations, and museums Spanish inquisition or millennium bombing plot: the value of torture as actionable intelligence, confession, obedience, intimidation, or deterrence? The politics of collective memory and torture reform Conclusion: two sets of patterns in four states.
Sommario/riassunto	This book evaluates the experience of official torture of France in Algeria, as well as recently, the United States since 9/11, Israel against Palestinians, and Argentina during its ""Dirty War"" from 1972 to 1983.

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While evaluating what information was gained from torture, the book also shows the costs of undertaking this approach to interrogating suspected terrorists.