

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782626403321
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Titolo	The world of the gift // Jacques T. Godbout ; in collaboration with Alain Caille ; translated from the French by Donald Winkler
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Montreal : , : McGill-Queen's University Press, , 1998 ©1998
ISBN	0-7735-6732-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 250 pages)
Altri autori (Persone)	CailleAlain <1944-> WinklerDonald
Disciplina	306.4
Soggetti	Gifts - Social aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Translation of: L'esprit du don.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [233]-245) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Intro; Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction: Does the Gift Still Exist?; PART ONE: THE SITES OF THE GIFT; PART TWO: FROM THE ARCHAIC TO THE MODERN GIFT; PART THREE: THE STRANGE LOOP OF THE GIFT; Notes; Bibliography; Index; 1 Three Forms of Social Bonding; 2 Interpersonal Ties; 3 When the State Supplants the Gift; 4 The Gift between Strangers; 5 The Gift and Merchandise; 6 The Gift in Liberal Society; 7 The Archaic Gift: Some Lessons in Ethnology; 8 Classic Interpretations of the Archaic Gift; 9 The Archaic Gift and the Modern Gift; 10 The Passage to the Modern Gift 11 Gift, Market, Disinterestedness 12 Sketch for a Model of the Gift Relationship; 13 Conclusion: Behind Exchanges, the Gift
Sommario/riassunto	The anthropologist Marcel Mauss, in his famous exploration of the gift in "primitive" and archaic societies, showed that the essential aspect of the exchange of presents involved the establishment of a social tie that bound the parties together above and beyond any material value of the objects exchanged. He argued that these intangible mutual "debts" constituted the social fabric. Godbout and Caillé show that, contrary to the modern assumption that societies function on the basis of market exchange and the pursuit of self-interest, the gift still constitutes the foundation of our social fabric. The authors describe the gift not as an object but as a social connection, perhaps the most important social connection because it creates a sense of obligation to respond in kind.

They examine the gift in a broad range of cases such as blood and organ donation; volunteer work; the bonds between friends, couples, and family; Santa Claus; the interaction between performers and their audience; and the relation of the artist to society. Written in an engaging manner, *The World of the Gift* will appeal to anyone who is interested in how the world really operates.

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