Record Nr. UNINA9910785260403321 Autore Kelly Duncan Titolo The propriety of liberty [[electronic resource]]: persons, passions and judgement in modern political thought / / Duncan Kelly Princeton,: Princeton University Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-82111-3 9786612821110 1-4008-3684-0 Edizione [Course Book] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (367 p.) Disciplina 320.01/1 Soggetti Liberty Liberty - History Political science - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations --Introduction: The Propriety of Liberty -- Chapter One: 'That glorious fabrick of liberty': John Locke, the Propriety of Liberty and the Quality of Responsible Agency -- Chapter Two: Passionate Liberty and Commercial Selfhood: Montesquieu's Political Theory of Moderation --Chapter Three: 'The True Propriety of Language': Persuasive Mediocrity, Imaginative Delusion and Adam Smith's Political Theory -- Chapter Four: Taking Things as They Are: John Stuart Mill on the Judgement of Character and the Cultivation of Civilization -- Chapter Five: Idealism and the Historical Judgement of Freedom: T. H. Green and the Legacy of the English Revolution -- Chapter Six Coda: Liberty as Propriety --Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto In this book, Duncan Kelly excavates, from the history of modern political thought, a largely forgotten claim about liberty as a form of propriety. By rethinking the intellectual and historical foundations of modern accounts of freedom, he brings into focus how this major

vision of liberty developed between the seventeenth and the nineteenth centuries. In his framework, celebrated political writers, including John Locke, Montesquieu, Adam Smith, John Stuart Mill, and Thomas Hill

Green pursue the claim that freedom is best understood as a form of responsible agency or propriety, and they do so by reconciling key moral and philosophical claims with classical and contemporary political theory. Their approach broadly assumes that only those persons who appropriately regulate their conduct can be thought of as free and responsible. At the same time, however, they recognize that such internal forms of self-propriety must be judged within the wider context of social and political life. Kelly shows how the intellectual and practical demands of such a synthesis require these great writers to consider freedom as part of a broader set of arguments about the nature of personhood, the potentially irrational impact of the passions, and the obstinate problems of individual and political judgement. By exploring these relationships, The Propriety of Liberty not only revises the intellectual history of modern political thought, but also sheds light on contemporary debates about freedom and agency.