

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910786040703321
Autore	Lamont Peter
Titolo	Extraordinary beliefs : a historical approach to a psychological problem // Peter Lamont [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2013
ISBN	1-107-30140-8 1-107-23552-9 1-107-25548-1 1-107-30649-3 1-139-09432-7 1-107-31204-3 1-299-00627-2 1-107-31424-0 1-107-30869-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 321 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Classificazione	PSY008000
Disciplina	130
Soggetti	Parapsychology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Machine generated contents note: 1. Introduction; 2. The making of the extraordinary; 3. The making of mesmeric phenomena; 4. The making of spiritualist phenomena; 5. The making of psychic phenomena; 6. The making of paranormal phenomena; 7. The making of extraordinary beliefs.
Sommario/riassunto	Since the early nineteenth century, mesmerists, mediums and psychics have exhibited extraordinary phenomena. These have been demonstrated, reported and disputed by every modern generation. We continue to wonder why people believe in such things, while others wonder why they are dismissed so easily. Extraordinary Beliefs takes a historical approach to an ongoing psychological problem: why do people believe in extraordinary phenomena? It considers the phenomena that have been associated with mesmerism, spiritualism, psychical research and parapsychology. By drawing upon conjuring theory, frame analysis and discourse analysis, it examines how such

phenomena have been made convincing in demonstration and report, and then disputed endlessly. It argues that we cannot understand extraordinary beliefs unless we properly consider the events in which people believe, and what people believe about them. And it shows how, in constructing and maintaining particular beliefs about particular phenomena, we have been in the business of constructing ourselves.

---