Record Nr. UNINA9910787975603321 Autore Sozer Hande Titolo Managing invisibility: dissimulation and identity maintenance among Alevi Bulgarian Turks / / Hande Sozer Pubbl/distr/stampa Leiden, Netherlands:,: Brill,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 90-04-27919-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (252 p.) Collana Balkan Studies Library, , 1877-6272; ; Volume 15 Disciplina 305.894/350499 Aliani (Bulgarian people) - Ethnic identity Soggetti Ethnic relations - Bulagaria Ethnic relations - Turkey Religious minorities - Bulgaria Religious minorities - Turkey **Bulgaria Ethnic relations** Turkey Ethnic relations Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese Materiale a stampa **Formato** Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- 1 Paradoxical Invisibility: Fortifying Invisibility for Empowerment in the Face of Disempowering Structural Invisibilities -- 2 Open Methods for Researching Hidden Populations: Epistemological and Ethical Issues -- 3 Dissimulation: Retaining Minority Identity while Pretending to be Part of the Majority -- 4 History, Historicity, Historiography: Externalizing Alevism from the Bulgarian Turkish Group -- 5 Alevi Bulgarian Turks' Self-Perceptions of the Alevi Ways: "The Path is One; While Practices are a Thousand and One" -- 6 Dissimulation as In-Your-Face Disguise: Speaking Others' Languages, Practicing Others' Practices, Manipulating Others' Places --7 Dissimilation and Assimilation -- Conclusion -- Appendix A --Bibliography -- Index. Sommario/riassunto In Managing Invisibility, Hande Sözer examines complicated invisibilities of Alevi Bulgarian Turks, a double-minority which faces

structural discrimination in Bulgaria and Turkey. While the literature portrays minorities' visibility as a requirement for their empowerment

or a source of their surveillance, the book argues that for such minorities what matters is their control over their own visibility. To make this point, it focuses on the concept protective dissimulation, a strategy of self-imposed invisibility. It discusses cases indicating Alevi Bulgarian Turks' strategies of dealing with historically changing majorities in their larger societies and argues that dissimulation actually reinforces the intergroup distinctions for the minority's members. The data for the book was gathered during 18 months of ethnographic fieldwork in Bulgaria and Turkey.