

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910788669503321
Autore	Kelly Tobias
Titolo	This side of silence [[electronic resource] ] : human rights, torture, and the recognition of cruelty / / Tobias Kelly
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2012
ISBN	1-283-89655-9 0-8122-0523-5
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (229 p.)
Collana	Pennsylvania Studies in Human Rights
Disciplina	364.6/7
Soggetti	Torture - Moral and ethical aspects - Great Britain Political prisoners - Abuse of - Great Britain Political prisoners - Legal status, laws, etc - Great Britain Suffering - Political aspects - Great Britain Human rights - Great Britain
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [177]-211) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. Talking about Torture after the Human Rights Revolution -- Chapter 2. The Legal Recognition of Torture Survivors -- Chapter 3. Clinical Evidence about Torture -- Chapter 4. Predicting the Future Risk of Torture -- Chapter 5. Prosecuting Torture -- Chapter 6. The Shame of Torture -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index -- Acknowledgments
Sommario/riassunto	We are accustomed to thinking of torture as the purposeful infliction of cruelty by public officials, and we assume that lawyers and clinicians are best placed to speak about its causes and effects. However, it has not always been so. The category of torture is a very specific way of thinking about violence, and our current understandings of the term are rooted in recent twentieth-century history. In This Side of Silence, social anthropologist Tobias Kelly argues that the tensions between post-Cold War armed conflict, human rights activism, medical notions of suffering, and concerns over immigration have produced a distinctively new way of thinking about torture, which is saturated with notions of law and trauma. This Side of Silence asks what forms of suffering and cruelty can be acknowledged when looking at the world

through the narrow legal category of torture. The book focuses on the recent history of Britain but draws wider comparative conclusions, tracing attempts to recognize survivors and perpetrators across the fields of asylum, criminal law, international human rights, and military justice. In this thorough and eloquent ethnography, Kelly avoids treating the legal prohibition of torture as the inevitable product of progress and yet does not seek to dismiss the real differences it has made in concrete political struggles. Based on extensive archival research and ethnographic fieldwork, the book argues that the problem of recognition rests not in the inability of the survivor to communicate but in our inability to listen and take responsibility for the injustice before us.

---