Record Nr. UNINA9910790502103321 Autore Green Francis Titolo Demanding work: the paradox of job quality in the affluent economy / / Francis Green Pubbl/distr/stampa Princeton: ,: Princeton University Press, , [2006] ©2006 0-691-11712-8 **ISBN** 1-4008-4943-8 Edizione [Course Book] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (252 p.) Disciplina 331.25/6 Quality of work life Soggetti Job satisfaction Work - Social aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (pages [203]-218) and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Assessing job quality in the affluent economy -- The quality of work life in the "knowledge economy" -- Late twentieth-century trends in work effort -- Accounting for work intensification -- Workers' discretion -- The wages of nations -- Workers' risk -- Workers' wellbeing -- Summary and implications for policy on the quality of work life. Sommario/riassunto Since the early 1980's, a vast number of jobs have been created in the affluent economies of the industrialized world. Many workers are doing more skilled and fulfilling jobs, and getting paid more for their trouble. Yet it is often alleged that the quality of work life has deteriorated, with a substantial and rising proportion of jobs providing low wages and little security, or requiring unusually hard and stressful effort. In this unique and authoritative formal account of changing job quality, economist Francis Green highlights contrasting trends, using quantitative indicators drawn from public opinion surveys and administrative data. In most affluent countries average pay levels have risen along with economic growth, a major exception being the United

States. Skill requirements have increased, potentially meaning a more fulfilling time at work. Set against these beneficial trends, however, are

increases in inequality, a strong intensification of work effort, diminished job satisfaction, and less employee influence over daily work tasks. Using an interdisciplinary approach, Demanding Work shows how aspects of job quality are related, and how changes in the quality of work life stem from technological change and transformations in the politico-economic environment. The book concludes by discussing what individuals, firms, unions, and governments can do to counter declining job quality.