1. Record Nr. UNINA9910798700303321 Autore McGowan Todd Titolo Capitalism and desire: the psychic cost of free markets / / Todd McGowan Pubbl/distr/stampa New York; Chichester, West Sussex, England: Columbia University Press, , 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 0-231-54221-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (305 pages) Disciplina 330.122019 Soggetti Capitalism - Psychological aspects Capitalism - Social aspects Psychoanalysis - Philosophy Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: After Injustice and Repression -- 1. The Subject of Desire and the Subject of Capitalism -- 2. The Psychic Constitution of Private Space -- 3. Shielding Our Eyes from the Gaze -- 4. The Persistence of Sacrifice After Its Obsolescence -- 5. A God We Can Believe In -- 6. A More Tolerable Infinity -- 7. The Ends of Capitalism -- 8. Exchanging Love for Romance -- 9. Abundance and Scarcity -- 10. The Market's Fetishistic Sublime -- Conclusion: Enjoy, Don't Accumulate -- Notes --Index Sommario/riassunto Despite creating vast inequalities and propping up reactionary world regimes, capitalism has many passionate defenders-but not because of what it withholds from some and gives to others. Capitalism dominates, Todd McGowan argues, because it mimics the structure of our desire while hiding the trauma that the system inflicts upon it. People from all backgrounds enjoy what capitalism provides, but at the same time are told more and better is yet to come. Capitalism traps us through an incomplete satisfaction that compels us after the new, the better, and

the more. Capitalism's parasitic relationship to our desires gives it the

capitalism's defenders characterize it. By understanding this psychic

illusion of corresponding to our natural impulses, which is how

strategy, McGowan hopes to divest us of our addiction to capitalist enrichment and help us rediscover enjoyment as we actually experienced it. By locating it in the present, McGowan frees us from our attachment to a better future and the belief that capitalism is an essential outgrowth of human nature. From this perspective, our economic, social, and political worlds open up to real political change. Eloquent and enlivened by examples from film, television, consumer culture, and everyday life, Capitalism and Desire brings a new, psychoanalytically grounded approach to political and social theory.