

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910810078203321
Autore	Jablonski Nina G
Titolo	Living color [[electronic resource] ] : the biological and social meaning of skin color // Nina G. Jablonski
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2012
ISBN	1-280-88001-5 9786613721327 0-520-95377-0
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (285 p.)
Disciplina	573.5
Soggetti	Human skin color Human skin color - Physiological aspects Human skin color - Social aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Biology -- pt. 2. Society.
Sommario/riassunto	Living Color is the first book to investigate the social history of skin color from prehistory to the present, showing how our body's most visible trait influences our social interactions in profound and complex ways. In a fascinating and wide-ranging discussion, Nina G. Jablonski begins with the biology and evolution of skin pigmentation, explaining how skin color changed as humans moved around the globe. She explores the relationship between melanin pigment and sunlight, and examines the consequences of rapid migrations, vacations, and other lifestyle choices that can create mismatches between our skin color and our environment. Richly illustrated, this book explains why skin color has come to be a biological trait with great social meaning- a product of evolution perceived by culture. It considers how we form impressions of others, how we create and use stereotypes, how negative stereotypes about dark skin developed and have played out through history- including being a basis for the transatlantic slave trade. Offering examples of how attitudes about skin color differ in the U.S., Brazil, India, and South Africa, Jablonski suggests that a knowledge of the evolution and social importance of skin color can help eliminate color-

based discrimination and racism.

---