

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910812118303321
Autore	Hoffmann David L (David Lloyd), <1961->
Titolo	Cultivating the masses : modern state practices and Soviet socialism, 1914-1939 // David L. Hoffmann
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, : Cornell University Press, 2011
ISBN	0-8014-7974-6 0-8014-6284-3 0-8014-6283-5
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (342 p.)
Classificazione	7,41
Disciplina	361.94709/041
Soggetti	Public welfare - Soviet Union Welfare state - Soviet Union Socialism - Soviet Union Soviet Union Social policy Soviet Union Social conditions 1917-1945
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Social Welfare -- 2. Public Health -- 3. Reproductive Policies -- 4. Surveillance and Propaganda -- 5. State Violence -- Conclusion -- Archives Consulted -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Under Stalin's leadership, the Soviet government carried out a massive number of deportations, incarcerations, and executions. Paradoxically, at the very moment that Soviet authorities were killing thousands of individuals, they were also engaged in an enormous pronatalist campaign to boost the population. Even as the number of repressions grew exponentially, Communist Party leaders enacted sweeping social welfare and public health measures to safeguard people's well-being. Extensive state surveillance of the population went hand in hand with literacy campaigns, political education, and efforts to instill in people an appreciation of high culture. In <i>Cultivating the Masses</i> , David L. Hoffmann examines the Party leadership's pursuit of these seemingly contradictory policies in order to grasp fully the character of the Stalinist regime, a regime intent on transforming the socioeconomic

order and the very nature of its citizens. To analyze Soviet social policies, Hoffmann places them in an international comparative context. He explains Soviet technologies of social intervention as one particular constellation of modern state practices. These practices developed in conjunction with the ambitions of nineteenth-century European reformers to refashion society, and they subsequently prompted welfare programs, public health initiatives, and reproductive regulations in countries around the world. The mobilizational demands of World War I impelled political leaders to expand even further their efforts at population management, via economic controls, surveillance, propaganda, and state violence. Born at this moment of total war, the Soviet system institutionalized these wartime methods as permanent features of governance. Party leaders, whose dictatorship included no checks on state power, in turn attached interventionist practices to their ideological goal of building socialism.

---