Record Nr. UNINA9910812180603321 Autore Levisen Carsten Titolo Cultural semantics and social cognition: a case study on the Danish universe of meaning / / by Carsten Levisen Berlin, : De Gruyter Mouton, 2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 3-11-029465-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (354 p.) Collana Trends in linguistics. Studies and monographs, , 1861-4302; ; 257 Disciplina 439.810143 Soggetti Semantics 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 indexes. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- Figures and tables -- Conventions and symbols -- Chapter 1. Danish as a universe of meaning -- Chapter 2. The NSM approach to linguistic and cultural analysis: Key issues in contemporary cultural semantics --Chapter 3. Roots of Danish sociality: Hygge as a cultural keyword and core cultural value -- Chapter 4. "It's all about being tryg": Danish society, socialization and ethnopsychology -- Chapter 5. The dark side of the Danes? A semantic and discursive analysis of janteloven 'the Jante Law' -- Chapter 6. Danish cognitive values in a cross-cultural perspective: Evidence from the cognitive verbs synes and mener --Chapter 7. Are Danes truly the happiest people on earth? Semantics meets "happiness research" -- Chapter 8. Conclusion -- Appendix. Explications and Cultural Scripts in Danish NSM -- Notes -- References -- Author index -- General index Presenting original, detailed studies of keywords of Danish, this book Sommario/riassunto breaks new ground for the study of language and cultural values. Based on evidence from the semantic categories of everyday language, such as the Danish concept of hygge (roughly meaning, 'pleasant togetherness'), the book provides an integrative socio-cognitive

framework for studying and understanding language-particular universes. It is argued that the worlds we live in are not linguistically and conceptually neutral, but rather that speakers who live by Danish concepts are likely to pay attention to their world in ways suggested by central Danish keywords and lexical grids. By means of a sophisticated

semantic methodology, the author accounts for the meanings of even highly culture-specific and untranslatable linguistic concepts. The book offers new tools for comparative research into the diversity of semantic and cultural systems in contemporary Europe. Additionally, it contributes to the emerging discipline of cultural semantics, and to the ongoing debates of linguistic diversity, metalanguage, and the use of linguistic evidence in studies of culture and social cognition.