

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910818042303321
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Titolo	The smile revolution : in eighteenth century Paris // Colin Jones
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, England : , : Oxford University Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	0-19-102485-6 0-19-102484-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (246 p.)
Disciplina	911.44361
Soggetti	Paris (France) Antiquities Paris (France) Ethnic relations Paris (France) History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; THE SMILE REVOLUTION IN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY PARIS; Copyright; Dedication; Acknowledgements; Contents; List of Illustrations; Introduction; 1: The Old Regime of Teeth; Louis XIV's non-smile; Smiles under strict control; The power of royal example; 2: The Smile of Sensibility; Regency glimpses of the smile; 'Smiles on the mouth and tears in the eyes'; Visualizing the smile of sensibility; 3: Cometh the Dentist; The Pont-Neuf tooth-pulling carnival; A tale of two dentists; Enlightened Parisian teeth; 4: The Making of a Revolution; Fauchard's heirs The entrepreneurialism of the 'dentiste sensible' Meanwhile, in Versailles . . .; 5: The Transient Smile Revolution; The lady artist and the denture-maker; Smiles under suspicion; Lavaterian twilight; 6: Beyond the Smile Revolution; False harbingers; Gothic grimaces; Disappearing dentistry . . .; . . . Vanishing smiles; Postscript: Towards the Twentieth-Century Smile Revolution; NOTES; ABBREVIATIONS; INTRODUCTION; CHAPTER 1; CHAPTER 2; CHAPTER 3; CHAPTER 4; CHAPTER 5; CHAPTER 6; POSTSCRIPT; Picture Acknowledgements; Index
Sommario/riassunto	You could be forgiven for thinking that the smile has no history; it has always been the same. However, just as different cultures in our own

day have different rules about smiling, so did different societies in the past. In fact, amazing as it might seem, it was only in late eighteenth century France that western civilization discovered the art of the smile. In the 'Old Regime of Teeth' which prevailed in western Europe until then, smiling was quite literally frowned upon. Individuals were fatalistic about tooth loss, and their open mouths would often have been visually repulsive. Rules of con
