

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910820120703321
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Titolo	Oppenheimer's choice : reflections from moral philosophy // Richard Mason
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Albany, : State University of New York Press, c2006
ISBN	0-7914-8163-8 1-4294-1185-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (195 p.)
Collana	SUNY series in philosophy
Disciplina	170
Soggetti	Technology - Moral and ethical aspects Ethics
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 (p. 173-179) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Introduction -- The Value in a Story -- A Point of Choice? -- One Large Fact -- Curiosity -- Responsibility -- Irreversible Change -- Purity -- The Lessons of History -- Notes -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In 1942, J. Robert Oppenheimer accepted the leadership of the Manhattan Project at the Los Alamos Laboratory, which produced the first atomic bomb three years later. This book examines the ethics of Oppenheimer's choice to take that job and our judgment of his acceptance, leading to the larger question of the meaning of moral judgment itself. Through an analysis of Oppenheimer's choice, Richard Mason explores questions of responsibility, the justification for the pursuit of scientific curiosity, the purity of research, and many other topics of interest in scientific ethics. This unique look at one man's choice brings out the necessary step from personal detail to abstract reflection—it may be easy to praise or condemn Oppenheimer's choice, but less easy to justify our praise or condemnation. Oppenheimer's Choice establishes the possibility of this kind of moral philosophy—neither "applied" nor "practical" ethics, but instead a sustained concentration on a single choice, and what it means.