

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910820850303321
Autore	Benson Ophelia
Titolo	Why truth matters / / Ophelia Benson and Jeremy Stangroom
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London, [England] ; ; New York, New York : , : Continuum, , 2007 ©2006
ISBN	1-4411-6192-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (202 pages)
Classificazione	08.32
Disciplina	121
Soggetti	Truth
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	The antinomies of truth -- Truth, doubt and the philosophers -- The truth radicals -- The social construction of truth -- Politics, ideology and evolutionary biology -- Wishful thinking and epistemological confusion -- Institutions, academe and truth -- Why truth matters.
Sommario/riassunto	A Truth has always been a central preoccupation of philosophy in all its forms and traditions. Yet in the late twentieth century truth became suddenly rather unfashionable. The precedence given to assorted political and ideological agendas, along with the rise of relativism, postmodernism and pseudoscience in academia, led to a decline both of truth as a serious subject, and an intellectual tradition that began with the Enlightenment. Why Truth Matters is a timely, incisive and entertaining look at how and why modern thought and culture lost sight of the importance of truth. It is also an eloquent and inspiring argument for restoring truth to its rightful place. Jeremy Stangroom and Ophelia Benson, editors of the successful butterfliesandwheels website-itsself established to "fight fashionable nonsense"-identify and debunk such senselessness, and the spurious claims made for it, in all its forms. Their account ranges over religious fundamentalism, Holocaust denial, the challenges of postmodernism and deconstruction, the wilful misinterpretation of evolutionary biology, identity politics and wishful thinking. Why Truth Matters is both a rallying cry for the enlightened vision and an essential read for anyone who's ever been bored, frustrated, bewildered or plain enraged

by the worst excesses of the fashionable intelligentsia.
