

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910821191303321
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Titolo	Jean-Jacques Rousseau : the politics of the ordinary / Tracy B. Strong
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lanham, Maryland ; ; Oxford, England : , : Rowman & Littlefield Publisher, Inc., , 2000 ©2002
ISBN	1-4616-6561-2 0-7425-2143-5
Edizione	[New edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (236 p.)
Collana	Modernity & Political Thought
Disciplina	194
Soggetti	Political science - France - History - 18th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover Page; Title Page; Copyright Page; Dedication; Contents; Series Editor's Introduction Morton Schoolman; Preface to the New Edition; Preface; I . Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the fear of the Author; Jean- Jacques Rousseau: The Life; The Author as Personality; Why Confess?; Confession ad Constancy; Clearing the Ground: The First Discourse and the Question of Philosophy; The Language for the Human; 2. Rousseau and the Experience of Others; Citizen of Geneva; The Absence of the Thought of the Common; Looking Into Books; What Nature Is Not; Loving Oneself The Self Encountering the Self and the OtherReading and Seeing; Nature and Denaturation; Music and the Public Realm; Alone, With Oneself; 3. The General Will and the Scandal of Politics; The Thought of the Common; The Nature of Political Society: The General Will; The Seductor Narcissist; Sovereignty; Representation and Time; Government; The Threat of Corruption; 4. The Education of an Ordinary Man; Education and the Philosopher; The Stages of a Life: Feeling; The Stages of a Life: Control and Morality; The Stages of a Life : Appearance and Convention; The Stages of a Life : Knowing Others The Premise of Human CriticismSex and the Other; The Stages of a Life: Sex, Politics, and Virtue; 5. The Ends of Politics; The Remedy and the Illness; The Alternative of Transparency; Humanity and Transparency; The Deduction of Immanence; A Human Home; Who Has No Home?; Is

Sommario/riassunto

In this book, Rousseau is understood as a theorist of the common person. For Strong, Rousseau resonates with Kant, Hegel, and Marx, but he is more modern like Emerson, Nietzsche, Eitgenstein, and Heidegger. Rousseau's democratic individual is an ordinary self, paradoxically multiple and not singular. In the course of exploring this contention, Strong examines Rousseau's fear of authorship (though not of authority), his understanding of the human, his attempt to overcome the scandal that relativism posed for politics, and the political importance of sexuality.