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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Untitled; Contents; Preface; 1 - Introduction; PART I: Understanding Theory: Product and Process; 2 - Family Theory and Social Science; 3 - Science and Its Critics; 4 - Theory, Models, and Metaphors; 5 - Functions and Types of Theory; PART II - Advancing Substantive Family Theories; 6 - Rational Choice Theory and the Family; 7 - Transition Theory; PART III: Beyond Theory: Ethics, Ideology, and Metatheory; 8 - Empirical Research and Theory; 9 - Theory and Human Values; 10 - Conclusion: Theories as Tools for Studying Families; References; Author Index; Subject Index; About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	Explores two contemporary theories of the family-rational choice theory & transition theory that illuminate what differing theories reveal about families. The book also discusses how meta-theories can assist in refining theory, & offers insight on the 'understanding versus explanation' debate.