Record Nr. UNINA9910825752703321 Catastrophes: a history and theory of an operative concept / / edited **Titolo** by Nitzan Lebovic and Andreas Killen Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin, Germany;; Boston, Massachusetts:,: de Gruyter Oldenbourg,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 3-11-037377-7 3-11-031258-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (208 p.) Classificazione AR 14120 Disciplina 363.3409 Soggetti Disasters - History Disasters - Social aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- Introduction / Killen, Andreas / Lebovic, Nitzan -- The Storyteller and the Seismograph / Coen, Deborah R. -- "Unity, Plasticity, Catastrophe: Order and Pathology in the Cybernetic Era" / Bates, David W. -- The Last Man: The Birth of Modern Apocalypse in Jean Paul, John Martin, and Lord Byron / Horn, Eva -- Accidents happen: The Industrial Accident in Interwar Germany / Killen, Andreas -- German Jewish Judges and the Permanent State of Catastrophe / Lebovic, Nitzan -- Ending Time and again in Ruins: Catastrophe and its Discontents in Jewish Theology / Kavka, Martin --The Obscenity of Objectivity: Post-Holocaust Anti-Semitism and the Invention-Discovery of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder / Herzog, Dagmar -- Kata and/or Streiphen?: Climate Change and the Politics of Catastrophe / Battistoni, Alyssa -- Anticipating the Climate Catastrophe / Dörries, Matthias -- Conclusion -- The Authors Sommario/riassunto Catastrophic scenarios dominate our contemporary mindset. Catastrophic events and predictions have spurred new interest in reexamining the history of earlier disasters and the social and conceptual resources they have mobilized. The essays gathered in this volume reconsider the history and theory of different catastrophes and their

aftermath. The emphasis is on the need to distance this process of

reconsideration from previous teleological representations of catastrophes as an endpoint, and to begin considering their "operative" aspects, which unmask the nature of social and political structures. Among the essays in this volume are analyses, by leading scholars in their respective fields, concerning the role of catastrophes in theology, in the history of industrial accidents, in theory of history, in the history of law, in "catastrophe films", in the history of cybernetics, in post-Holocaust discussions of reparations, and in climate change.