

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910827811603321
Autore	Helo Ari
Titolo	Thomas Jefferson's Ethics and the Politics of Human Progress : the Morality of Slaveholder // Ari Helo [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2014
ISBN	1-107-42530-1 1-107-42305-8 1-107-41739-2 1-107-42000-8 1-139-62934-4 1-107-42125-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiv, 282 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Cambridge studies on the American South
Disciplina	973.4/6092
Soggetti	Slavery - Moral and ethical aspects - United States Presidents - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	History, progress, and politics -- Progress in natural and moral sciences -- Progress and the wise man's virtue -- The perfectible rights of men -- Progressive politics.
Sommario/riassunto	Could Jefferson claim any consistency in his advocacy of democracy and the rights of man while remaining one of the largest slaveholders in Virginia? This extensive study of Jefferson's intellectual outlook suggests that, once we fully acknowledge the premises of his ethical thought and his now outdated scientific views, he could. Jefferson famously thought the human mind to be 'susceptible of much improvement ... most of all, in matters of government and religion'. Ari Helo's thorough analysis of Jefferson's understanding of Christian morality, atheism, contemporary theories of moral sentiments, ancient virtue ethics, natural rights, and the principles of justice and benevolence suggests that Jefferson refused to be a philosopher, and did so for moral reasons. This book finds Jefferson profoundly political in his understanding of individual moral responsibility and human progress.

