

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910830028603321
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Titolo	The formation of reason [[electronic resource] /] / David Bakhurst
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chichester, West Sussex ; ; Malden, MA, : Wiley-Blackwell, 2011
ISBN	1-4443-9532-7 1-4443-9560-2 1-299-31364-7 1-4443-9559-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (223 p.)
Collana	Journal of philosophy of education book series ; ; 12
Classificazione	PHI009000
Disciplina	128.33
Soggetti	Philosophy of mind Knowledge, Theory of Reason
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	""Series page""; ""Title page""; ""Copyright page""; ""Dedication""; ""Acknowledgements""; ""Foreword""; ""Author's Preface""; ""1 What Can Philosophy Tell Us About How History Made the Mind?""; ""What Role for Philosophy?""; ""Wittgenstein and Davidson""; ""Wittgenstein and Davidson Contrasted""; ""McDowell""; ""The Idea of Bildung""; ""Understanding the Bildungsprozess""; ""The Conceptual and the Practical""; ""Conclusion""; ""2 Social Constructionism""; ""Social Constructionism Introduced""; ""The Social Construction of Reality""; ""Why Bother About Global Constructionism?"" ""Against Global Constructionism""""Matters Political""; ""The Social Construction of Mental States""; ""Why Mental States Are Not Socially Constructed""; ""The Social Construction of Psychological Categories""; ""Conclusion""; ""3 Self and Other""; ""Problems of Self and Other""; ""The Problem of Self and Other in One's Own Person""; ""Strawson on Persons""; ""Wiggins on Persons and Human Nature""; ""The Significance of Second Nature""; ""Further Positives""; ""Conclusion: Two Cautionary Notes""; ""4 Freedom, Reflection and the Sources of Normativity""; ""McDowell on Judgement"" ""Owens's Critique""""Defending Intellectual Freedom""; ""Freedom and

the Sources of Normativity"; "Sources of Normativity I: Practical Reasoning"; "Sources of Normativity II: Theoretical Reasoning"; "A McDowellian Response"; "Conclusion"; "5 Exploring the Space of Reasons"; "McDowell on the Space of Reasons"; "Brandom's Inferentialism"; "Ilyenkov on the Ideal"; "Conclusion"; "6 Reason and Its Limits: Music, Mood and Education"; "An Initial Response"; "The Challenge Reconfigured"; "Passivity Within Spontaneity"; "Mood"; "Mood, Salience and Shape"; "Music"
"Education"
"Conclusion"; "7 Education Makes Us What We Are"; "A Residual Individualism"; "Vygotsky's Legacy"; "Reconciling Vygotsky and McDowell"; "Personalism"; "Final Thoughts on Education"; "References"; "Index"

Sommario/riassunto

"In The Formation of Reason, David Bakhurst expounds and defends a socio-historical account of the human mind. Inspired by the work of the influential philosopher John McDowell, Bakhurst maintains that the distinctive character of human psychological powers resides in our responsiveness to reasons, a capacity that develops in children as they are initiated into traditions of thinking and reasoning. In this process of formation (or Bildung), children enter 'the space of reasons' to become rational agents in self-conscious control of their thoughts and actions. In addition to exploring McDowell's ideas, Bakhurst draws on a variety of thinkers - including Davidson, Hacking, Ilyenkov, Strawson, Vygotsky, Wiggins, and Wittgenstein - to illuminate questions of personhood, identity, learning, rationality, and freedom. Offering an intellectually stimulating exploration of the conceptual foundations of the philosophy of education, The Formation of Reason breathes fresh life into a familiar but controversial idea: that the end of education is the cultivation of autonomy"--
