

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910955132603321
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Titolo	Maimonides' cure of souls : medieval precursor of psychoanalysis // David Bakan, Dan Merkur and David S. Weiss
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Albany, : SUNY Press, c2009
ISBN	9781438427447 1438427441 9781441629715 1441629718
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (211 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	MerkurDaniel WeissDavid S <1953-> (David Solomon)
Disciplina	296.3/71
Soggetti	Judaism and psychoanalysis Psychotherapy - Religious aspects - Judaism Soul - Judaism Meditation - Judaism Prophecy - Judaism
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	The will to illness -- Worship of the heart -- Imagination and the interpretation of prophecy -- Perplexity and the world to come -- Secrets of the law -- Maimonides' psychotherapy client population -- Convergences of Maimonides and Freud.
Sommario/riassunto	Is Moses Maimonides an unacknowledged ancestor of the psychoanalytic movement? In this book, David Bakan, Dan Merkur, and David S. Weiss look at the great medieval Jewish philosopher's prescription for the cure of souls and its psychological significance. In the Guide of the Perplexed, Maimonides, who was also a physician, describes the soul's illness: when sinners rationalize evil as good, they limit their capacities to reason, imagine, and behave well, which also produces physical symptoms. The cure depends on repentance in love and fear of God that is attained through philosophical knowledge, the interpretation of dreams and visions, and mystical contemplation. The

authors look at the Aristotelian background of Maimonides' psychology, Maimonidean mysticism, his beliefs about prophecy and sexuality, and what is known of Maimonides' client population. A final chapter discusses Maimonides and Freud, noting that many distinctive features of the cure of souls are shared by Freud's original formulation of psychoanalysis. Indeed, the many points of convergence suggest Freud's direct or indirect contact with Maimonides' legacy.

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