Record Nr. UNINA9910957662803321 Evolutionary theory and ethnic conflict / / edited by Patrick James and **Titolo David Goetze** Pubbl/distr/stampa Westport, Conn., : Praeger, 2001 **ISBN** 9780313074677 0313074674 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (276 p.) Collana Praeger studies on ethnic and national identities in politics, , 1527-9901 Altri autori (Persone) JamesPatrick <1957-> GoetzeDavid <1949-> Disciplina 305.8 Soggetti Ethnic conflict Ethnicity - Political aspects Nationalism Social evolution 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 (p. [234]-365) and index. Nota di contenuto Contents; Preface; Part I EVOLUTIONARY THEORY AND ETHNIC CONFLICT; Chapter 1 What Can Evolutionary Theory Say About Ethnic Phenomena? David Goetze and Patrick James; Chapter 2 The Roots of Ethnic Conflict: An Evolutionary Perspective Gary R. Johnson; Chapter 3 A Defense and an Extension of Pierre van den Berghe's Theory of Ethnic Nepotism Frank Salter; Chapter 4 Contributions of Evolutionary Thinking to Theories of Ethnic Conflict and Its Management Marc Howard Ross; Part II SKEPTICAL VIEWS Chapter 5 From Ontology to Analogy: Evolutionary Theories and the Explanation of Ethnic Politics Robert HislopeChapter 6 Primordialism, Evolutionary Theory, and the Timing of Ethnic Conflict: Opportunities and Constraints for Theory and Policy Frank Harvey; Chapter 7 Evolution, Ethnicity, and Propaganda: Why Negotiating with the Innocent Makes Sense Kristan J. Wheaton; Part III APPLICATIONS;

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## Sommario/riassunto

James and Goetze bring together contributors of varied backgrounds. ranging from evolutionary theorists to game theorists to analysts of specific ethnic conflict. Their work represents a coherent attempt at evaluating the usefulness of evolutionary theories for explaining ethnic phenomena and demonstrates how these theories can be applied in attempts to elucidate real-world behaviors. This study found that kinship theory that posits evolved dispositions to form cooperative bonds with family, ethnic groups and other social groups may go a long way in accounting for the formation of ethnic groups. Also. ingroup-outgroup theory may contribute to understanding how group conflict commences. Likewise, the description of evolved mechanisms for discerning threat, for building reputations, and for recognizing individuals, groups, and states as possible cooperators and long-term allies may facilitate explanation of the outbreak and avoidance of group conflicts. This also may explain the design of conscious strategies for conflict prevention and resolution. Nonetheless, several contributors take a more critical stance and offer ample reason why building these explanations may prove elusive or at least troublesome given the complex character of human societies. This work is a provocative resource for scholars, students, and other researchers involved with ethnicity and ethnic conflict, international relations, social psychology, and social anthropology.