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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Series Editors' Introduction; Preface; Acknowledgments; Chapter 1 - What is Social Support and What Makes You Think You Have it?; Defining Social Support; When Does Social Support Exert Its Effect?; Operationalizing Social Support; Related Constructs: Social Integration and Social Networks; Social Support in the Context of Marriage; A Place for Social Support in the Study of Close Relationships; Conclusions; Chapter 2 - Gender-Related Differences in Social Support and Coping; Who Benefits from Marriage?; Gender Differences in Sources of Social Support Gender Differences in the Provision of Marital Social Support; Are the Effects of Social Support on Well-Being Different for Men and Women?; Returning to the Puzzle: Marital Status Versus Marital Quality; The Need

for Process Research; Gender Differences in Coping; Conclusions; Chapter 3 - Giving and Taking Support: A Complicated Process; Revelation of the Problem; Appraisal of Support Needs by the Partner; Providing Support: What Determines Success?; Conclusions; Chapter 4 - The Interplay between Conflict and Social Support: Do Positive Behaviors Really Matter? The Role of Social Support in Relationship Maintenance; Support Failures as a Source of Conflict: Disappointed Expectations for Support; A Preliminary Investigation of Conflict and Support; Conclusions; Chapter 5 - In Sickness and in Health: When One Partner Has a Serious Illness; The Importance of Spousal Support in the Context of Illness; Interdependence of Emotional Reactions and Coping; Interdependence of Coping; The Importance of Open Communication; A Difficult Challenge: Maintaining Equity; The Spouse Can be a Source of Stress; Overprotectiveness Spousal Support as an Impediment to Recovery; Conclusions; Chapter 6 - Social Support Therapy with Couples; Social Support is Important; Understand and Respect Differences; Other People Can Provide Support Too; Clear Communication is Important; Use Support Skills During Arguments; Moments of Intimacy-Sharing Private Thoughts-Are Important; Cope Together with Crisis or Tragedy; When One Partner is Ill, Both Partners Need Support; Conclusions; Chapter 7 - Future Research Directions; Conceptual Issues; Social Support and the Developmental Course of Relationships; Understanding Social Support Transactions; Intervention Studies; Conclusions; References; Index; About the Author

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Sommario/riassunto

Social support is vital in long-term relationships of couples. This volume provides a rich understanding of this support system. Following an overview of definitions and conceptualizations of social support, Cutrona explores everyday acts that communicate caring and concern in dyads, discussing such issues as: gender-related differences; the interplay between supportive and destructive interactions; and high stress levels experienced during chronic illness.

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