Record Nr. UNINA9910964289803321 Autore Wiltse Jeff Titolo Contested waters: a social history of swimming pools in America // Jeff Wiltse Pubbl/distr/stampa Chapel Hill, : University of North Carolina Press, c2007 **ISBN** 979-88-908811-3-7 979-88-9313-249-6 1-4696-0466-3 0-8078-8898-2 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (289 p.) 306.4/81 Disciplina Soggetti Swimming pools - Social aspects - United States Swimming pools - United States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. [255]-266) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: "just don't touch the water" -- A "peculiar kind" of bath: the origin of municipal pools in America -- "A means of physical culture": the redefinition of municipal pools during the 1890s -- "A good investment in health, character, and citizenship": municipal swimming pools in the Progressive Era -- Interlude: the traumatic early history of Fairgrounds Park Pool -- The "swimming pool age": 1920 to 1940 -- "One for the white race and the other for the colored race": the onset of racial discrimination, 1920 to 1940 -- "More sensitive than schools": the struggle to desegregate municipal swimming pools --"Alone in the backyard": swimming pools in recent America --Conclusion: the promise and reality of swimming pools as public spaces.

Sommario/riassunto

From nineteenth-century public baths to today's private backyard havens, swimming pools have long been a provocative symbol of American life. In this social and cultural history of swimming pools in the United States, Jeff Wiltse relates how, over the years, pools have served as asylums for the urban poor, leisure resorts for the masses, and private clubs for middle-class suburbanites. As sites of race riots, shrinking swimsuits, and conspicuous leisure, swimming pools reflect

many of the tensions and transformations that have given rise to modern America.

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Cognitive Capacities and Symbol Usage.

Sommario/riassunto This book provides an account of the origins and development of iconic

and symbolic representations in our evolutionary lineage, the hominis, and of the cognitive capacities and brain structures that support such a development. At first, it introduces the three basic types of signs, such as indices, icons, and symbols, used by most animals, including apes

and hominins, for communicating and interacting with the

environment, and discusses the differences among them. In turn, it explains the evolution from non-representational indices to iconic,

first, and then symbolic representations in terms of the evolution of the cognitive capacities in our lineage. The main emphasis is on the cognitive capabilities that support the use of these types of signs, such as attention, executive functions, and working memory, among others. The discussion centers on determining these capacities, and how and why these capacities evolved in the phylogenesis of hominids. Further, evidence from psychology and neuroscience are used to shed light on the development of these capacities in hominins, together with knowledges about the basic brain structures supporting these capacities, such as the prefrontal cortex, and their development at the ontogenetic and phylogenetic scales. All in all, this book offers a theory of the development of our representational arsenal from its beginnings characterized by simple signs to its modern form made of highly abstract symbols.