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Nota di contenuto	Cover -- EXTRAORDINARY BEHAVIOR -- Contents -- Introduction -- PERSPECTIVE OF THE BOOK -- The Symbolic Interaction Perspective -- The Case Study Method -- Health-Related Issues -- Family Issues -- Behavior Beyond the Boundaries -- REFERENCES -- PART I HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES -- NOTE -- REFERENCES -- 1 Suicide -- INTRODUCTION -- OVERVIEW OF THE SUICIDE PROBLEM -- Theoretical Issues and Explanations -- Suicide Notes -- NANCY: A CASE STUDY -- A SUICIDE DIARY -- DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION -- REFERENCES -- 2 Anorexia Nervosa -- INTRODUCTION -- OVERVIEW OF THE ANOREXIA NERVOSA PROBLEM -- SARAH: A CASE STUDY OF AN ANOREXIC -- The Early Years -- Adolescence -- Young Adulthood -- Life after Anorexia Nervosa -- DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION -- REFERENCES -- 3 Alcohol/Drug Abuse -- INTRODUCTION -- OVERVIEW OF THE ALCOHOL USE PROBLEM -- Other Drugs -- Dynamic Processes Leading to Alcohol and Drug Using Behavior -- JIM: A CASE STUDY -- JUDY: A CASE STUDY OF MARIJUANA USE -- DAVID: A CASE OF MULTIPLE-DRUG USE -- JOHN: A CASE STUDY OF ALCOHOL AND MARIJUANA USE -- DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION -- REFERENCES -- 4

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Contributors.

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## Sommario/riassunto

This unique collection of case studies introduces readers to many of the common yet extraordinary social problems in contemporary American society. Employing a symbolic interaction approach to the case studies, the authors identify the origins of the problems, define the issues, and explore the outcomes and potential remedies. The case studies themselves introduce readers to the very personal side of the problems as the emotions, actions, and perceptions of the subjects are revealed and analyzed. The problems studied here are organized into three categories- health-related issues, family issues, and behavior beyond the boundaries-and include many problems that often receive too little attention in the existing literature, making this book an original and timely contribution. Each of the three sections is preceded by a general review of the chapters to follow and offers readers a prelude to the exploration of human thought, language, and behavior captured and illustrated in the case studies. In the first section of the book, problems covered include suicide, anorexia nervosa, alcohol and drug abuse, and AIDS/STDs. The second section covers teenage mothers, domestic violence, divorce and poverty, child support and deadbeat dads, and homelessness. The last section focuses on sexual harassment, equal protection and racial exclusion, prostitution, career criminals, mass murder, and serial killers. This book represents a fresh new approach and a welcome addition to the study of social problems in America today.

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