1. Record Nr. UNINA9910136839703321 Autore Weisenfeld Judith Titolo New World A-Coming: Black Religion and Racial Identity during the Great Migration / / Judith Weisenfeld New York, NY:,: New York University Press,, [2017] Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2017 **ISBN** 1-4798-5368-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (269 pages): illustrations, tables, photographs Disciplina 200.89960730000001 Soggetti Race relations - Religious aspects Race relations African Americans - Religion African Americans - Race identity African Americans - Race identity - History - 20th century African Americans - Religion - History - 20th century Electronic books. **United States** United States Race relations 21st century Lingua di pubblicazione **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- List of abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Geographies of race and religion -- 2. Sacred time and divine histories -- 3. Religio- racial self- fashioning -- 4. Maintaining the religio- racial body -- 5. Making the religio- racial family -- 6. The religio- racial politics of space and place -- 7. Community, conflict, and the boundaries of black religion --Conclusion -- Notes -- Select bibliography -- Index -- About the author Sommario/riassunto When Joseph Nathaniel Beckles registered for the draft in the 1942, he rejected the racial categories presented to him and persuaded the registrar to cross out the check mark she had placed next to Negro and

substitute "Ethiopian Hebrew." "God did not make us Negroes,"

declared religious leaders in black communities of the early twentieth-

century urban North. They insisted that so-called Negroes are, in reality, Ethiopian Hebrews, Asiatic Muslims, or raceless children of God. Rejecting conventional American racial classification, many black southern migrants and immigrants from the Caribbean embraced these alternative visions of black history, racial identity, and collective future, thereby reshaping the black religious and racial landscape. Focusing on the Moorish Science Temple, the Nation of Islam, Father Divine's Peace Mission Movement, and a number of congregations of Ethiopian Hebrews, Judith Weisenfeld argues that the appeal of these groups lay not only in the new religious opportunities membership provided, but also in the novel ways they formulated a religio-racial identity. Arguing that members of these groups understood their religious and racial identities as divinely-ordained and inseparable, the book examines how this sense of self shaped their conceptions of their bodies, families, religious and social communities, space and place, and political sensibilities. Weisenfeld draws on extensive archival research and incorporates a rich array of sources to highlight the experiences of average members.