

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910252704103321
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Titolo	Femicide, Gender and Violence : Discourses and Counterdiscourses in Italy // by Daniela Bandelli
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2017
ISBN	9783319477855 3319477854
Edizione	[1st ed. 2017.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XI, 206 p.)
Disciplina	364.1523082
Soggetti	Sex Feminism Feminist theory Mass media Philosophy of mind Self Communication Linguistics - Methodology Gender Studies Feminism and Feminist Theory Media Sociology Philosophy of the Self Media and Communication Research Methods in Language and Linguistics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. Discourse, biopower, and identity politics critique -- 3. Gender: hegemonic lens for making sense of VAW and IPV -- 4. 'Femminicidio' narrative: A gender discourse of partner violence across feminist crusades and electoral speeches -- 5. 'Femminicidio', gender identity and feminism contested. A narrative of ideology -- 6. Abusive women, male and female victims. A discourse at the margin -- 7. Conclusions. Living discourses: A future agenda for critical researcher

and social movements -- .

Sommario/riassunto

This book questions gendered readings of violence by analyzing how this paradigm has become normalized in Italy since the feminist term 'femminicidio', or 'femicide', entered the mainstream media during the 2013 general election. It also sheds light on discourses of contestation on the part of family activists, men's rights campaigners and divorced fathers' groups. Two counter-discourses emerge. The first is what the author terms an 'ideology narrative', for which discourses built around the conceptual category of 'gender' normalize simplistic representations of relationships between men and women. The second is a 'female violence discourse', which sheds light on under-represented aggressor-victim relations and modifies dominant representations of femininity and masculinity. The author argues that integrating these two discourses into public debates helps to reappropriate the complexity and biological dimensions of (violent) relationships between men and women, often overshadowed by gender/feminist perspectives. In this way, she concludes, we can address neglected social issues that contribute to violence beyond gender. This thought-provoking book will appeal to students and scholars of sociology, critical discourse studies and gender.
