

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910399872203321
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Titolo	Abortion and Contraception in Modern Greece, 1830-1967 : Medicine, Sexuality and Popular Culture // by Violetta Hionidou
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2020
ISBN	9783030414900 3030414906
Edizione	[1st ed. 2020.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (371 pages)
Collana	Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in Modern History, , 2947-9150
Disciplina	363.46 900
Soggetti	Europe - History - 1492- Medicine - History Ethnology Social history Demography Population History of Modern Europe History of Medicine Sociocultural Anthropology Social History Population and Demography
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 Fertility Trends, 1870-1967 -- 3 Involuntary Childlessness -- 4 Self Help: Emmenagogues and Abortifacients -- 5 The Physician's Method: Curettage -- 6 Abortion: Law and (Dis)Order, Physicians and Midwives -- 7 The Ethics of Abortion: Poverty and Stigma -- 8 Contraception and its Methods I: Natural Methods -- 9 Contraception and its Methods II: Appliances and the Pill -- 10 Physicians and their Role: 'Medicine is an Art Form' -- 11 Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	The book examines the history of abortion and contraception in Modern Greece from the time of its creation in the 1830s to 1967, soon

after the Pill became available. It situates the history of abortion and contraception within the historiography of the fertility decline and the question of whether the decline was due to adjustment to changing social conditions or innovation of contraceptive methods. The study reveals that all methods had been in use for other purposes before they were employed as contraceptives. For example, Greek women were employing emmenagogues well before fertility was controlled; they did so in order to 'put themselves right' and to enhance their fertility. When they needed to control their fertility, they employed abortifacients, some of which were also emmenagogues, while others had been used as expellants in earlier times. Curettage was also employed since the late nineteenth century as a cure for sterility; once couples desired to control their fertility curettage was employed to procure abortion. Thus couples did not need to innovate but rather had to repurpose old methods and materials to new birth control methods. Furthermore, the role of physicians was found to have been central in advising and encouraging the use of birth control for 'health' reasons, thus facilitating and speeding fertility decline in Greece. All this occurred against the backdrop of a state and a church that were at times neutral and at other times disapproving of fertility control.
