

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910418281803321
Autore	Mackinnon Alison <1942->
Titolo	Women, love, and learning : the double bind / / Alison Mackinnon
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Bern ; ; New York, : Peter Lang, c2010
ISBN	1-299-43835-0 3-0351-0113-2
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (256 p.)
Disciplina	305.40973
Soggetti	Women - United States - History - 20th century Women - Australia - History - 20th century Feminism - United States - History - 20th century Feminism - Australia - History - 20th century Women - Social conditions - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [235]-249) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Acknowledgements 9; Introduction 13; 1 Who was she? Surveying the educated woman: posture photos, beauty queens, dormitory rules and achievement motivation 29; 2 Conservative times: Cold War, hot sex and the consumer revolution 65; 3 The experience: peer culture or academics? 105; 4 Life after college: a problematic realm 143; 5 From Mademoiselle to Ms magazine: mainstreamers, continuity and premature liberationists 181; Conclusion: It's déjà vu all over again? 213; A note on sources and method 229; Bibliography 235; Index 251
Sommario/riassunto	This book tells the story of a generation of American and Australian women who embodied – and challenged – the prescriptions of their times. In the 1950s and early 60s they went to colleges and universities, trained for professions and developed a life of the mind. They were also urged to embrace their femininity, to marry young, to devote themselves to husbands, children and communities. Could they do both? While they might be seen as a privileged group, they led the way for a multitude in the years ahead. They were quietly making the revolution that was to come. Did they have 'the best of all possible worlds'? Or were they caught in a double bind? Sylvia Plath's letters tell

of her delighted sense of life opening before her as a 'college girl'. Her poetry, however, tells of anguish, of reaching for distant goals. Drawing on interviews, surveys, reunion books, letters, biographical and autobiographical writing from both American and Australian women, this cultural history argues that the choices that faced educated women in that time led to the revolution of the late 1960s and 70s. Something had to give. There are lessons here for today's young women, facing again conflicting expectations. Is it possible, they ask, to 'have it all'?

---