

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910450795703321
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Titolo	Chattel or person? : the status of women in the Mishnah / / Judith Romney Wegner
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, New York ; ; Oxford, [England] : , : Oxford University Press, , 1988 ©1988
ISBN	9786610760213 1-280-76021-4 0-19-802190-9 0-19-535986-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (280 p.)
Disciplina	296.1/23/0088042
Soggetti	Women in rabbinical literature Electronic books.
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Introduction; 1. Chattel or Person?; 2. The Minor Daughter; 3. The Wife; 4. The Levirate Widow; 5. The Autonomous Woman; 6. Woman and the Public Domain; 7. The Anomaly of Woman in the Mishnah; 8. The Mishnaic Woman and Feminist Theory; Appendixes; Abbreviations; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Exploring the place of women in the socioeconomic system formulated in the Mishnah, a book of legal rules with a spiritual basis compiled by Jewish sages in second-century Palestine, this study reveals a fundamental ambiguity in the role of women. Both the property and the peers of men, in some circumstances women were considered to possess no powers, rights, or duties in law, and in others were judged morally, practically, and intellectually fit to own property, conduct business, engage in lawsuits, and manage their own personal affairs. Wegner spells out in detail these variations in status,