Record Nr. UNINA9910454094603321 Autore **Zheng Tiantian** Titolo Red lights [[electronic resource]]: the lives of sex workers in postsocialist China / / Tiantian Zheng Minneapolis, : University of Minnesota Press, c2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8166-6820-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource Disciplina 306.74095109049--dc22 Soggetti Prostitution - China - History Sex-oriented businesses - China Electronic books. China Social conditions Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references (p. 253-279) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: Masculinity, power, and the Chinese state -- Patriarchy, prostitution, and masculinity in Dalian -- From banquets to karaoke bars: a new sexual awakening -- Fierce rivalries, unstable bonds: class in the karaoke bars -- Turning the grain : sex and the modern man -- The return of the prodigal daughter -- Clothes make the woman -- Performing love: the commodification of intimacy and romance -- Afterword: From entertainer to prostitute. Sommario/riassunto In China today, sex work cannot be untangled from the phenomenon of rural-urban migration, the entertainment industry, and state power. In Red Lights, Tiantian Zheng highlights the urban karaoke bar as the locus at which these three factors intersect and provides a rich account of the lives of karaoke hostesses-a career whose name disguises the

> sex work and minimizes the surprising influence these women often have as power brokers. Zheng embarked on two years of intensely embedded ethnographic fieldwork in her birthplace, Dalian, a large

northeastern Chinese seaport of over six million people.