

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910458256603321
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Titolo	Common Women [[electronic resource]] : Prostitution and Sexuality in Medieval England
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cary, : Oxford University Press, 1998
ISBN	0-19-028422-6 1-282-38418-X 9786612384189 1-4237-6020-4 0-19-535230-0 1-60256-321-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (232 p.)
Collana	Studies in the History of Sexuality
Disciplina	306.740942
Soggetti	Electronic books. -- local England -- Social conditions -- 1066-1485 Prostitutes -- England -- Social conditions Prostitution -- England -- History Social history -- Medieval, 500-1500 Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Introduction: Common Women, Prostitutes, and Whores; 1 Prostitution and the Law; 2 Brothels, Licit and Illicit; 3 Becoming a Prostitute; 4 The Sex Trade in Practice; 5 Marriage, Sexuality, and Marginality; 6 Saints and Sinners; Conclusion: Sexuality, Money, and the Whore; Notes; Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; R; S; T; U; V; W; Y; Z
Sommario/riassunto	Through a sensitive use of a wide variety of imaginative and didactic texts, Ruth Karras shows that while prostitutes as individuals were marginalized within medieval culture, prostitution as an institution was central to the medieval understanding of what it meant to be a woman. This important work will be of interest to scholars and students of history, women's studies, and the history of sexuality.

