1. Record Nr. UNINA9910459718603321 Autore Levesque Andree Titolo Making and breaking the rules: women in Quebec, 1919-1939 / / Andree Levesque; translated by Yvonee M. Klein Pubbl/distr/stampa Toronto, [Ontario]: .: University of Toronto Press. . 1994 ©2010 **ISBN** 1-4426-2784-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (173 p.) Collana Canadian Social History Series Disciplina 306.7/082 Women - Sexual behavior - Quebec (Province) - History - 20th century Soggetti Women - Quebec (Province) - Conduct of life - History - 20th century Motherhood - Quebec (Province) - History - 20th century Prostitution - Quebec (Province) - History - 20th century Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Tables and Figures -- Foreword --1. The Norm -- 2. Motherhood -- 3. Sexuality -- 4. "Deviance" -- 5. The Rejection of Motherhood -- 6. Wages of Sin: Unwed Mothers -- 7. Commercial Sex: Prostitution -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Index During the interwar period, Quebec was a strongly patriarchal society, Sommario/riassunto where men in the Church, politics, and medicine, maintained a traditional norm of social and sexual standards that women were expected to abide by. Some women in the media and religious communities were complicit with this vision, upholding the "ideal" as the norm and tending to those "deviants" who failed to meet society's expectations. By examining the underside of a staid and repressive society, Andrée Lévesque reveals an alternate and more accurate history of women and sexual politics in early twentieth-century Quebec. Women, mainly of the working class, left traces in the historical record of their transgressions from the norm, including the rejection of motherhood (e.g., abortion, abandonment, infanticide), pregnancy and birth outside of marriage, and prostitution. Professor

Lévesque concludes, "They were deviant, but only in relation to a norm

upheld to stave off a modernism that threatened to swallow up a Quebec based on long-established social and sexual roles."