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Sommario/riassunto	These original essays are planned to provide a coherent basis for an understanding of women's social and historical situation. This achieved by outlining the foundation of a systematic approach to an analysis of women's relationship to modes of production and reproduction within a

materialist framework. The essays, each with a brief editorial introduction, deal with issues and perspectives brought increasingly to the fore in recent years, not only in the women's movement but in the social sciences generally. The articles are wide-ranging, covering such issues as patriarchy, paid and unpaid

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