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Nota di contenuto	Defining 'the family' in Byzantine sources and the modern historiography -- The language of kinship -- Marriage impediments and the concept of family -- Interrogating consanguinity in a Byzantine context -- Family names and the politics of reputation -- Kinship and political developments of the eleventh and twelfth centuries.
Sommario/riassunto	By the end of the twelfth century, the Byzantine 'genos' was a politically effective social group based upon ties of consanguineous kinship, but, importantly, it was also a cultural construct, an idea that held very real power, yet defies easy categorization. This study explores the role and function of the Byzantine aristocratic family group, or 'genos', as a distinct social entity, particularly its political and cultural role, as it appears in a variety of sources in the tenth through twelfth centuries.