

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910484932703321
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Titolo	The Black Queer Work of Ratchet [[electronic resource]] : Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the (Anti)Politics of Respectability / / by Nikki Lane
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2019
ISBN	3-030-23319-7
Edizione	[1st ed. 2019.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 168 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	305.48896073
Soggetti	Ethnology African Americans Sociology Linguistic anthropology Communication Cultural Anthropology African American Culture Gender Studies Linguistic Anthropology Media and Communication
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction: Slight Werk, Quare Work -- 2. Defining Ratchet: Ratchet and Boojie Ass Politics in Black Queer Space -- 3. Being Ratchet: Undoing the Politics of Respectability in Black Queer Space -- 4. Representing Ratchet: Screening Black Lesbian Sex and Ratchet Cultural Politics -- 5. Coming Out Ratchet and Whole: Black Women and the Struggle to Just Be -- 6. Conclusion: "I Said What I Said": Ratchet Cultural Politics, Black Homonormativity, and the Consumption of Black Women's Flesh.
Sommario/riassunto	This book enters as a corrective to the tendency to trivialize and (mis) appropriate African American language practices. The word ratchet has entered into a wider (whiter) American discourse the same way that many words in African American English have—through hip-hop and social media. Generally, ratchet refers to behaviors and cultural

expressions of Black people that sit outside of normative, middle-class respectable codes of conduct. Ratchet can function both as a tool for critiquing bad Black behavior, and as a tool for resisting the notion that there are such things as “good” and “bad” behavior in the first place. This book takes seriously the way ratchet operates in the everyday lives of middle-class and upwardly mobile Black Queer women in Washington, DC who, because of their sexuality, are situated outside of the norms of (Black) respectability. The book introduces the concept of “ratchet/boogie cultural politics” which draws from a rich body of Black intellectual traditions which interrogate the debates concerning what is and is not “acceptable” Black (middle-class) behavior. Placing issues of non-normative sexuality at the center of the conversation about notions of propriety within normative modes of Black middle-class behavior, this book discusses what it means for Black Queer women’s bodies to be present within ratchet/boogie cultural projects, asking what Black Queer women’s increasing visibility does for the everyday experiences of Black queer people more broadly.
