Record Nr. UNINA9910777757503321 Autore **Zheng Tiantian** Titolo Red lights: the lives of sex workers in postsocialist China // Tiantian Zheng Pubbl/distr/stampa Minneapolis, : University of Minnesota Press, c2009 **ISBN** 0-8166-6820-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource Disciplina 306.74095109049--dc22 Soggetti Prostitution - China - History Sex industry - China China Social conditions Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 253-279) and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction: Masculinity, power, and the Chinese state -- Patriarchy, prostitution, and masculinity in Dalian -- From banquets to karaoke bars: a new sexual awakening -- Fierce rivalries, unstable bonds: class in the karaoke bars -- Turning the grain : sex and the modern man -- The return of the prodigal daughter -- Clothes make the woman -- Performing love: the commodification of intimacy and romance -- Afterword: From entertainer to prostitute. Sommario/riassunto In China today, sex work cannot be untangled from the phenomenon of rural-urban migration, the entertainment industry, and state power. In Red Lights, Tiantian Zheng highlights the urban karaoke bar as the locus at which these three factors intersect and provides a rich account of the lives of karaoke hostesses-a career whose name disguises the sex work and minimizes the surprising influence these women often have as power brokers. Zheng embarked on two years of intensely

embedded ethnographic fieldwork in her birthplace, Dalian, a large

northeastern Chinese seaport of over six million people.