

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778185303321
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Titolo	Strangers and kin [[electronic resource] ] : the American way of adoption / / Barbara Melosh
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass. ; ; London, : Harvard University Press, 2006
ISBN	0-674-04091-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 326 p.)
Disciplina	362.7340973
Soggetti	Adoption - United States - History Adoption - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published: 2002.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface Introduction 1. Wanted--A Child To Raise as Our Own: Claiming Strangers as Kin 2. Families by Design: "Fitness" and "Fit" in the Creation of Kin 3. The "Best Solution": Adoption Embraced 4. Redrawing the Boundaries: Transracial and International Adoption 5. "Tell It Slant": Adoption and Disclosure 6. Adoption Challenged: Beyond the Best Solution Epilogue Notes Index
Sommario/riassunto	'Strangers and Kin' is the history of adoption, a quintessentially American institution in its buoyant optimism, generous spirit and confidence in social engineering. Barbara Melosh tells the story of how married couples without children sought to care for and nurture other people's children as their own.