Record Nr. UNINA9910783037803321 Autore Paxson Heather <1968-> **Titolo** Making modern mothers [[electronic resource]]: ethics and family planning in urban greece / / Heather Paxson Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9786612762918 1-59734-727-2 1-282-76291-5 0-520-93713-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (353 p.) Disciplina 305.42/09495/12 Soggetti Feminist anthropology - Greece - Athens Women - Greece - Athens - Social conditions Motherhood - Greece - Athens Birth control - Greece - Athens - Public opinion Public opinion - Greece - Athens Athens (Greece) Social life and customs Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- A Note on Transliteration -- Prologue -- 1. Realizing Nature -- 2. Remaking Mothers -- 3. Rationalizing Sex -- 4. Maternal Citizens -- 5. Technologies of Greek Motherhood -- Appendix 1. Total Fertility Rates. European Union Countries, 1960-2000 -- Appendix 2. Legislation of the Greek State Pertaining to Gender Equality, Marriage, Family, and Reproduction -- Appendix 3. Birthrates, Greece, 1934-1999 -- Notes -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto In Greece, women speak of mothering as "within the nature" of a woman. But this durable association of motherhood with femininity exists in tension with the highest incidence of abortion and one of the lowest fertility rates in Europe. In this setting, how do women think of

themselves as proper individuals, mothers, and Greek citizens? In this anthropological study of reproductive politics and ethics in Athens,

Greece, Heather Paxson tracks the effects of increasing consumerism and imported biomedical family planning methods, showing how women's "nature" is being transformed to meet crosscutting claims of the contemporary world. Locating profound ambivalence in people's ethical evaluations of gender and fertility control, Paxson offers a farreaching analysis of conflicting assumptions about what it takes to be a good mother and a good woman in modern Greece, where assertions of cultural tradition unfold against a backdrop of European Union integration, economic struggle, and national demographic anxiety over a falling birth rate.