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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 273-292) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Pt. I. Jewish circumcision and Christian polemics. A canonical history of Jewish circumcision -- Were Jewish women ever circumcised? -- Christian questions, Christian responses -- From reticence to polemic -- Pt. II. Why aren't Jewish women circumcised? four responses. The celebration of manhood -- The reduction of lust and the unmanning of men -- True faith and the exemption of women -- The celebration of womanhood.
Sommario/riassunto	Why aren't Jewish women circumcised? This improbable question, first advanced by anti-Jewish Christian polemicists, is the point of departure for this wide-ranging exploration of gender and Jewishness in Jewish thought. With a lively command of a wide range of Jewish sources-from the Bible and the Talmud to the legal and philosophical writings of the Middle Ages to Enlightenment thinkers and modern scholars-Shaye J. D. Cohen considers the varied responses to this provocative question and in the process provides the fullest cultural history of Jewish circumcision available.

