

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785666103321
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Titolo	An American obsession [[electronic resource] ] : science, medicine and homosexuality in modern society // Jennifer Terry
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, c1999
ISBN	1-283-05862-6 9786613058621 0-226-79368-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (553 p.)
Disciplina	307.76/6/0973
Soggetti	Homosexuality - United States - History Homosexuality - History Sexology - United States - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- INTRODUCTION -- 1. MODERNITY AND THE VEXING PRESENCE OF HOMOSEXUALS -- 2. MEDICALIZING HOMOSEXUALITY -- 3. THE UNITED STATES OF PERVERSION -- 4. PROGRESSIVE SCIENCE IN SEARCH OF SEXUAL NORMALITY -- 5. FLUID SEXES -- 6. THE COMMITTEE FOR THE STUDY OF SEX VARIANTS -- 7. SEX VARIANT SUBJECTS -- 8. POLICING HOMOSEXUALITY -- 9. DISEASE OR WAY OF LIFE? -- 10. PARENTS STRANGERS, A D OTHER DANGERS -- 11. FEAR OF A WORLD CONSPIRACY -- 12. DISCERNING ALLIES AND ENEMIES -- EPILOGUE -- NOTES -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	Drawing on original research from medical texts, psychiatric case histories, pioneering statistical surveys, first-person accounts, legal cases, sensationalist journalism, and legislative debates, Jennifer Terry has written a nuanced and textured history of how the century-old obsession with homosexuality is deeply tied to changing American anxieties about social and sexual order in the modern age. Terry's overarching argument is compelling: that homosexuality served as a marker of the "abnormal" against which malleable, tenuous, and often contradictory concepts of the "normal" were defined. One of the few

histories to take into consideration homosexuality in both women and men, Terry's work also stands out in its refusal to erase the agency of people classified as abnormal. She documents the myriad ways that gays, lesbians, and other sexual minorities have coauthored, resisted, and transformed the most powerful and authoritative modern truths about sex. Proposing this history as a "useable past," *An American Obsession* is an indispensable contribution to the study of American cultural history.

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