Record Nr. UNINA9910787151903321 Autore Goodwin Joanne L. Titolo Changing the game: women at work in Las Vegas, 1940-1990 / / Joanne L. Goodwin; design by Kathleen Szawiola Pubbl/distr/stampa Reno, Nevada; ; Las Vegas, [Nevada]: , : University of Nevada Press, , 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-87417-961-0 [First edition.] Edizione Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (166 p.) Collana Wilbur S. Shepperson series in Nevada history Classificazione SOC028000HIS036140 Disciplina 658.0092/5209793135 Soggetti Women - Employment - Nevada - Las Vegas - History - 20th century Sex discrimination in employment - Nevada - Las Vegas - History -20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. "Goodwin explores women's lived experiences and work histories in Las Sommario/riassunto Vegas during the second half of the twentieth century--a period of unprecedented growth in the city's service economy. Although Las Vegas' unique industry of gambling may initially suggest that women's work was somehow different than in other cities, this study argues that despite job categories of dealer, dancer, or diva, jobs for the majority of women remained characterized by gender and race segmentation. Furthermore, women created lives that blended work and family within

unprecedented growth in the city's service economy. Although Las Vegas' unique industry of gambling may initially suggest that women's work was somehow different than in other cities, this study argues that despite job categories of dealer, dancer, or diva, jobs for the majority of women remained characterized by gender and race segmentation. Furthermore, women created lives that blended work and family within that context and, in some cases, rose to positions of leadership within their respective fields. Based on nearly fifteen years of documentation and original research, Neon Narratives brings the lives of individual women into the history of the country's biggest tourist industry and in the process reveals much about the broader transitions for women that took place in American society between 1940 and 1990"-"The growth of Las Vegas that began in the 1940s brought an influx of both women and men looking to work in the expanding hotel and casino industries. In fact, for the next fifty years the proportion of women in the labor force was greater in Las Vegas than the United

States as a whole. Joanne L. Goodwin's study captures the shifting

boundaries of women's employment in the postwar decades with narratives drawn from the Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. It counters cliche;d pictures of women at work in the famed resort city as it explores women's real strategies for economic survival and success. Their experiences anticipated major trends in post\-World War II labor history: the national migration of workers during and after the war, the growing proportion of women in the labor force, balancing work with family life, the unionization of service workers, and, above all, the desegregation of the labor force by sex and race. These narratives show women in Las Vegas resisting preassigned roles, seeing their work as a testimony of skill, a measure of independence, and a fulfillment of needs. Overall, these stories of women who lived and worked in Las Vegas in the last half of the twentieth century reveal much about the broader transitions for women in America between 1940 and 1990"--