

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787478803321
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Titolo	Religion and the Radical Republican Movement, 1860-1870 [[electronic resource] /] / Victor B. Howard
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lexington, Kentucky : , : The University Press of Kentucky, , 1990 ©1990
ISBN	0-8131-5615-7 0-8131-8181-X 0-8131-6144-4
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (308 p.)
Disciplina	973.7
Soggetti	Church and state - United States - History - 19th century Enslaved persons - Emancipation - United States Slavery and the church - United States Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) United States Politics and government 1865-1877 United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 Religious aspects United States Politics and government 1861-1865
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 (p. [273]-285).
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Preface; Introduction; 1. Moral Inevitability and Military Necessity; 2. Radical Christians and the Emancipation Proclamation; 3. The Election of 1862; 4. Rise Up a Man of God!; 5. The Election of 1864; 6. The Churches and Presidential Reconstruction; 7. The Christian Opposition to Johnson; 8. The Fourteenth Amendment and the Election of 1866; 9. Impeachment and the Churches; 10. Black Suffrage as a Moral Duty; 11. The Black Suffrage Referenda of 1867; 12. The Fifteenth Amendment; Epilogue; Abbreviations; Notes; Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I JK; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; Y; Z
Sommario/riassunto	Kentucky occupied an unusual position with regard to slavery during the Civil War as well as after. Since the state never seceded, the emancipation proclamation did not free the majority of Kentucky's

slaves; in fact, Kentucky and Delaware were the only two states where legal slavery still existed when the thirteenth amendment was adopted by Congress. Despite its unique position, no historian before has attempted to tell the experience of blacks in the Commonwealth during the Civil War and Reconstruction. Victor B. Howard's *Black Liberation in Kentucky* fills this void in the history of slavery
