

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789570103321
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Titolo	The colors of Zion [[electronic resource]] : blacks, Jews, and Irish from 1845 to 1945 // George Bornstein
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2011
ISBN	0-674-26219-0 0-674-05920-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (271 p.)
Disciplina	305.8009
Soggetti	Racism - History Racism - United States - History Ethnic relations - History Jews - Identity Black people - Race identity Irish - Ethnic identity Race relations in literature American literature - African American authors - History and criticism American literature - Jewish authors - History and criticism Irish literature - History and criticism United States Ethnic relations History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Races -- Diasporas and nationalisms -- Melting pots -- Popular and institutional cultures -- The gathering storm: the 1930s and World War II.
Sommario/riassunto	This comparative study focuses on three groups often seen as antagonistic—Blacks, Jews, and Irish. Resolutely aware of past tensions, Bornstein argues that the pendulum has swung too far in that direction and that it is time to recover the history of lost connections and cooperation among the groups. The chronological range stretches from Frederick Douglass's tour of Ireland during the Great Famine of the 1840s through the 1940s with the catastrophe of World War II. The study ends with the concept of the Righteous Gentile commemorated at

the Israeli Holocaust Memorial, Yad Vashem--non-Jews who during the Holocaust risked their own lives to rescue Jews from the horror of the Holocaust. Bornstein expands the term here to include all those Irish, Jewish, or African American figures who fought against narrow identification only with their own group and instead championed a wider and more humane vision of a shared humanity that sees hybridity rather than purity and love rather than resentment. The identity politics and culture wars of recent decades often made recognizing those positive qualities problematic. But with the election of a mixed-race president who himself embodies mixture and mutual respect (and who famously described himself as a “mutt”), the shallow and arbitrary nature of narrow identity politics become evident. This study recuperates strong voices from the past of all three groups in order to let them speak for themselves.
