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Titolo	Ben Sira on family, gender, and sexuality [[electronic resource] /] / Ibolya Balla
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin ; ; New York, : De Gruyter, c2011
ISBN	1-283-16609-7 9786613166098 3-11-024747-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (341 p.)
Collana	Deuterocanonical and cognate literature studies, , 1865-1666 ; ; v. 8
Disciplina	229/.407
Soggetti	Families - Biblical teaching Sex role - Biblical teaching Sex - Biblical teaching
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 indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Acknowledgments -- Table of contents -- Introduction with literature review and methodology -- Chapter 1: Respect for fathers and mothers and the treatment of widows -- Chapter 2: The anxiety of bringing up children: teachings on sons and daughters -- Chapter 3: Teachings on marital relationships -- Chapter 4: Teachings on sexual behaviour that is either illicit and/or discouraged, including adultery and approaching prostitutes, virgins, maidservants -- Chapter 5: Wisdom poems -- Chapter 6: Conclusion -- Appendix -- Bibliography -- Index of modern authors -- Index of ancient texts
Sommario/riassunto	The book investigates Ben Sira's attitudes toward all matters pertaining to sexuality in the context of family relations and gender issues. The author's seemingly negative attitude to women, the anxiety expressed in the discussions of marital and extramarital relations, and the disciplining of children can lead to the assumption that the work has a negative attitude toward sexuality. Ben Sira's book is a combination of carefully composed wisdom poems and of teachings on everyday issues, including marriage, family life, self-control, desires, and sexual promiscuity. The sage dedicates a greater number of passages than other wisdom books to the discussion of social relations especially in

regard to family. In so doing his regular point of departure seems to be what benefits or damages these relations mean, and whether they bring disgrace to a person, especially through sexuality. In addition, we have to make a distinction between the attitudes of the writer of the original Hebrew text of the book and that of the Greek translator. The two texts, produced in different social settings, times and places, differ at times in regard to sexuality. This book examines the wisdom poems, some characterized by openness about issues of eroticism, and all sayings that concern matters pertaining to sexuality found in discussions of passions, family relations and gender issues, and warnings against sexual wrongdoing. All this is done with a special regard to the differences between the Hebrew original text and the Greek translation.
