

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910791555003321
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Titolo	Political manhood [[electronic resource]] : red bloods, mollycoddles, and the politics of progressive era reform / / Kevin P. Murphy
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York ; ; Chichester, : Columbia University Press, 2010
ISBN	1-282-89768-3 9786612897689 0-231-50350-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (318 p.)
Disciplina	306.76/62097309034 306.7662097309034
Soggetti	Masculinity - United States - History Male homosexuality - United States - History Sex - United States - History Social reformers - Sexual behavior - United States United States Politics and government 1865-1933 United States History 1865-1921
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. 275-292) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Of Mugwumps and Mollycoddles: Patronage and the Political Discourse of the "Third Sex" -- 2. The Tammany Within: Good Government Reform and Political Manhood -- 3. White Army in the White City: Civic Militarism, Urban Space, and the Urban Populace -- 4. Socrates in the Slums: "Social Brotherhood" and Settlement House Reform -- 5. Daddy George and Tom Brown: Sexual Scandal, Political Manhood, and Self-Government Reform -- 6. The Problem of the Impracticables: Sentimentality, Idealism, and Homosexuality -- Epilogue: Red Bloods and Mollycoddles in the Twentieth Century and Beyond -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In a 1907 lecture to Harvard undergraduates, Theodore Roosevelt warned against becoming "too fastidious, too sensitive to take part in the rough hurly-burly of the actual work of the world." Roosevelt

asserted that colleges should never "turn out mollicoddles instead of vigorous men," and cautioned that "the weakling and the coward are out of place in a strong and free community." A paradigm of ineffectuality and weakness, the mollicoddle was "all inner life," whereas his opposite, the "red blood," was a man of action. Kevin P. Murphy reveals how the popular ideals of American masculinity coalesced around these two distinct categories. Because of its similarity to the emergent "homosexual" type, the mollicoddle became a powerful rhetorical figure, often used to marginalize and stigmatize certain political actors. Issues of masculinity not only penetrated the realm of the elite, however. Murphy's history follows the redefinition of manhood across a variety of classes, especially in the work of late nineteenth-century reformers, who trumpeted the virility of the laboring classes. By highlighting this cross-class appropriation, Murphy challenges the oppositional model commonly used to characterize the relationship between political "machines" and social and municipal reformers at the turn of the twentieth century. He also revolutionizes our understanding of the gendered and sexual meanings attached to political and ideological positions of the Progressive Era.
