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Autore	Dorrien Gary J
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Sommario/riassunto

Sourcing the major traditions of progressive Christian social ethics
social gospel liberalism, Niebuhrian realism, and liberation theology
Gary Dorrien argues for the social-ethical necessity of social justice
politics. In carefully reasoned essays, he focuses on three subjects: the
ethics and politics of economic justice, racial and gender justice, and
antimilitarism, making a constructive case for economic democracy,
along with a liberationist understanding of racial and gender justice
and an anti-imperial form of liberal internationalism. In Dorrien's view,
the three major discourse traditions of progressive Christian social
ethics share a fundamental commitment to transform the structures of
society in the direction of social justice. His reflections on these topics
feature innovative analyses of major figures, such as Walter
Rauschenbusch, Reinhold Niebuhr, James Burnham, Norman Thomas,
and Michael Harrington, and an extensive engagement with
contemporary intellectuals, such as Rosemary R. Ruether, Katie Cannon,
Gregory Baum, and Cornel West. Dorrien also weaves his personal
experiences into his narrative, especially his involvement in social
justice movements. He includes a special chapter on the 2008
presidential campaign and the historic candidacy of Barack Obama.
