Record Nr. UNINA9910792218003321 Autore Hertz Rosanna Titolo Single by chance, mothers by choice [[electronic resource]]: how women are choosing parenthood without marriage and creating the new American family / / Rosanna Hertz New York,: Oxford University Press, 2006 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-19-774338-2 0-19-534140-6 1-280-84537-6 1-4294-5920-4 0-19-803991-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (294 p.) Disciplina 306.874/3208622 Soggetti Families - United States Single mothers - United States Middle class women - United States 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. [257]-264) and index. Contents; Prologue; Introduction; Part I: The Big Decision; 1 "Why Can't Nota di contenuto I Have What I Want?"; 2 Liminality and the Courage to Change: Making the Decision to Become a Single Mother; 3 Moving On: When Baby Makes Two; Part II: After Baby, Now What?; Introduction: "Where Do We Fit?"; 4 The Father As an Idea; 5 Romance, Intimacy, and Pregnancy: Father Involvement Outside of Marriage; 6 Adoption and Fitting In; Conclusion: Ordinary Lives. Extraordinary Circumstances: Part III: Composing a Family; Introduction: Recycling and Reconstituting Families; 7 What Does Single Mean? 8 Downshifting Careers While Financing Motherhood: Relying on the Gift-Giver, the Roommate, and the Careworker9 A World Without Men. Amen?; Conclusion: What Does It Mean to Be a Good Mother?; Conclusion: Projecting Single Mothers into the Future: Epilogue: Completing Families, Completing Lives; Appendix 1: Demographic Appendix: Featured Women; Appendix 2: Methods and Sampling;

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Sommario/riassunto

A remarkable number of women today are taking the daunting step of having children outside of marriage. In Single By Chance, Mothers By Choice, Rosanna Hertz offers the first full-scale account of this fast-growing phenomenon, revealing why these middle class women took this unorthodox path and how they have managed to make single parenthood work for them. Hertz interviewed 65 women--ranging from physicians and financial analysts to social workers, teachers, and secretaries--women who speak candidly about how they manage their lives and families as single mothers. What Hertz discovers are not