1. Record Nr. UNINA9910792325703321 Autore Hendershot Heather **Titolo** Shaking the world for Jesus [[electronic resource]]: media and conservative evangelical culture / / Heather Hendershot Chicago,: University of Chicago Press, 2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-53806-3 9786612538063 0-226-32680-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (267 p.) 261.5/2/0973 Disciplina Soggetti Mass media - Religious aspects - Christianity Mass media in religion - United States - History Evangelicalism - United States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 239-248) and index. Nota di contenuto For-profit prophets: Christian cultural products and the selling of Jesus -- Why should the devil have all the good music? : Christian music and the secular marketplace -- Virgins for Jesus: the gender politics of therapeutic Christian media -- Holiness codes and holy homosexuals: interpreting gay and lesbian Christian subculture -- Putting God under the microscope: the Moody Institute of Science's cinema of devotion --Praying for the end of the world: the past, present, and future of Christian apocalyptic media. Sommario/riassunto In 1999, the Reverend Jerry Falwell outed Tinky-Winky, the purple character from TV's Teletubbies. Events such as this reinforced in many quarters the common idea that evangelicals are reactionary, out of touch, and just plain paranoid. But reducing evangelicals to such caricatures does not help us understand their true spiritual and political agendas and the means they use to advance them. Shaking the World for Jesus moves beyond sensationalism to consider how the evangelical movement has effectively targeted Americans-as both converts and consumers-since the 1970's. Thousands of products promoting the Christian faith are sold to millions of consumers each year through the

Web, mail order catalogs, and even national chains such as Kmart and

Wal-Mart. Heather Hendershot explores in this book the vast industry of film, video, magazines, and kitsch that evangelicals use to spread their message. Focusing on the center of conservative evangelical culture-the white, middle-class Americans who can afford to buy "Christian lifestyle" products-she examines the industrial history of evangelist media, the curious subtleties of the products themselves, and their success in the religious and secular marketplace. To garner a wider audience, Hendershot argues, evangelicals have had to carefully temper their message. But in so doing, they have painted themselves into a corner. In the postwar years, evangelical media wore the message of salvation on its sleeve, but as the evangelical media industry has grown, many of its most popular products have been those with heavily diluted Christian messages. In the eyes of many followers, the evangelicals who purvey such products are selloutshucksters more interested in making money than spreading the word of God. Working to understand evangelicalism rather than pass judgment on it, Shaking the World for Jesus offers a penetrating glimpse into a thriving religious phenomenon.