Record Nr. UNINA9910794560803321 Autore Buhler Nolwenn Titolo When reproduction meets ageing: the science and medicine of the fertility decline / / Nolwenn Buhler (University of Lausanne, Switzerland) Pubbl/distr/stampa Bingley, England:,: Emerald Publishing,, [2021] ©2021 **ISBN** 1-83909-746-9 1-83909-748-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (249 pages) Collana Emerald studies in reproduction, culture and society Disciplina 304.632 Fertility, Human - Social aspects Soggetti Family planning Human reproduction - Age factors Human reproductive technology Fertility, Human Feminist theory Social Science - Feminism & Feminist Theory Medical sociology Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Introduction: A question of age -- Chapter 1. Natures and cultures: Nota di contenuto divisions, entanglements and reconfigurations -- Chapter 2. The science of population and the quest for natural fertility: what age becomes in statistics -- Chapter 3. From age to ageing: arts and the science of 'old eggs' -- Chapter 4. When age matters: the statistics and biology of fertility decline in clinical choreographies -- Chapter 5. Ageing eggs, ageless mothers? Egg donation and the extension of fertility -- Chapter 6. Eggs for ever or the prospect of regeneration --Conclusion: rethinking the materialisation of age through the lens of its political implications.

What is really biological about the "biological clock" and how can we

account for its embodied reality from a feminist perspective? Addressing long-standing questions about the articulation of the

Sommario/riassunto

biological and the social in the making of bodies and identities, this book questions the nature of reproductive ageing, a taken for granted "fact of life" at the core of reproductive biomedicine. Opening the black box of the biological, it makes a way between essentialism and constructivism with the aim of accounting for its materiality, while also illuminating its political implications. Since the 1970s, alarming discourses about declining fertility and the difficulties of balancing work and family have flourished in Western countries, putting women's reproductive age and the fertility decline to the centre of public and medical attention. Reproductive biomedicine constitutes a specific domain invested with hopes for technological and medical answers and a new market for fertility extension technologies, such as social egg freezing, is developing. By following the biological-social entanglements (or the naturecultures) of age-related infertility in the science and medicine of reproduction, this study explores how age materializes and documents what happens when reproduction meets ageing. Deeply transdisciplinary, it questions what is fixed about the biology of the fertility decline in a way which adds complexity to debates about the biomedicalization of reproductive ageing.