Record Nr.	UNINA9910797408303321
Autore	Johnson Christopher H.
Titolo	Becoming bourgeois : love, kinship, and power in provincial France, 1670-1880 / / Christopher H. Johnson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, New York ; ; London, [England] : , : Cornell University Press, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	1-5017-0128-2
	1-5017-0129-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (358 p.)
Disciplina	306.094409/033
Soggetti	Middle class - France - History - 19th century
	Middle class - France - History - 18th century
	Families - France
	France Social conditions 19th century
	France Social conditions 18th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter Contents Acknowledgments Introduction Part I. The Ascent (1670-1800) 1. The Way of Print 2. Bourgeois de Vannes, Bourgeois de Paris 3. The Revolutions of the Galles Part II. Bourgeois Culture (1800-1880) 4. The Sibling Archipelago 5. "Mon Adèle" 6. Notre Adèle 7. Guadeloupe 8. The Chosen: Educating René 9. Into the World 10. The Legacy: Bourgeois Nation Building and Civic Leadership Bibliographical Notes Index
Sommario/riassunto	Becoming Bourgeois traces the fortunes of three French families in the municipality of Vannes, in Brittany-Galles, Jollivet, and Le Ridant-who rose to prominence in publishing, law, the military, public administration, and intellectual pursuits over the course of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Revisiting complex issues of bourgeois class formation from the perspective of the interior lives of families, Christopher H. Johnson argues that the most durable and socially advantageous links forging bourgeois ascent were those of kinship. Economic success, though certainly derived from the virtues of

1.

hard work and intelligent management, was always underpinned by marriage strategies and the diligent intervention of influential family members. Johnson's examination of hundreds of personal letters opens up a whole world: the vicissitudes of courtship; the centrality of marriage; the depths of conjugal love; the routines of pregnancy and the drama of childbirth; the practices of child rearing and education; the powerful place of siblings; the role of kin in advancing the next generation; tragedy and deaths; the enormous contributions of women in all aspects of becoming bourgeois; and the pleasures of gathering together in intimate soirées, grand balls, country houses, and civic and political organizations. Family love bound it all together, and this is ultimately what this book is about, as four generations of rather ordinary provincial people capture our hearts.