1. Record Nr. UNINA9910797609303321 Autore Baumle Amanda K. Titolo Legalizing LGBT Families: How the Law Shapes Parenthood / / Amanda K. Baumle, D'Lane R. Compton Pubbl/distr/stampa New York, New York: ,: New York University Press, , [2015] ©2015 **ISBN** 1-4798-7965-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (310 pages) Disciplina 306.8480973 Soggetti Sexual minorities' families - United States Gay parents - United States Children of gay parents - United States Same-sex marriage - Law and legislation - United States Same-sex marriage - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Front matter -- CONTENTS -- PREFACE -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS --Nota di contenuto Introduction -- 1. The State of the Law for LGBT Parents -- 2. Routes to Parenthood -- 3. Locating Legality -- 4. Parenting before the Law -- 5. Parenting with the Law -- 6. Parenting against the Law -- Conclusion: LGBT Parents Constructing Legality -- APPENDIX: METHODOLOGY --NOTES -- REFERENCES -- INDEX -- ABOUT THE AUTHORS The decision to have a child is seldom a simple one, often fraught with Sommario/riassunto complexities regarding emotional readiness, finances, marital status, and compatibility with life and career goals. Rarely, though, do individuals consider the role of the law in facilitating or inhibiting their ability to have a child or to parent. For LGBT individuals, however, parenting is saturated with legality - including the initial decision of whether to have a child, how to have a child, whether one's relationship

with their child will be recognized, and everyday acts of parenting like completing forms or picking up children from school. Through in-

depth interviews with 137 LGBT parents, Amanda K. Baumle and D'Lane R. Compton examine the role of the law in the lives of LGBT parents and how individuals use the law when making decisions about family

formation or parenting. Baumle and Compton explore the ways in which LGBT parents participate in the process of constructing legality through accepting, modifying, or rejecting legal meanings about their families. Few groups encounter as much variation in access to everyday legal rights pertaining to the family as do LGBT parents. This complexity and variation in legal environments provides a rather unique opportunity to examine the manner in which legal context affects the ways in which individuals come to understand the meaning and utility of the law for their lives. The authors conclude that legality is constructed through a complex interplay of legal context, social networks, individual characteristics, and familial desires. Ultimately, the stories of LGBT parents in this book reflect a rich and varied relationship between the law, the state, and the private family goals of individuals.