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Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of illustrations; Notes on contributors; Preface; Editors' note; WIDOWS' WORLDS Representations and realities Marjo Buitelaar; THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE WIDOW IN ANCIENT ISRAEL Karel van der Toorn; PAUPER OR PATRONESS The widow in the Early Christian Church Jan N.Bremmer; WIDOWS IN ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND Rolf H.Bremmer Jr; WIDOWS AND THE LAW The legal position of widows in the Dutch Republic during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Dieneke Hempenius-van Dijk; 'EUROPEAN' WIDOWS IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES Their legal and social position Heleen C.Gall WOMEN WITHOUT MEN Widows and spinsters in Britain and France in the eighteenth century Olwen HuftonNOBLE WIDOWS BETWEEN FORTUNE AND FAMILY Yme Kuiper; THE ULTIMATE JOURNEYSat and widowhood in India Lourens P. van den Bosch; WIDOWS IN ISLAM Willy Jansen; WIDOWS HIDDEN FROM VIEW The disappearance of mourning dress among Dutch widows in the twentieth century Geertje van Os; WIDOWS IN WESTERN HISTORY A select bibliography Frouke Veenstra and Kirsten van der Ploeg; Index

## Sommario/riassunto

Between Poverty and the Pyre examines the history of the experience of widowhood across different cultures. It brings together a collection of essays by historians, anthropologists and philologists. The book shows how difficult it is to define the 'typical' widow, as the experiences of these women have differed so widely, not simply because of their different time periods and locations, but also because of their varying legal and religious status and economic conditions. The study is diverse with subjects ranging from: \*Hindu wives who followed their husbands to the pyre \*

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