Record Nr. UNINA9910811667703321 Autore Romeo Sharon **Titolo** Gender and the Jubilee: Black freedom and the reconstruction of citizenship in Civil War Missouri / / Sharon Romeo Athens, Georgia:,: The University of Georgia Press,, 2016 Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2016 0-8203-4804-X **ISBN** Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (225 p.) Collana Studies in the Legal History of the South Disciplina 305.48/896073077809034 African American women - Civil rights - Missouri - History - 19th Soggetti century Enslaved persons - Civil rights - Missouri - History - 19th century Citizenship - Missouri - History - 19th century African American women - Legal status, laws, etc - Missouri - History -19th century Civil-military relations - Missouri - History - 19th century Missouri History Civil War, 1861-1865 African Americans United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 African Americans Missouri History Civil War, 1861-1865 Law and legislation United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 Law and legislation Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto "I told my mistress that the Union soldiers were coming": Black citizenship in Civil War St. Louis -- "A Negro woman is running at large in your city": contraband women and the transformation of Union military policy -- "A soldier's wife is free": African American soldiers, their enslaved kin, and military citizenship -- "The first morning of their freedom": African American women, Black testimony, and military justice -- The legacy of slave marriage: Freedwomen's marital claims and the process of emancipation -- Epilogue. Sommario/riassunto "Gender and the Jubilee offers a re-examination of the legal legacy of the Civil War, with regard to African Americans, using Missouri as a case study with broader implications. As the United States transformed

from a slaveholding republic into a modern nation-state, what were the

mechanisms by which citizenship was re-conceptualized? Among the multiple and contested visions of citizenship circulated during the Civil War, how did enslaved people come to be recognized as potential citizens? This book analyzes the process that produced the inclusive birthright citizenship manifested in the Fourteenth Amendment. African American women inserted themselves as members of the nation-state during the turbulent years of the Civil War crisis. They positioned themselves, rhetorically, as patriots for the Union cause. As selfidentified patriots, enslaved women requested military protection from slave owners. Women fled to federal troops stationed in the city and sought a right to federal protection from abusive slave owners prior to the enactment of any emancipatory acts on the part of military policy or the federal government. This assumption of federal protection prior to the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, in a state outside the jurisdiction of the Emancipation Proclamation, suggests a deep investment in the ideal of a broad national citizenship that included the African American population. The litigating slave women of antebellum St. Louis, and the female activists of the Civil War period, left a rich legal heritage to those who would continue the struggle for civil rights in the postwar era. African American women would continue to play a critical role in their own liberation following the war"--Provided by publisher.