

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910812109603321
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Titolo	Economy, difference, empire [[electronic resource] ] : social ethics for social justice // Gary Dorrien
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Columbia University Press, 2010
ISBN	1-282-87240-0 9786612872402 0-231-52629-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (527 p.)
Collana	The Columbia series in religion and politics
Disciplina	303.3/72097309045
Soggetti	Social ethics - United States Social justice - United States United States Social conditions 21st century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

Sourcing the major traditions of progressive Christian social ethics  
social gospel liberalism, Niebuhrian realism, and liberation theology  
Gary Dorrien argues for the social-ethical necessity of social justice  
politics. In carefully reasoned essays, he focuses on three subjects: the  
ethics and politics of economic justice, racial and gender justice, and  
antimilitarism, making a constructive case for economic democracy,  
along with a liberationist understanding of racial and gender justice  
and an anti-imperial form of liberal internationalism. In Dorrien's view,  
the three major discourse traditions of progressive Christian social  
ethics share a fundamental commitment to transform the structures of  
society in the direction of social justice. His reflections on these topics  
feature innovative analyses of major figures, such as Walter  
Rauschenbusch, Reinhold Niebuhr, James Burnham, Norman Thomas,  
and Michael Harrington, and an extensive engagement with  
contemporary intellectuals, such as Rosemary R. Ruether, Katie Cannon,  
Gregory Baum, and Cornel West. Dorrien also weaves his personal  
experiences into his narrative, especially his involvement in social  
justice movements. He includes a special chapter on the 2008  
presidential campaign and the historic candidacy of Barack Obama.

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