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	Titolo	Fat shame : stigma and the fat body in American culture / / Amy Erdman Farrell
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	Edizione	[1st ed.]
	Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (220 p.)
	Disciplina	306.4/613
	Soggetti	Body image
		Stigma (Social psychology)
		Discrimination against overweight persons
		Physical-appearance-based bias
	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.
	Nota di contenuto	Considering fat shame -- Fat, modernity, and the problem of excess -- Fat and the un-civilized body -- Feminism, citizenship, and fat stigma -- Narrating fat shame -- Refusing to apologize -- Conclusion : the horror, the horror.
	Sommario/riassunto	One of Choice's Significant University Press Titles for Undergraduates, 2010-2011To be fat hasn't always occasioned the level of hysteria that this condition receives today and indeed was once considered an admirable trait. Fat Shame: Stigma and the Fat Body in American Culture explores this arc, from veneration to shame, examining the historic roots of our contemporary anxiety about fatness. Tracing the cultural denigration of fatness to the mid 19th century, Amy Farrell argues that the stigma associated with a fat body preceded any health concerns about a large body size. Firmly in place by the time the diet industry began to flourish in the 1920's, the development of fat stigma was related not only to cultural anxieties that emerged during the modern period related to consumer excess, but, even more profoundly, to prevailing ideas about race, civilization and evolution. For 19th and early 20th century thinkers, fatness was a key marker of inferiority, of an uncivilized, barbaric, and primitive body. This idea—that fatness is a

sign of a primitive person—endures today, fueling both our $60 billion "war on fat" and our cultural distress over the "obesity epidemic. " Farrell draws on a wide array of sources, including political cartoons, popular literature, postcards, advertisements, and physicians' manuals, to explore the link between our historic denigration of fatness and our contemporary concern over obesity. Her work sheds particular light on feminisms' fraught relationship to fatness. From the white suffragists of the early 20th century to contemporary public figures like Oprah Winfrey, Monica Lewinsky, and even the Obama family, Farrell explores the ways that those who seek to shed stigmatized identities—whether of gender, race, ethnicity or class—often take part in weight reduction schemes and fat mockery in order to validate themselves as "civilized." In sharp contrast to these narratives of fat shame are the ideas of contemporary fat activists, whose articulation of a new vision of the body Farrell explores in depth. This book is significant for anyone concerned about the contemporary "war on fat" and the ways that notions of the "civilized body" continue to legitimate discrimination and cultural oppression.