

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910814998903321
Autore	Thomas Lynn M
Titolo	Politics of the womb : women, reproduction, and the state in Kenya // Lynn M. Thomas
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2003
ISBN	1-59734-818-X 9786612762765 1-282-76276-1 0-520-93664-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (318 p.)
Disciplina	305.4/096762
Soggetti	Women - Kenya - History Female circumcision - Kenya - History Women - Kenya - Social conditions Sex role - Kenya Kenya Social conditions
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 (p. 235-287) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- List Of Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Imperial Populations And "Women's Affairs" -- 2. Colonial Uplift And Girl-Midwives -- 3. Mau Mau And The Girls Who "Circumcised Themselves" -- 4. Late Colonial Customs And Wayward Schoolgirls -- 5. Postcolonial Nationalism And "Modern" Single Mothers -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In more than a metaphorical sense, the womb has proven to be an important site of political struggle in and about Africa. By examining the political significance-and complex ramifications-of reproductive controversies in twentieth-century Kenya, this book explores why and how control of female initiation, abortion, childbirth, and premarital pregnancy have been crucial to the exercise of colonial and postcolonial power. This innovative book enriches the study of gender, reproduction, sexuality, and African history by revealing how reproductive controversies challenged long-standing social hierarchies and contributed to the construction of new ones that continue to

influence the fraught politics of abortion, birth control, female genital cutting, and HIV/AIDS in Africa.
