Record Nr. UNINA9910817593603321 Autore Davis Marni Titolo Jews and booze : becoming American in the age of prohibition / / Marni Davis Pubbl/distr/stampa New York,: New York University Press, 2012 0-8147-8384-8 **ISBN** 0-8147-4409-5 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (273 p.) Collana The Goldstein-Goren series in American Jewish history Disciplina 363.4/1089924073 Soggetti Jews - Alcohol use - United States - Attitudes Alcoholic beverage industry - United States - History - 19th century Alcoholic beverage industry - United States - History - 20th century Alcohol - Law and legislation - United States United States Ethnic relations Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Setting up shop: Jews becoming Americans in the nineteenth-century alcohol trade -- Do as we Israelites do: American Jews and the gildedage temperance movement -- Kosher wine and Jewish saloons: new Jewish immigrants enter the American alcohol trade -- An "unscrupulous Jewish type of mind": Jewish alcohol entrepreneurs and their critics -- Rabbis and other bootleggers: Jews as prohibition-era alcohol entrepreneurs -- The law of the land is the law: Jews respond to the Volstead Act. Sommario/riassunto Finalist, 2014 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature from the Jewish Book CouncilFrom kosher wine to their ties to the liquor trade in Europe, Jews have a longstanding historical relationship with alcohol. But once prohibition hit America, American Jews were forced to choose between abandoning their historical connection to alcohol and remaining outside the American mainstream. In Jews and Booze, Marni Davis examines American Jews' long and complicated relationship to

alcohol during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the years of the national prohibition movement's rise and fall. Bringing to bear an extensive range of archival materials, Davis offers a novel

perspective on a previously unstudied area of American Jewish economic activity—the making and selling of liquor, wine, and beer—and reveals that alcohol commerce played a crucial role in Jewish immigrant acculturation and the growth of Jewish communities in the United States. But prohibition's triumph cast a pall on American Jews' history in the alcohol trade, forcing them to revise, clarify, and defend their communal and civic identities, both to their fellow Americans and to themselves.