

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819387803321
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Titolo	Abandoned in the Heartland : Work, Family, and Living in East St. Louis // Jennifer Hamer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, CA : , : University of California Press, , [2011] ©2011
ISBN	1-283-27842-1 9786613278425 0-520-95017-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xv, 244 pages) : illustrations
Collana	The George Gund Foundation imprint in African American studies
Disciplina	305.5/620977389
Soggetti	Working class - East Saint Louis - Illinois African Americans - Illinois - East Saint Louis Sociology & Social History Social Sciences Social Conditions East Saint Louis (Ill.) Social conditions 21st century East Saint Louis (Ill.) Economic 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.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Prologue -- CHAPTER ONE. In America's Heartland -- CHAPTER TWO. East St. Louisans and Their Cars -- CHAPTER THREE. Work and Meaning in a Jobless Suburb -- CHAPTER FOUR. Hustling, Clean and Dirty -- CHAPTER FIVE. "Around here, women never get done workin' " -- CHAPTER SIX. "Gotta protect my own" -- CHAPTER SEVEN. The Cost of Abandonment -- Epilogue. Obama and East St. Louis -- Notes -- Selected Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Urban poverty, along with all of its poignant manifestations, is moving from city centers to working-class and industrial suburbs in contemporary America. Nowhere is this more evident than in East St. Louis, Illinois. Once a thriving manufacturing and transportation center, East St. Louis is now known for its unemployment, crime, and

collapsing infrastructure. *Abandoned in the Heartland* takes us into the lives of East St. Louis's predominantly African American residents to find out what has happened since industry abandoned the city, and jobs, quality schools, and city services disappeared, leaving people isolated and imperiled. Jennifer Hamer introduces men who search for meaning and opportunity in dead-end jobs, women who often take on caretaking responsibilities until well into old age, and parents who have the impossible task of protecting their children in this dangerous, and literally toxic, environment. Illustrated with historical and contemporary photographs showing how the city has changed over time, this book, full of stories of courage and fortitude, offers a powerful vision of the transformed circumstances of life in one American suburb.

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