

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819497403321
Titolo	Sex, gender, and the sacred : reconfiguring religion in gender history / / edited by Joanna De Groot and Sue Morgan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chichester, England : , : Wiley-Blackwell, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	1-118-83394-5 1-118-83392-9 1-118-83395-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (349 p.)
Collana	Gender and History Special Issue Book Series
Disciplina	201/.7
Soggetti	Sex role - Religious aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Sex, Gender and the Sacred; CONTENTS; NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS; Introduction: Beyond the 'Religious Turn'? Past, Present and Future Perspectives in Gender History; Past perspectives; Present perspectives; Crossing cultures, and transcultural exchanges; Religion, embodiment and subjectivity; Religion, gender and sexuality; Gender, religion and political activity; Future perspectives; Notes; Part I Crossing Cultures and Transnational Exchanges; 1 Witches, Female Priests and Sacred Manoeuvres: (De)Stabilising Gender and Sexuality in a Cuban Religion of African Origin Ocha-Ifa: African roots, Cuban praxisWitches, warlocks and the spectre of history; The Egbe Gelede: contemporary manoeuvres in gender, sexuality and the sacred; 'Women penetrate Ifa'; Conclusions; Notes; 2 Liberal Religion and the 'Woman Question' between East and West: Perspectives from a Nineteenth-Century Bengali Women's Journal; Unitarian women activists as exemplars for Brahma women; The 'new' Bengali woman and the spectre of the 'strong-minded' woman; Communications between Unitarian and Brahma women; Liberal religion and the 'woman question' between east and west; Notes 3 Indeterminacy in Meaning: Religious Syncretism and Dynastic Historiography in the Shannuren zhuanThe Shannuren zhuan; The editor; Religious syncretism; Literary form: structures and strictures;

Formulaic narrative in the Pure Land women's biographies; Truncated narrative in the Chan women's biographies; Some critical remarks; Appendix I: two samples of Pure Land women's biographies; Biography 114 Madam Li ; Biography 123 Madam Xu ; Appendix II: two samples of Chan women's biographies; Biography 16 The Wandering Old Women Li ; Biography 21 The Old Woman Who Burned A Lodge ; Notes 4 'All of Their Customs are Daughters of Their Religion': Baptists in Post-Revolutionary Mexico, 1920s-presentScholarship; Protestant inroads in Oaxaca; Convencion Bautista Nacional de Mexico in Tlacoahuaya; La Union Femenil and the new chapel; Protestantism and violence; Memory and martyrdom; Conclusion; Notes; 5 Creating the 'Problem Hindu': Sati, Thuggee and Female Infanticide in India, 1800-60; 'Of What Concerns Women': Hindu femininity and victimhood; 'Execrable pride and selfishness': Hindu masculinity and violence; Conclusions; Notes; Part II Religion, Embodiment and Subjectivity 6 Engendering Purity and Impurity in Assyriological Studies: A Historiographical OverviewStarting point: feminist epistemologies as a theoretical framework; Gender studies and Assyriology: a relationship under construction; Purity and impurity in Mesopotamia: defining terms; Terminology of '(im)purity' in Assyriological studies: an assessment; Women and bodily products: blood and menstruation; A case study: (im)pure women in Mari; To conclude: gendered bodies and (im)purity; Notes; 7 Lamentation Motifs in Medieval Hagiography; Literary inheritance; Tropes of maternal mourning; Weeping Wailing

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Sommario/riassunto

Sex, Gender and the Sacred presents a multi-faith, multi-disciplinary collection of essays that explore the interlocking narratives of religion and gender encompassing 4,000 years of history. Contains readings relating to sex and religion that encompass 4,000 years of gender historyFeatures new research in religion and gender across diverse cultures, periods, and religious traditionsPresents multi-faith and multi-disciplinary perspectives with significant comparative potentialOffers original theories and concepts relating to gender, religion, an

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