Record Nr. UNINA9910820783603321 Autore Heins Marjorie **Titolo** Not in front of the children: "indecency," censorship, and the innocence of youth / / Marjorie Heins New Brunswick, N.J., : Rutgers University Press, [2007] Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-281-22422-7 9786611224226 0-8135-4388-6 Edizione [2nd ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (440 p.) Disciplina 303.3/76/0973 Censorship - United States - History - 20th century Soggetti National characteristics, American - History - 20th century Obscenity (Law) - United States Youth - United States - Social conditions - 20th century United States Moral conditions History 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Originally published: New York: Hill and Wang, 2001. With new introduction. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- CONTENTS -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction to the 2007 Edition -- INTRODUCTION -- 1. "TO DEPRAVE AND CORRUPT" --2. MORE EMETIC THAN APHRODISIAC -- 3. THE GREAT AND MYSTERIOUS MOTIVE FORCE IN HUMAN LIFE -- 4. POLICING THE AIRWAVES -- 5. THE REIGN OF DECENCY -- 6. THE IDEOLOGICAL MINEFIELD: SEXUALITY EDUCATION -- 7. INDECENCY LAW ON TRIAL: RENO V. ACLU -- 8. FILTERING FEVER -- 9. CULTURAL DIFFERENCES --10. MEDIA EFFECTS -- CONCLUSION: "THE ETHICAL AND MORAL **DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH" -- NOTES -- INDEX** Sommario/riassunto From Huckleberry Finn to Harry Potter, from Internet filters to the vchip, censorship exercised on behalf of children and adolescents is often based on the assumption that they must be protected from "indecent" information that might harm their development—whether in art, in literature, or on a Web site. But where does this assumption come from, and is it true? In Not in Front of the Children, Marjorie

Heins explores the fascinating history of "indecency" laws and other

restrictions aimed at protecting youth. From Plato's argument for rigid censorship, through Victorian laws aimed at repressing libidinous thoughts, to contemporary battles over sex education in public schools and violence in the media, Heins guides us through what became, and remains, an ideological minefield. With fascinating examples drawn from around the globe, she suggests that the "harm to minors" argument rests on shaky foundations.