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Nota di contenuto	BOOK COVER; TITLE; COPYRIGHT; CONTENTS; ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; PREFACE TO 1997 EDITION; INTRODUCTION; CHAPTER 1 Feminism and Social Purity; CHAPTER 2 Continence and Psychic Love; CHAPTER 3 'The sort of thing that might happen to any man': Feminist campaigns and politics around the sexual abuse of children; CHAPTER 4 'Henpecking': Women's campaigns to gain legislation against the sexual abuse of girls; CHAPTER 5 Spinsterhood and Celibacy; CHAPTER 6 Women's Friendships and Lesbianism; CHAPTER 7 Anti-feminism and Sex Reform before the First World War; CHAPTER 8 The Decline of Militant Feminism CHAPTER 9 The Invention of the Frigid Woman CHAPTER 10 The 'Prudes' and the 'Progressives'; AFTERWORD; NOTES; BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX; OTHER BOOKS BY SHEILA JEFFREYS
Sommario/riassunto	Sheila Jeffreys examines the activities of feminist campaigners around such issues as child abuse and prostitution and how these campaigns shaped social purity in the 1880's and 1890's. She demonstrates how the thriving and militant feminism of late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was undermined, and asserts that the decline of this feminism was due largely to the promotion of a sexual ideology

which was hostile to women's independence. The circumstances about which she writes are frighteningly familiar in the present political climate.
