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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [293]-305) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Wartime polemics : on the public church -- Room for debate : a question of tolerance? -- The Coornhert Affair (I) : from correspondence to disputation -- Pro et contra : the Leiden disputation (1578) -- The Coornhert Affair (II) : from pamphlet to disputation -- Bridging the divide : the disputation in the Hague (1583).
Sommario/riassunto	Summary: Prevailing scholarly analysis of the public disputations between D.V. Coornhert (1522-1590) and Dutch Reformed ministers is firmly rooted in a principled view of early modern tolerance. This study proposes a new point of departure, which involves breaking away from a Coornhert-centred reading of the debates in Leiden and the Hague, while focusing on the formal status of these disputations instead. Government support of the Reformed Church proved the backbone of these illuminating 'disputations by decree'. The public legitimization of the Reformed Church - a goal with both political and theological significance - was at stake. As a micro-history of two very unique

occasions in Dutch history, this study sheds new light on the complex development of political and religious argument in the early phase of the Dutch Revolt.
