Record Nr. UNINA9910824742003321 Autore Delmont Matthew F. Titolo The Nicest Kids in Town: American Bandstand, Rock 'n' Roll, and the Struggle for Civil Rights in 1950's Philadelphia / / Matthew F. Delmont Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley, CA: .: University of California Press, . [2012] ©2012 **ISBN** 1-280-11150-X 9786613520692 0-520-95160-3 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (312 p.) Collana American Crossroads;; 32 Disciplina 323.1196073074811 African Americans - Civil rights - History - 20th century - Pennsylvania Soggetti - Philadelphia Segregation - History - 20th century - Philadelphia - Pennsylvania Civil rights movements - History - 20th century - Pennsylvania -Philadelphia Minorities on television Philadelphia (Pa.) Race relations History 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments --Introduction -- 1. Making Philadelphia Safe for "WFIL-adelphia" -- 2. They Shall Be Heard -- 3. The de Facto Dilemma -- 4. From Little Rock to Philadelphia -- 5. The Rise of Rock and Roll in Philadelphia -- 6. "They'll Be Rockin' on Bandstand, in Philadelphia, P.A." -- 7. Remembering American Bandstand, Forgetting Segregation -- 8. Still Boppin' on Bandstand -- Conclusion: Everybody Knows about American Bandstand -- Notes -- Index Sommario/riassunto American Bandstand, one of the most popular television shows ever. broadcast from Philadelphia in the late fifties, a time when that city had become a battleground for civil rights. Counter to host Dick Clark's claims that he integrated American Bandstand, this book reveals how the first national television program directed at teens discriminated against black youth during its early years and how black teens and civil

rights advocates protested this discrimination. Matthew F. Delmont brings together major themes in American history-civil rights, rock and roll, television, and the emergence of a youth culture-as he tells how white families around American Bandstand's studio mobilized to maintain all-white neighborhoods and how local school officials reinforced segregation long after Brown vs. Board of Education. The Nicest Kids in Town powerfully illustrates how national issues and history have their roots in local situations, and how nostalgic representations of the past, like the musical film Hairspray, based on the American Bandstand era, can work as impediments to progress in the present.