1. Record Nr. UNINA9910828744903321 Autore Hapke Laura Titolo Sweatshop: the history of an American idea / / Laura Hapke Pubbl/distr/stampa New Brunswick, N.J., : Rutgers University Press, c2004 **ISBN** 1-283-59202-9 9786613904478 0-8135-4256-1 0-8135-3710-X Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (215 p.) Disciplina 331.25 Soggetti Sweatshops - United States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Narrating the shop -- A shop is not a home: dirt, ethnicity, and the Nota di contenuto sweatshop -- Surviving sites: sweatshops in the progressive era and beyond -- Newsreel of memory: the WPA sweatshop in the Great Depression -- The sweatshop returns: post-industrial art -- Spinning the shop -- Spinning the new shop: El Monte and the Smithsonian furor -- Nike's sweatshop quandary and the industrial sublime -- Watching out for the shop. Sommario/riassunto Arguing that the sweatshop is as American as apple pie, Laura Hapke surveys over a century and a half of the language, verbal and pictorial, in which the sweatshop has been imagined and its stories told. Not seeking a formal definition of the sort that policymakers are concerned with, nor intending to provide a strict historical chronology, this unique book shows, rather, how the "real" sweatshop has become intertwined with the "invented" sweatshop of our national imagination, and how this mixture of rhetoric and myth has endowed American sweatshops with rich and complex cultural meaning. Hapke uncovers a wide variety of tales and images that writers, artists, social scientists, reformers, and workers themselves have told about "the shop." Adding an

important perspective to historical and economic approaches.

Sweatshop draws on sources from antebellum journalism, Progressive era surveys, modern movies, and anti-sweatshop websites. Illustrated

chapters detail how the shop has been a facilitator of assimilation, a promoter of upward mobility, the epitome of exploitation, a site of ethnic memory, a venue for political protest, and an expression of twentieth-century managerial narratives. An important contribution to the real and imagined history of garment industry exploitation, this book provides a valuable new context for understanding contemporary sweatshops that now represent the worst expression of an unregulated global economy.