1. Record Nr. UNINA9910838226403321 Autore Johnson Jennifer Titolo Grandmothers on Guard: Gender, Aging, and the Minutemen at the US-Mexico Border Pubbl/distr/stampa Austin:,: University of Texas Press,, 2021 ©2021 **ISBN** 1-4773-2276-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (222 pages) Disciplina 364.1 Soggetti Grandmothers - Political activity - Mexican-American Border Region Older women - Political activity - Mexican-American Border Region Vigilantes - Mexican-American Border Region Women conservatives - Political activity - Mexican-American Border SOCIAL SCIENCE / General Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction, Border Politics and Invisible Women -- Chapter 1. Granny Brigades and Political Spectacle at the US-Mexico Border -- Chapter 2. Doing Old Womanhood at the Edge of the Nation-State -- Chapter 3. Grandma Grizzlies to the Rescue of Family and Nation -- Chapter 4. Misogyny Minuteman-Style and Women Tough Enough to Take It -- Chapter 5. Bringing the Border Back Home -- Conclusion. From Republican Motherhood to Patriotic Grandmotherhood -- Appendix. Walking the Line -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto For about a decade, one of the most influential forces in US antiimmigrant politics was the Minuteman Project. The armed volunteers made headlines patrolling the southern border. What drove their ethno-nationalist politics? Jennifer L. Johnson spent hundreds of hours observing and interviewing Minutemen, hoping to answer that question. She reached surprising conclusions. While the public face of

border politics is hypermasculine—men in uniforms, fatigues, and suits—older women were central to the Minutemen. Women mobilized

support and took part in border missions. These women compel us to look beyond ideological commitments and material benefits in seeking to understand the appeal of right-wing politics. Johnson argues that the women of the Minutemen were motivated in part by the gendered experience of aging in America. In a society that makes old women irrelevant, aging white women found their place through antimmigrant activism, which wedded native politics to their concern for the safety of their families. Grandmothers on Guard emphasizes another side of nationalism: the yearning for inclusion. The nation the Minutemen imagined was not only a space of exclusion but also one in which these women could belong.