

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9911091441703321
Autore	Erzen Tanya
Titolo	Straight to Jesus : sexual and Christian conversions in the ex-gay movement / / Tanya Erzen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, 2006
ISBN	9786612358180 9781282358188 1282358189 9780520939059 0520939050
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (293 p.)
Disciplina	306.6/6183576
Soggetti	Church work with gay people - California - San Rafael Ex-gay movement - California - San Rafael
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Steps Out Of Homosexuality -- 2. New Creations -- 3. A Refuge From The World -- 4. Arrested Development -- 5. Testifying To Sexual Healing -- 6. Love Won Out? -- Conclusion: Walking In A Dark Room -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Every year, hundreds of gay men and lesbians join ex-gay ministries in an attempt to convert to non-homosexual Christian lives. In this fascinating study of the transnational ex-gay movement, Tanya Erzen focuses on the everyday lives of men and women at New Hope Ministry, a residential ex-gay program, over the course of several years. Straight to Jesus traces the stories of people who have renounced long-term relationships and moved from other countries out of a conviction that the conservative Christian beliefs of their upbringing and their own same-sex desires are irreconcilable. Rather than definitively changing from homosexual to heterosexual, the participants experience a conversion that is both sexual and religious as born-again evangelical Christians. At New Hope, they maintain a personal relationship with Jesus and build new forms of kinship and belonging. By becoming what

they call "new creations," these men and women testify to religious transformation rather than changes in sexual desire or behavior. Straight to Jesus exposes how the Christian Right attempts to repudiate gay identity and political rights by using the ex-gay movement as evidence that "change is possible." Instead, Erzen reveals, the realities of the lives she examines actually undermine this anti-gay strategy.
