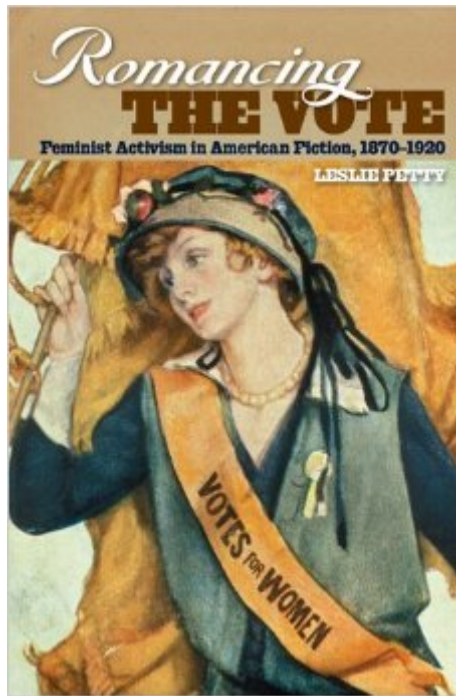


The book was found

Romancing The Vote: Feminist Activism In American Fiction, 1870-1920



Synopsis

As the nineteenth century progressed into the twentieth, novels about politically active women became increasingly common. Until now, however, no one has studied this body of writing as a distinct tradition in American literature. In *Romancing the Vote*, Leslie Petty recovers this tradition and also examines how the fiction written about the women's rights and related movements contributed to the creation and continued vitality of those movements. Petty examines the novels as paradigms of feminist activism and reform communities and elucidates how they, whether wittingly or not, model ways to create similar communities in the real world. She demonstrates how the narratives provide insight into the hopes and anxieties surrounding some of the most important political movements in American history and how they encapsulate the movements' paradoxical blend of progressive and conservative ideologies. The major works discussed are Elizabeth Boynton Harbert's *Out of Her Sphere* (1871), Lillie Devereux Blake's *Fettered for Life* (1874), Henry James's *The Bostonians* (1886), Frances Ellen Watkins Harper's *Iola Leroy* (1892), Hamlin Garland's *A Spoil of Office* (1892), Marjorie Shuler's *For Rent* (1917), Elizabeth Jordan's edited volume *The Sturdy Oak* (1917), and Oreola Williams Haskell's *Banner Bearers: Tales of the Suffrage Campaigns* (1920). Although these works discredit many traditional notions about gender and inspire their readers to seek fairness and equality for many American women, they often simultaneously perpetuate discriminatory ideas about other marginalized groups. They not only privilege the experiences of white women but also rely on widespread anxieties about racial and ethnic minorities to demonstrate the need for gender reform. By focusing on such tensions between conventional and unconventional ideas about gender, race, and class, Petty shows how the fiction of this period helps to situate first-wave feminism within a larger historical and cultural context.

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: University of Georgia Press (December 15, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0820328588

ISBN-13: 978-0820328584

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,010,817 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #368 in [Books > Literature &](#)

Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Feminist #1258 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Women Authors #1583 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Women Writers

Customer Reviews

ROMANCING THE VOTE: FEMINIST ACTIVISM IN AMERICAN FICTION, 1870-1920 provides insights on novels about politically active women, which became increasingly common during the times. Until now there's been no study of this body of literature: ROMANCING THE VOTE thus will find its home not only in the college-level collections of libraries strong in literature, but in those which cater to students of women's history and civil rights studies. Chapters consider the novels and how they related to and displayed feminist activism, discussing selected major works from Henry James' *The Bostonians* to Marjorie Shuler's *For Rent - One Pedestal*. Diane C. Donovan
California Bookwatch

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Romancing the Vote: Feminist Activism in American Fiction, 1870-1920
West Indian Workers and the United Fruit Company in Costa Rica, 1870-1940: 1870-1940 Mobilizing New York: AIDS, Antipoverty, and Feminist Activism (Gender and American Culture)
Community Activism and Feminist Politics: Organizing Across Race, Class, and Gender (Perspectives on Gender)
Memoirs of an Early Arab Feminist: The Life and Activism of Anbara Salam Khalidi
Make Your Own History: Documenting Feminist and Queer Activism in the 21st Century
Playing With Fire: Feminist Thought And Activism Through Seven Lives In India
The Wrong of Injustice: Dehumanization and its Role in Feminist Philosophy (Studies in Feminist Philosophy)
Feminist Pedagogy: Looking Back to Move Forward (A Feminist Formations Reader)
A Feminist Companion to Luke (Feminist Companion to the New Testament and Early Christian Writings)
The End of Inequality: One Person, One Vote and the Transformation of American Politics (Issues in American Democracy)
Nine Rules to Break When Romancing a Rake (Love by Numbers Book 1)
Romancing the Beat: Story Structure for Romance Novels (How to Write Kissing Books Book 1)
Non Fiction Writing Templates: 44 Tips to Create Your Own Non Fiction Book (Writing Templates, Writing Non Fiction, Kindle Publishing)
Fiction Writing Templates: 30 Tips to Create Your Own Fiction Book (Writing Templates, Fiction Writing, Kindle Publishing)
The Science Fiction Hall of Fame, Volume Two B: The Greatest Science Fiction Novellas of All Time Chosen by the Members of the Science Fiction Writers of America (SF Hall of Fame)
The Lavender Vote: Lesbians, Gay Men, and Bisexuals in American Electoral Politics
The Challenge of Democracy: American Government in Global Politics (with MindTap™ Political

Science, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card) (I Vote for MindTap) Gateways to Democracy: An Introduction to American Government (with MindTap™ Political Science, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card) (I Vote for MindTap) How Policies Make Citizens: Senior Political Activism and the American Welfare State (Princeton Studies in American Politics: Historical, International, and Comparative Perspectives)

[Dmca](#)