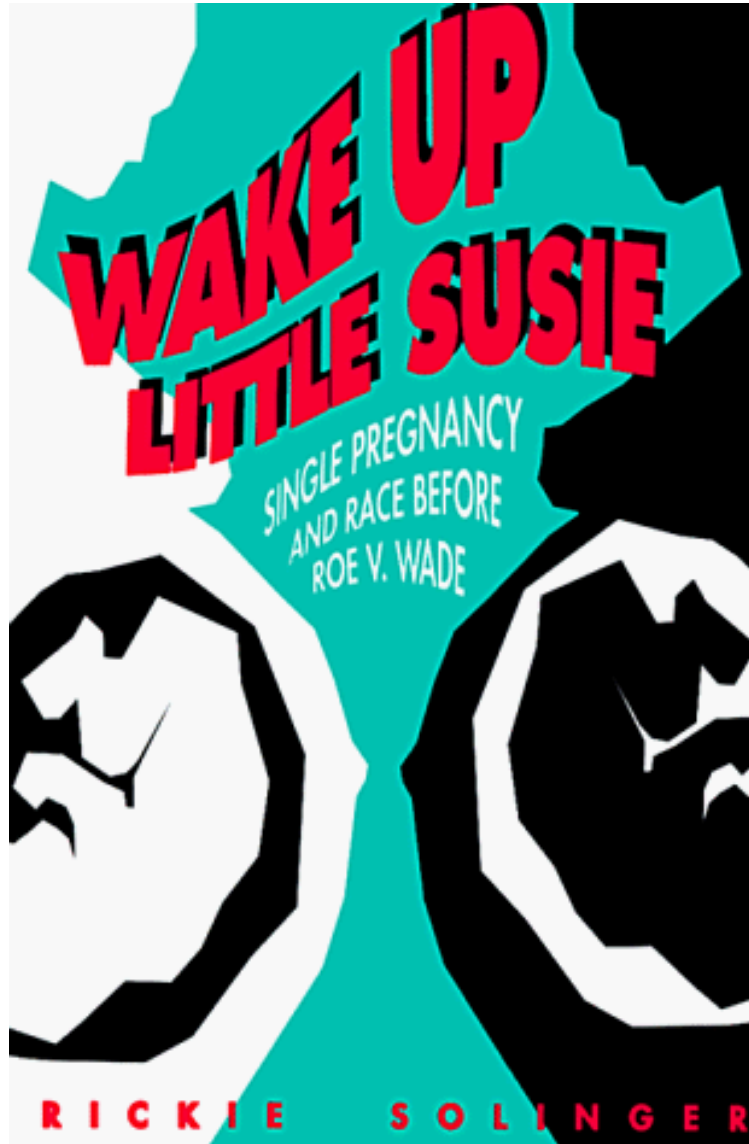


[DOWNLOAD] Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race Before Roe v Wade

Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race Before Roe v Wade

Rickie Solinger

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Rickie Solinger : Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race Before Roe v Wade before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race Before Roe v Wade:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Must-Read to Learn About Adoption HistoryBy AmandaThis

book is an excellent resource to understand not only Women's Rights but also to understand the rights of individuals impacted by adoption and how adoption and other policies and practices have been used to punish women for bearing children outside of wedlock. Countless women lost children to adoption and society today still seems none-the-wiser as to how these women were treated. The stereotypes of adoption would quickly fade away if everyone would take a moment and read books like these that are so well researched and cited. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer every good and detailed book 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Before Roe v Wade By Eileen English I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested single pregnancy of birth mothers before and during that time period.

Rickie Solinger provides the first published analyses of maternity home programs for unwed mothers from 1945 to 1965, and examines how nascent cultural and political constructs such as the "population bomb" and the "sexual revolution" reinforced racially-specific public policy initiatives. Such initiatives encouraged white women to relinquish their babies, spawning a flourishing adoption market, while they subjected black women to social welfare policies which assumed they would keep their babies and aimed to prevent them from having more.

From Kirkus s In a thorough and important, if often tiresomely repetitive, study, Solinger (Women's Studies/Univ. of Colorado, Boulder) dissects the politics of female fertility in America from 1945-65, when the strikingly different treatments of middle-class white and poor black pregnant teenagers clearly reflected the demands of a racist, family-centered economy. Before WW II, Solinger reports, unwed mothers in the US were considered the products of defective, amoral environments-- permanent outcasts for whom no kind of rehabilitation was possible. After the war, she argues, a perceived societal need to produce as many white children in "healthy" male-headed families as possible, combined with new Freudian psychological theories and racist sociological assumptions concerning black sexuality, engendered a dualistic treatment of unwed pregnant women depending on the color of their skin. Whereas the "market value" of white babies enabled and even encouraged white single mothers to "sacrifice" their offspring for adoption in exchange for a second chance at respectability (usually after exile in a maternity home), "unmarketable" illegitimate black babies were considered the inevitable product of the "natural" black libido and were therefore left to be raised by their mothers, who were in turn treated as incorrigible breeders who gave birth to win more government benefits. With the "sexual revolution" (for whites) and "population bomb" (for blacks) of the late 60's and early 70's came the technological fixes of birth control and legalized abortion--though these steps toward female self-determination for women of all races were more a result, Solinger claims, of a slump in the white baby market and fear of black overpopulation than of societal concern for the fate of single mothers. Revelatory but regrettably dry work with repercussions for today. -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "This is a powerful and devastating book. Though it is scholarly, thoroughly researched and documented, it is also a touchingly personal book. Excerpts from case histories make it heartbreaking, consciousness raising, anger-producing and humbling."-"New Directions For Women "Solinger's book--the most brilliantly acute analysis of the central role of sexuality and race in postwar American culture yet written--is of particular relevance now that the "Roe v. Wade era seems to be coming to an end."-"In These Times "The assault on single pregnancy--whether Murphy Brown's or the anonymous African-American teenager's on the evening news--encodes an attack on civil rights and women's rights. "Wake Up Little Susie is indeed a wake-up call, warning us of the danger of the demand that women fix the body politic by letting others control their bodies."-"The Nation ""Wake Up Little Susie is one of the best books about women and reproduction in years. Rickie Solinger shows the deep and powerful meanings that have been attached to unmarried pregnant women, and the way in which they have appeared as a social resource for others rather than as subjects."-Linda Gordon, Florence Kelley Professor of History, University of Wisconsin, Madison, author of "Heroes of Their Own Lives: The Politics and History of Family Violence, and "Women, The State and W ..."the research, topic, and approach make this an exceptional work of social history. It captures the atmosphere of public coercion, stigma, and panic associated with pregnancy, abortion, and the entire subject of women and sexuality in the post war era. Certainly weaving the public policy and social implications of pregnancy for unwed' Black and white women advances both feminist and Black scholarship."-Barbara Omolade, City College of New York, Center for Worker Education From the Back Cover Those who want to put today's debates on race, poverty, and pregnancy into historical perspective should read 'Wake Up Little Susie' Rickie Solinger's timely and perceptive analysis of the years after World War II and before the legalization of abortion.