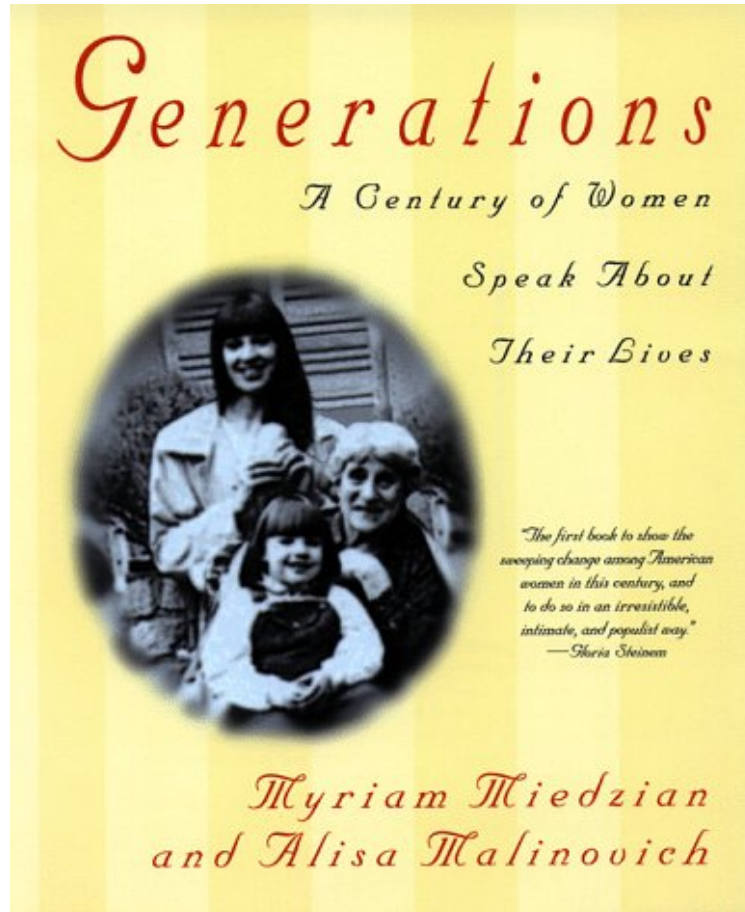


[Read now] Generations: A Century of Women Speak About Their Lives

## Generations: A Century of Women Speak About Their Lives

*Myriam Miedzian, Alisa Malinovich*

*\*Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



 Download

 Read Online

#13258915 in Books 1998-10-13 1998-10-13 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x 7.25 x 1.25l, #File Name: 0385333250592 pages | File size: 62.Mb

**Myriam Miedzian, Alisa Malinovich : Generations: A Century of Women Speak About Their Lives** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Generations: A Century of Women Speak About Their Lives:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Cathy CadeGreat read for any generation. Articulates much of what we know and more.14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Social History Makes Great ReadingBy Michele ThalerI ordered this book because the price made it attractive, I have hardly put it down since it arrived. For anyone interested in the social history of the 20th century, anyone interested in the history of the rise of women's consciousness or anyone who likes to peek into other women's lives - this book makes great reading. Through women's own voices you get a sense of how attitudes and beliefs towards things like integration, premarital sex, working mothers and many other social issues changed over the course of the 20th century. I find this book both educational and enjoyable reading.The authors, a mother and daughter team, take a step back and allow the women themselves to tell the story of a century. The editing and writing is seamless and the book flows beautifully. I highly recommend this book.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A BEAUTIFUL ACCOMPLISHMENTBy

Solange Gautier At 549 pages, this exquisite collection of American women's experiences throughout the 20th Century is inclusive in geography, ages, education, marriage and children- or not, kinds of work, deeply personal experiences, dreams and aspirations. It is an absorbing, often inspiring read. The women speak in their own words making this a valuable and vibrant oral history in the grand manner of our national treasure, Studs Terkel. Thank you so much, Myriam Miedzian and Alisa Malinovich. We are far richer because of your countless hours of sensitive interviewing and gifted editing.

What are the differences in how your grandmother, your mother, and your daughter experience the world? Compare the story of your grandmother's first date with your mother's, your mother's volunteer work with your own career, your great-grandmother's education and expectations with those of a teen today. The women in this landmark work of oral history are from diverse ethnic, geographic, and social backgrounds, and they tell stories about all aspects of their lives, from their professional and romantic experiences to sex discrimination and their own realized or unrealized aspirations. The result is a dynamic portrait that all women will find themselves in, and a work which will stand as one of the lasting documents of a century that very well may be remembered as the Women's Century. In recent decades volumes have been written on women's history and the effects the feminist movement has had on American culture. But something is missing from these accounts: how the reality and day-to-day texture of women's lives--whether or not they ever considered themselves "feminists"--have been transformed over the course of the twentieth century. As in the best oral history, the stories these women candidly tell are vivid and often poignantly detailed. We hear accounts of rural, chore-filled childhoods at the beginning of the century, of contemporary teens without curfews, of dates that began with a chat with father in the parlor, of the sexual liberation of the 1960s, of women who worked in factories during World War II, of those who were pioneers in their professions, and of women who today struggle heroically to balance the demands of marriage or single mothering, work, and children. Sweeping in scope, and yet rooted in the details, emotions, and dilemmas of everyday life, the journey women have traveled over the century here becomes all the more dramatic, the transformation they have undergone all the more remarkable.

.com By splitting 20th-century American women into three broad generations, then funneling their commentary into musings on growing up, family, and work, this oral history by a mother-daughter team achieves rare focus and illustrates the arc of social change. Thankfully, the kaleidoscope of female experience presented is not homogenized. Within the first generation--when the sanctity of marriage was legally and morally enforced--Rebecca Rodin's radical parents never married, nor did most of their circle. Yet "when push came to shove," she remembers, "men were in control of the households." Not surprising, perhaps, is the number of second-generation women who greeted the women's movement with huge relief. In-depth life stories frame each section of short and long anecdotes. From Library Journal Miedzian (Boys Will Be Boys, LJ 6/1/91) and daughter Malinovich spent five years locating women willing to tell their life stories, editing the interviews, and selecting excerpts for this book. They have divided the work into three sections ("Growing Up," "Family," and "Work") and each section into three "generations": 1900 to the early 1930s, mid-1930s to the early 1950s, and mid-1950s to the present. Except for the introduction, the book consists of one- to two-page excerpts from the interviews without further commentary. Although the authors admit they did not do a scientific sampling, they have well represented a diverse group of American women?single, married, divorced, gay, widowed?from a variety of backgrounds. Superbly edited, the book reads as if the women were talking to you. Highly recommended for all readers.?Linda L. McEwan, Elgin Community Coll., Ill. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus s Unadorned recollections of women's lives, spanning all the generations born in this century. Miedzian (Boys Will Be Boys, not reviewed) and Malinovich, a mother-and-daughter team, interviewed dozens of women, dividing the remembrances into sections about growing up, family, and work. In their exchanges, the authors tried to span not only differences in age, but economic, religious, and cultural variations. Certainly, the differences are stark. To the women born in the early part of the century, sex was a taboo topic- young girls began menstruating without a word of warning from mothers or grandmothers, and baby brothers or sisters would appear in the home as if by magic. Among the young women born in the '60s and '70s (one of whom runs a condom shop), no topic seems to be taboo. To women born before 1920, marriage was virtually the only choice for their adult lives and they were subject to their husbands, however reluctantly, as they had been subject to their fathers. Women born after the late '60s seem to have a plethora of choices, about work, marriage, children, and sexual preference. The differences are interesting, and the similarities are striking. Women born in the early 1900s worked from dawn to long past dark, cooking, cleaning, canning, tending children, and managing a household; women born in the late part of the century also work from dawn to long past dark, juggling demanding jobs, children, and household management. Women born from the 1930s to the 1950s are the bridge generation who caught the wave of the protest movements: civil rights, Vietnam, and feminism. They, perhaps more than the others, found themselves thrown onto the sand at midlife in a different world. Some interesting raw material here, but both the drama of the individual lives and the analysis that would lend them weight are missing. (First printing of 40,000; author tour) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP.

All rights reserved.