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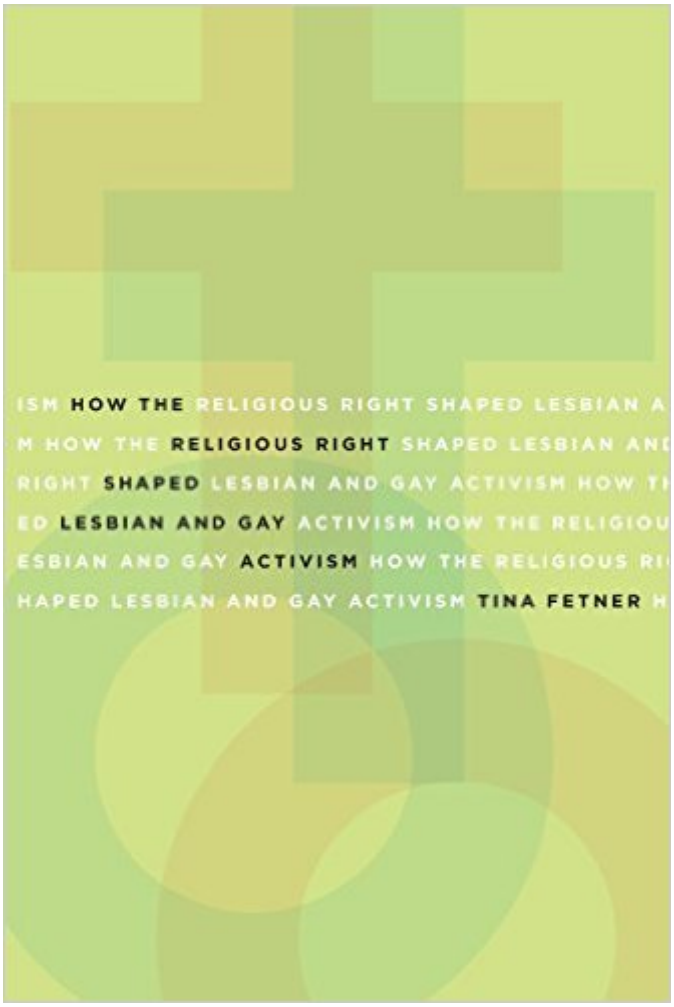
How The Religious Right Shaped Lesbian And Gay Activism (Social Movements, Protest And Contention)



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Synopsis

While gay rights are on the national agenda now, activists have spent decades fighting for their platform, seeing themselves as David against the religious rightâ ™s Goliath. At the same time, the religious right has continuously and effectively countered the endeavors of lesbian and gay activists, working to repeal many of the laws prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and to progress a constitutional amendment â œprotectingâ • marriage.In this accessible and grounded work, Tina Fetner uncovers a remarkably complex relationship between the two movementsâ ”one that transcends political rivalry. Fetner shows how gay activists and the religious right have established in effect a symbiotic relationship in which each side very much affects the development of its counterpart. As lesbian and gay activists demand an end to prejudice, inclusion in marriage, the right to serve in the military, and full citizenship regardless of sexual orientation, the religious right has responded with antigay planks in Republican party platforms and the blocking of social and political change efforts. Fetner examines how the lesbian and gay movement reacts to opposition by changing rhetoric, tone, and tactics and reveals how this connection has influencedâ ”and made more successfulâ ”the evolution of gay activism in the United States.Fetner addresses debates that lie at the center of the culture wars and, ultimately, she demonstrates how the contentious relationship between gay and lesbian rights activists and the religious rightâ ”a dynamic that is surprisingly necessary to bothâ ”challenges assumptions about how social movements are significantly shaped by their rivals.

Book Information

Series: Social Movements, Protest and Contention (Book 31)
Paperback: 200 pages
Publisher: Univ Of Minnesota Press (July 14, 2008)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0816649189
ISBN-13: 978-0816649181
Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (1 customer review)
Best Sellers Rank: #892,342 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #120 inÂ Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > Activism #275 inÂ Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > Civil Rights #528 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process >

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Customer Reviews

Very much loved this which is why I gave it four stars. Well researched and most helpful for anyone who works in the space of faith/religion/sexuality. The authors insights from her research are balanced and true. It’s been a game of move and counter move and challenging at times to identify who takes the first move but this book helps. Ultimately of course we all know that in the end sanity will prevail and we win. It’s only a matter of time.Anthony Venn-BrownAuthor of ’A Life of Unlearning â “ a preacher’s struggle with his homosexuality, church and faith.

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