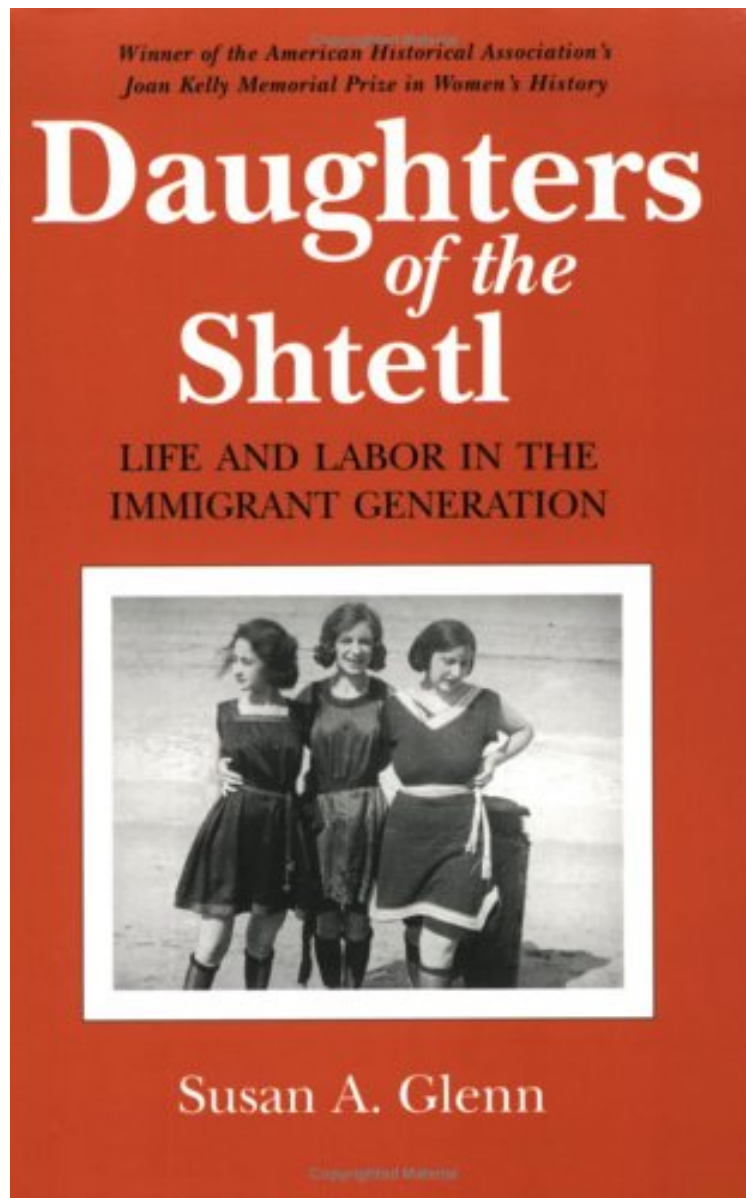


(Download) Daughters of the Shtetl: Life and Labor in the Immigrant Generation

Daughters of the Shtetl: Life and Labor in the Immigrant Generation

Susan Glenn

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Susan Glenn : Daughters of the Shtetl: Life and Labor in the Immigrant Generation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Daughters of the Shtetl: Life and Labor in the Immigrant Generation:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy DustinGood read.9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Well DoneBy D. E. W. TurnerThis book is about the growth of the garment workers' unions and the place within that growth that the Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe took. It was well-written, well-researched. Were I a history professor looking for an informative additional text regarding the turn of the Twentieth Century, I believe I would put this book on the top of the list.9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Impressive and engaging analysisBy LPEThis book is an overview of a very specific area, mainly the history and actions of immigrant Jewish garment workers, who primarily immigrated from the Pale, in great numbers after 1905. Obviously, this is a specialized study and not the sort of thing you would pick up in place of a Danielle Steele novel, but the writing is clear and compelling. One of the main benefits of the book is that although you may have no particular interest in the subject matter, the book is so engagingly written that you learn almost in spite of yourself and have trouble putting the book down.The book is split into 6 major parts: Jewish Womanhood in Eastern Europe; Remarking the Jewish Family Economy in America; Unwritten Laws: Work and Opportunity in the Garment Industry; The Social and Cultural Dimensions of Work; Women and the Mass Strike Movement; The New Unionism and the New Womanhood.The book is at its strongest in the earlier and mid sections, when the author relies on a lot of first-hand accounts to create the portrait of what life was like for these women, where they were coming from and what they experienced. The discussions of the actual historical events were a bit more removed from the first-person analysis, and accordingly, less engaging. All in all, a very interesting book, particularly for those interested in understanding what life was like for a substantial portion of immigrants at the turn of last century.

In this fascinating portrait of Jewish immigrant wage earners, Susan A. Glenn weaves together several strands of social history to show the emergence of an ethnic version of what early twentieth-century Americans called the "New Womanhood." She maintains that during an era when Americans perceived women as temporary workers interested ultimately in marriage and motherhood, these young Jewish women turned the garment industry upside down with a wave of militant strikes and shop-floor activism and helped build the two major clothing workers' unions.

From Publishers WeeklyDuring the early 20th century, young women left small Jewish towns in Poland and Russia for metropolitan America and found that their work and sex roles changed dramatically. This study shows how they influenced the garment industry with militant strikes, shop-floor activism and pro-union behavior. Photos. Copyright 1991 Cahners Business Information, Inc. "Contains rich descriptions of cultural, family, and work life, including generational, ethnic, and union conflicts, based on nuanced readings of primary sources, especially surveys and oral histories. It is an important contribution to the literature in labor, immigrant, and women's history because it presents the lives of this historically important group of immigrant workers from the perspective of their ethnic and religious identities."Industrial and Labor Relations