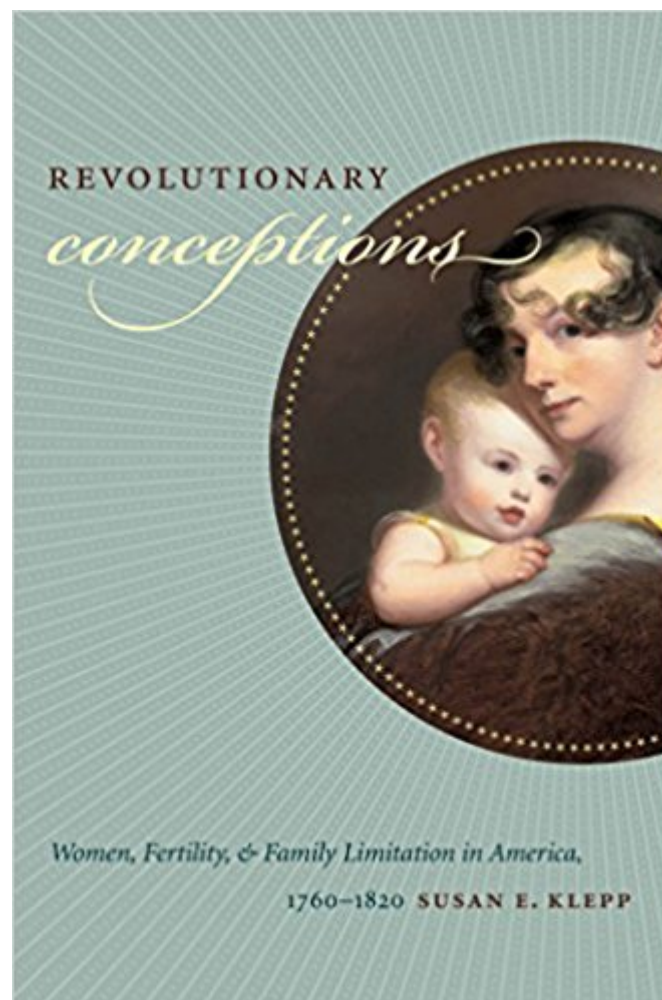


The book was found

Revolutionary Conceptions: Women, Fertility, And Family Limitation In America, 1760-1820 (Published For The Omohundro Institute Of Early American History And Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia)





Synopsis

In the Age of Revolution, how did American women conceive their lives and marital obligations? By examining the attitudes and behaviors surrounding the contentious issues of family, contraception, abortion, sexuality, beauty, and identity, Susan E. Klepp demonstrates that many women--rural and urban, free and enslaved--began to radically redefine motherhood. They asserted, or attempted to assert, control over their bodies, their marriages, and their daughters' opportunities. Late-eighteenth-century American women were among the first in the world to disavow the continual childbearing and large families that had long been considered ideal. Liberty, equality, and heartfelt religion led to new conceptions of virtuous, rational womanhood and responsible parenthood. These changes can be seen in falling birthrates, in advice to friends and kin, in portraits, and in a gradual, even reluctant, shift in men's opinions. Revolutionary-era women redefined femininity, fertility, family, and their futures by limiting births. Women might not have won the vote in the new Republic, they might not have gained formal rights in other spheres, but, Klepp argues, there was a women's revolution nonetheless.

Book Information

Series: Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia

Paperback: 312 pages

Publisher: The University of North Carolina Press; 1 edition (December 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807859923

ISBN-13: 978-0807859926

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #270,358 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Abortion & Birth Control #98 in Â Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Infertility #118 in Â Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Special Topics > History

Customer Reviews

The United States did not seek to regulate contraception and abortion until the mid-nineteenth century. Family size peaked in the mid-eighteenth century. What happened in between? That, in a

nutshell, is Klepp's topic in *Revolutionary Conceptions*. Klepp maintains that while the American Revolution was unfolding on the world stage, another, female-led revolution was unfolding behind the scenes as American couples began to delay marriage, space births, and curtail childbearing several years before the wives reached menopause. These changes transformed the pattern of women's lives and their very conception of their purpose in life. This engaging book is a surprisingly quick read as scholarly works go. It has a strong statistical foundation, with due attention to regional and class differences. Klepp approaches her topic imaginatively: in one lavishly illustrated chapter, she explores how images of women gradually changed from emphasizing fertility to emphasizing self-control. The chapter on the technology of birth control is less satisfactory because Klepp doesn't wrap it up with a clear assessment of exactly how the typical Revolutionary-era woman limited family size, but she does at least provide a comprehensive overview of the full range of methods available, with an emphasis on emmenagogues. In short, *Revolutionary Conceptions* is a well-researched and fascinating book that challenges many previous theories about when and why Americans began to limit family size. Highly recommended.

This was a really good and exciting book although it didn't completely answer my questions about the time the author researched.

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

Revolutionary Conceptions: Women, Fertility, and Family Limitation in America, 1760-1820
(Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia)
New Netherland Connections: Intimate Networks and Atlantic Ties in Seventeenth-Century America (Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia)
Bonds of Alliance: Indigenous and Atlantic Slaveries in New France
(Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia)
Strangers Within the Realm: Cultural Margins of the First British Empire (Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia)
Fish into Wine: The Newfoundland Plantation in the Seventeenth Century (Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia)
Moral Capital: Foundations of British Abolitionism (Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture)
Fertility for Beginners: The Fertility Diet and Health Plan to Start Maximizing Your Fertility
Mountain Bike America Virginia: An Atlas of Virginia's Greatest Off-Road Bicycle Rides (Mountain Bike America Series)
American History: The People & Events that Changed American History (People's History, American, United States of America, American Revolution, Patriot, United States History Book 1)

The Garden of Fertility: A Guide to Charting Your Fertility Signals to Prevent or Achieve Pregnancy--Naturally--and to Gauge Your Reproductive Health How to Improve Your Sperm Count: Natural Ways to Increase Sperm Count to aid Conception and Boost Fertility (Fertility, infertility, conceive & Get Pregnant Book 1) Fertility: How to Get Pregnant - Cure Infertility, Get Pregnant & Start Expecting a Baby! (Childbirth, Gynecology, Fatherhood, Natural Birth, PCOS, Ovulation, Fertility Foods Book 1) Fertility Walk: A Fertility Nurse's Guide Along Your Journey Fertility, cycles & nutrition: How your diet affects your menstrual cycles & fertility Encountering Revolution: Haiti and the Making of the Early Republic (Early America: History, Context, Culture) The Less Noble Sex: Scientific, Religious, and Philosophical Conceptions of Woman's Nature (Race, Gender, and Science) Planters, Merchants, and Slaves: Plantation Societies in British America, 1650-1820 (American Beginnings, 1500-1900) Agriculture in Britain and America, 1660-1820: An Annotated Bibliography of the Eighteenth-Century Literature (Bibliographies and Indexes in World History) New River Guide: Paddling and Fishing in North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia Life, Work, and Rebellion in the Coal Fields: The Southern West Virginia Miners, 1880-1922 2nd Edition (WEST VIRGINIA & APPALACHIA)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)