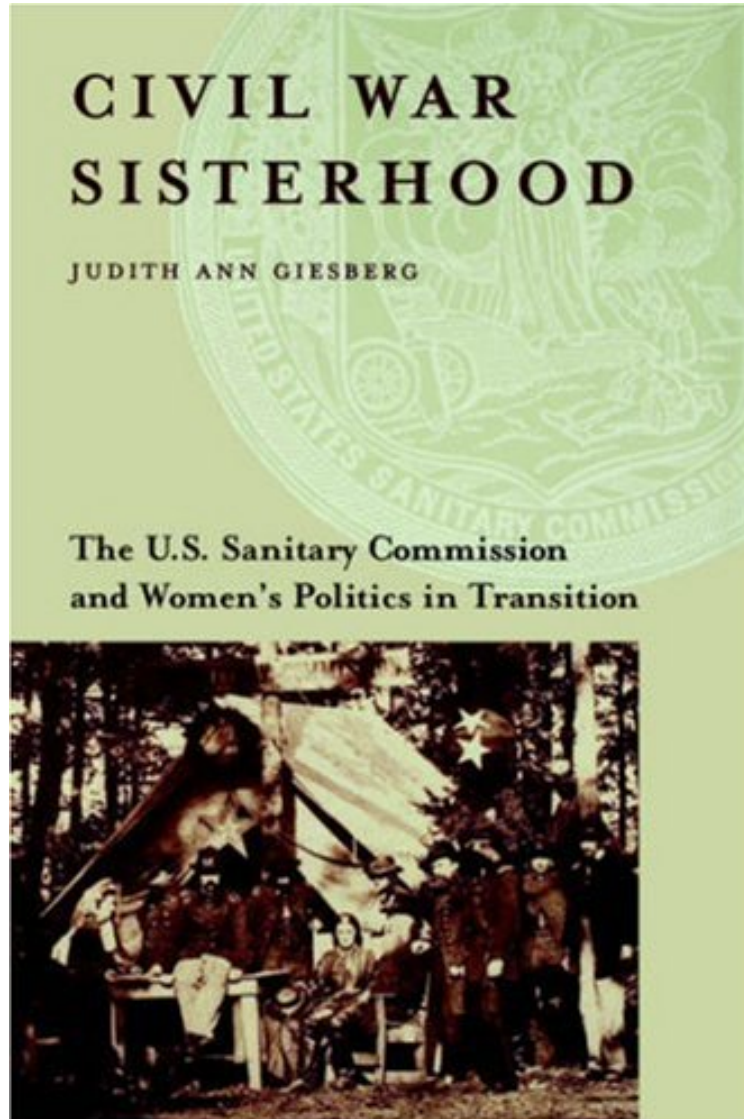


Civil War Sisterhood: The U.S. Sanitary Commission and Women's Politics in Transition

Judith Ann Giesberg

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



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1339922 in Books Northeastern 2006-07-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x .58 x 5.981, .84 #File Name: 1555536581256 pages | File size: 16.Mb

Judith Ann Giesberg : Civil War Sisterhood: The U.S. Sanitary Commission and Women's Politics in Transition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civil War Sisterhood: The U.S. Sanitary Commission and Women's Politics in Transition:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Super BookBy CustomerThe book is great for civil war re-enactors and those wanting more information on the role of women during the civil war. I will definitely be buying extras as

gifts for my friends.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Michael RitchieExcellent!

The Civil War-era U.S. Sanitary Commission (USSC) was the largest wartime benevolent institution. Judith Ann Giesberg demonstrates convincingly that that generation of women provided a crucial link between the local evangelical crusades of the early nineteenth century and the sweeping national reform and suffrage movements of the postwar period. Drawing on Sanitary Commission documents and memoirs, the author details how northern elite and middle-class women's experiences in and influence over the USSC formed the impetus for later reform efforts. Giesberg explores the ways in which women honed organizational and administrative skills, developed new strategies that combined strong centralized leadership with regional grassroots autonomy, and created a sisterhood that reached across class lines. She begins her study with an examination of the Woman's Central Association of Relief, an organization that gave birth to the USSC. Giesberg then discusses the significant roles of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, Dorothea Lynde Dix, and Henry Whitney Bellows, and considers the rationale for bringing women and men together in a collaborative wartime relief program. She shows how Louisa Lee Schuyler, Abigail Williams May, and other young women maneuvered and challenged the male-run Commission as they built an effective national network for giving critical support to soldiers on the battlefield and their families on the home front. This fresh perspective on the evolution of women's political culture fills an important gap in the literature, and it will appeal to historians, women's studies scholars, and Civil War buffs alike.

Judith Giesberg's study, *Civil War Sisterhood*, will occupy a significant place in the rapidly expanding field of women's history. By focusing on the activities of the U.S. Sanitary Commission during the Civil War, she effectively demonstrates the ways in which women were able to gain the invaluable management skills and organizational experience they would later apply successfully to social reforms and the suffrage movement once the war was over. (Thomas H. O'Connor, author of *Civil War Boston: Home Front and Battlefield*)
About the Author
JUDITH ANN GIESBERG received her Ph.D. from Boston College and is currently Assistant Professor of History at Northern Arizona University. Her articles on women in the U.S. Sanitary Commission have appeared in *Women's Studies Encyclopedia* and *Nursing History*. She lives in Flagstaff, Arizona.