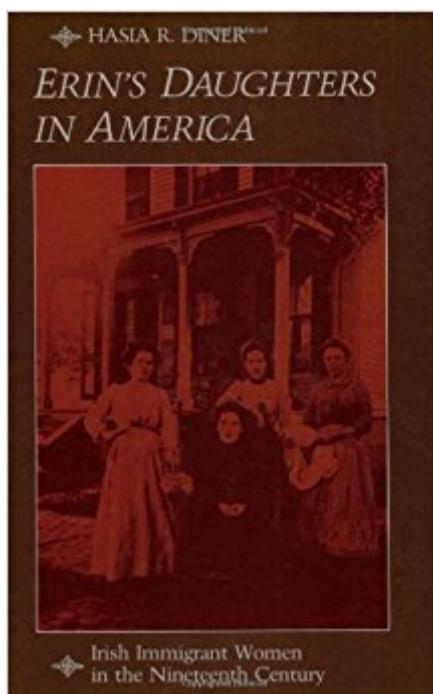


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Erin's Daughters In America: Irish Immigrant Women In The Nineteenth Century (The Johns Hopkins University Studies In Historical And Political Science)



Synopsis

The most sensitive treatment of Irish culture... [and] the most complete history we have of the Irish female experience. -- Labor History

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The most sensitive treatment of Irish culture... [and] the most complete history we have of the Irish female experience." (Labor History)"A vision of women with their own economic aspirations, actively engaged in the climb towards financial security." (Women's Review of Books)

Described here are thousands of Irish women who saw in America the chance to utilize the energy, ambition, and ability that would otherwise have remained stifled by the poverty and social inflexibility of their native land.

While I don't agree with everything Ms. Dinar has to say, this is a very solid book and far from being a feminist interpretation, I found it as willing to blame Irish women as to excuse them. As another reviewer pointed out, the second half is much stronger and it is fairly obvious that the writer is most comfortable once she has real numbers to theorize from. The one quibble - due to when she wrote this book (1983), Ms. Dinar feels that schizophrenia is a reaction to upbringing and blames the high rate of schizophrenia in Irish males on their mothers. Since I'm fairly certain that the new research leads to a biological & inherited basis, this would be like blaming Tay Sachs on the fact that Jewish

mothers made chicken soup. I think if she had the time a new look at this would update the book wonderfully and certainly make my review more positive.

Well packaged and protected.

In some ways, the book seems to present conflicting views. Women followed Catholic norms. That made them nominally obedient to husbands to the extent that they would serve men a hot meal and accept the warm leftovers. That sounds a lot like an Afghan village today, where women are reduced to eating scraps and becoming too anemic to safely bear the huge number of children that their circumstances demand. It seems that Irish women were able to carve out positions for themselves, while the men became involved in politics. It has been interesting to look at the women in my family, including some alcoholics, and better understand them.

The Ayatollah's Suitcase
This is fascinating, well researched book on Irish immigrant women in the 19th century. It is a very well documented study that sheds light on working class women in the 19th century.

This book is in great condition considering I got it used. I can't even tell it was used and it shipped really fast! I was very happy that I got almost a brand new book for such a good price!

very informative about a topic I knew so little about

Very boring. It's like a graph or pie-chart written out. Not at all what I was expecting. Too much statistics and not enough extrapolating from the facts. Also, it basically disregards the Irish women who were not Catholic. Not one word was mentioned about young Irish Protestant women in the whole of the book, and there were many.

Prior to reading *Erin's Daughters*, I assumed that the Irish emigrated as families. After reading the book, I researched my family's history in a coal-mining town in northeast PA and found single Irish women working on isolated farms and for professionals as early as 1860. After further research, I learned that my great-grandmother (seen sitting in the photo) was the first of her family to emigrate to America. After her arrival, she sent for two brothers, one of whom was killed in the mines. (Her husband was killed in a roof fall in the mines.) A sister followed and worked as a domestic in Boston. I would never have imagined my great-grandmother as being the vanguard of her family

before reading this book.

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