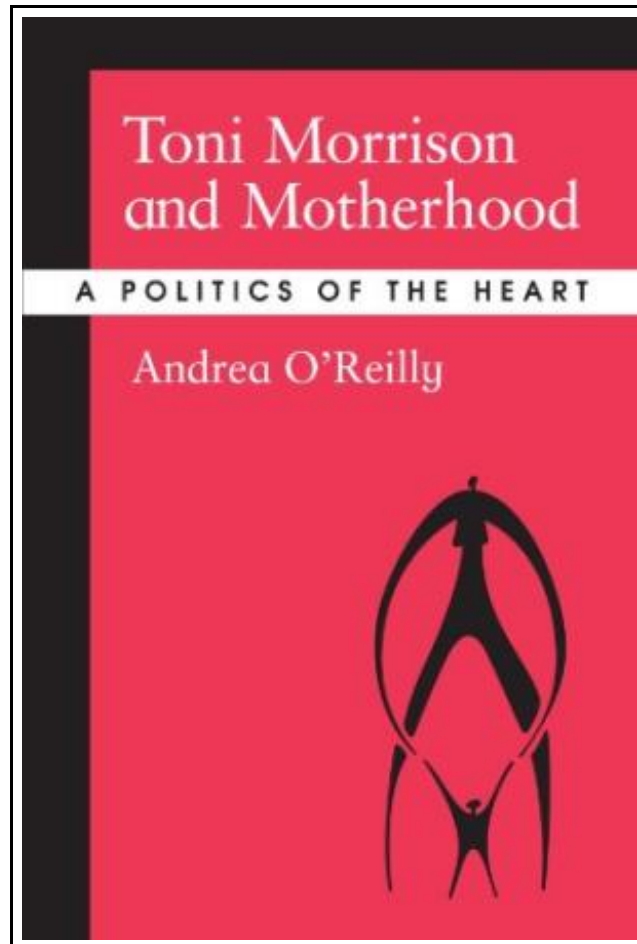


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State University of New York Press, United States, 2004. Paperback. Book Condition: New. annotated edition. 228 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Traces Morrison s theory of African American mothering as it is articulated in her novels, essays, speeches, and interviews. Mothering is a central issue for feminist theory, and motherhood is also a persistent presence in the work of Toni Morrison. Examining Morrison s novels, essays, speeches, and interviews, Andrea O Reilly illustrates how Morrison builds upon black women s experiences of and perspectives on motherhood to develop a view of black motherhood that is, in terms of both maternal identity and role, radically different from motherhood as practiced and prescribed in the dominant culture. Motherhood, in Morrison s view, is fundamentally and profoundly an act of resistance, essential and integral to black women s fight against racism (and sexism) and their ability to achieve well-being for themselves and their culture. The power of motherhood and the empowerment of mothering are what make possible the better world we seek for ourselves and for our children. This, argues O Reilly, is Morrison s maternal theory a politics of the heart. As an advocate of a politics of the heart, O Reilly has an acute insight into discerning any threat to the preservation and continuation of traditional African American womanhood and values Above all, Toni Morrison and Motherhood, based on Andrea O Reilly s methodical research on Morrison s works as well as feminist critical resources, proffers a useful basis for understanding Toni Morrison s works. It certainly contributes to exploring in detail Morrison s rich and complex works notable from the perspectives of nurturing and sustaining African American maternal tradition. African American Review O Reilly boldly reconfigures hegemonic western notions of motherhood while maintaining dialogues across cultural...

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