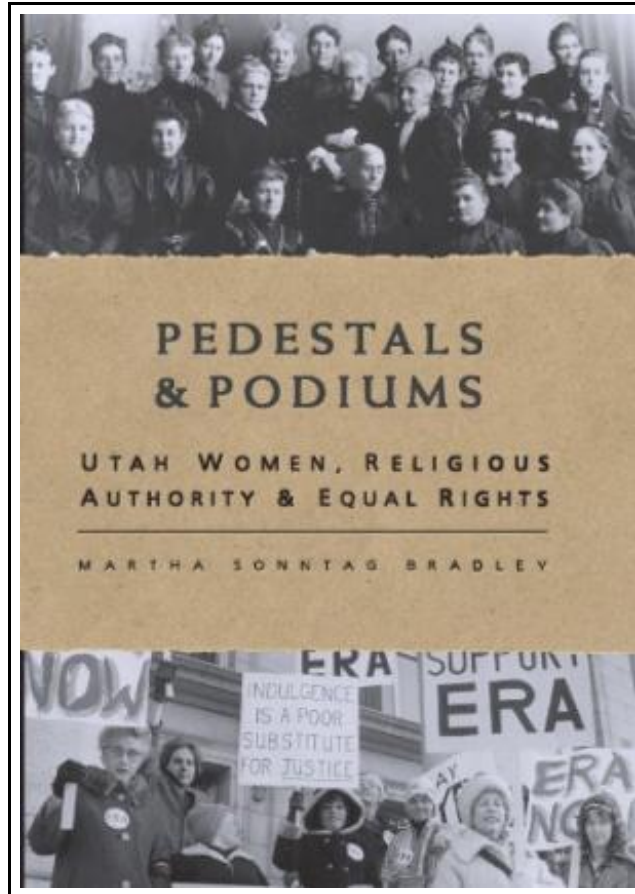


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Signature Books, United States, 2005. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 163 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Almost from the beginning, the women s movement has been divided into two factions those wanting full equality with men (Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul) and those seeking legal protections for women s particular needs (Julia Ward Howe, Eleanor Roosevelt). Early Utah leaders such as Relief Society President Emmeline B. Wells walked hand-in-hand with Anthony and other controversial reformers. However, by the 1970s, Mormons had undergone a significant ideological turn to the mainstream, championing women s unique roles in home and church, and joined other conservatives in defeating the Equal Rights Amendment. Looking back to the nineteenth century, how committed were Latter-day Saints of their day to women s rights? LDS President Joseph F. Smith was particularly critical of women who glory in their enthralled condition and who caress and fondle the very chains and manacles which fetter and enslave them! The masthead of the church s female Relief Society periodical, Woman s Exponent, proudly proclaimed The Rights of the Women of Zion and the Rights of Women of All Nations! In leading the LDS sisterhood, Wells said she gleaned inspiration from The Revolution, published by Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Fast-forward a century to 1972 and passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the United States Congress. Within a few years, the LDS Church, allied with Phyllis Schlafly, joined a coalition of the Religious Right and embarked on a campaign against ratification. This was a mostly grassroots campaign waged by thousands of men and women who believed they were engaged in a moral war and that the enemy was feminism itself. Conjuring up images of unisex bathrooms, homosexuality, the dangers of women in the military, and the divine calling of stay-at-home motherhood none of which were directly...



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