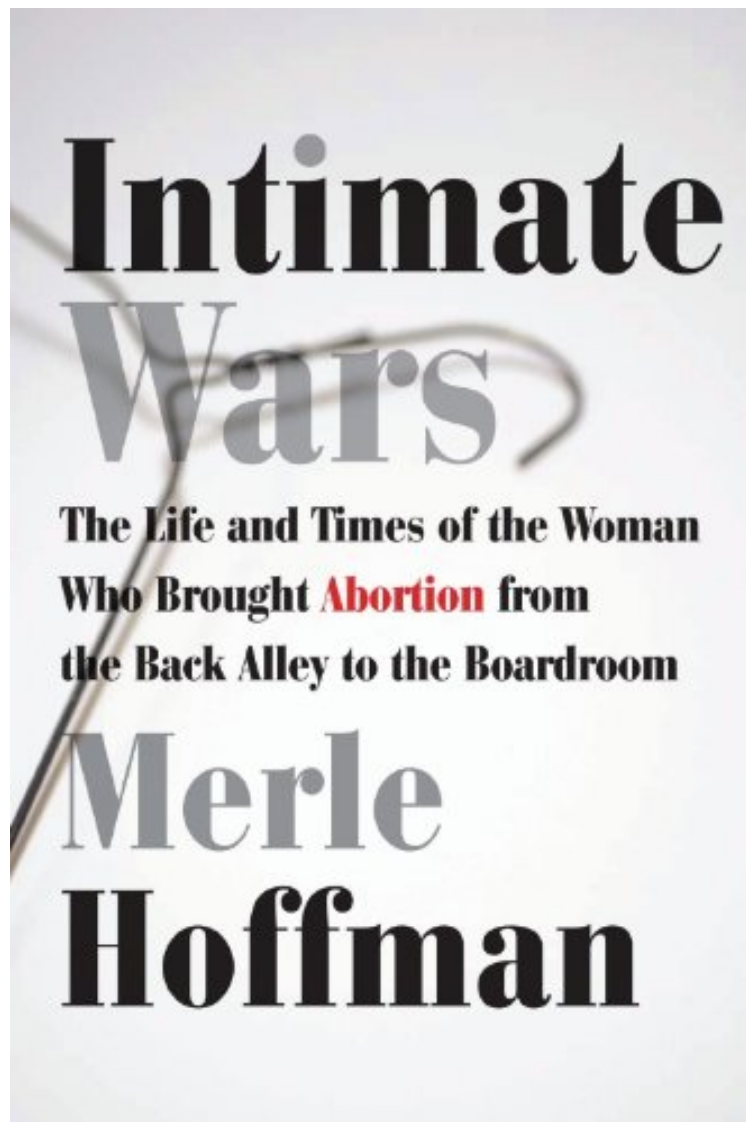


[Mobile pdf] Intimate Wars: The Life and Times of the Woman Who Brought Abortion from the Back Alley to the Board Room

Intimate Wars: The Life and Times of the Woman Who Brought Abortion from the Back Alley to the Board Room

Merle Hoffman

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Merle Hoffman : Intimate Wars: The Life and Times of the Woman Who Brought Abortion from the Back Alley to the Board Room before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Intimate Wars: The Life and Times of the Woman Who Brought Abortion from the Back Alley to the Board Room:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. definite bio....By jactetchmsonok. was looking for more historical

info on movement, less personal details ...not sure i agree that she was THE woman who affected change .seems cavalier about 'liberation' at times, when harsher reality for most...potaTOE/poTATo6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Modern Day HypatiaBy J. BairdThis brave, raw and fascinating memoir is, at its core, about the journey towards self-actualization and the freedom necessary to master one's life. Fortunately for countless women, the book's heroine, Merle Hoffman, used her brilliance and immense talents to provide them with safe, affordable reproductive healthcare. The author uncomplainingly describes for her readers the terror and abuses she has endured at the hands of anti-abortion fanatics in order to provide abortion services. All who believe that abortion and birth control create an equal playing field for women that enables them to control their health and very lives will feel indebted to Ms. Hoffman after reading this book. For decades she has held the torch of freedom, often a heavy burden to bear, in order to light the way for others.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Beautifully written!By Stanley L Rustin Ph.D.In a brilliant 1950 film, "All About Eve," a character played by Celeste Holm turns to her companions and expecting a turbulent and possibly confrontational evening says, "Fasten your seat belts it's going to be a bumpy ride." The same might be said for the life of Merle Hoffman who has written a candid, self revealing, and at times not very flattering picture of her life in "Intimate Wars."Born in Philadelphia and raised in a middle class neighborhood in Queens, New York, Merle first aspired to become a concert pianist and then as a young woman in 1971 with Dr. Martin Gold, founded the Flushing Women's Medical Center, "one of the first ambulatory abortion facilities in New York." This center was the beginning of a stormy and challenging career for Merle as a feminist, activist, and fighter for women's reproductive right. Once the Flushing Women's Medical Center opened, it became a magnet for women seeking an alternative to self inflicted abortions which might lead to complications and possible death, to a legal, safe choice to carrying on unwanted pregnancy to termination. Two years before Roe vs. Wade became the landmark decision legalizing abortion, women in New York State were able to legally terminate their pregnancies. The stage was then set for confrontations between Pro Choice and Pro Life advocacy groups. The struggle between these polar positions became a battleground that continues to the present, even as we list the casualties from the past.In this highly personal account, Merle takes the reader from the evolution of the Flushing Women's Medical Center to it's present incarnation as Choices (an acronym for Creative Health Organization Counseling and Educational Services) which performs thousands of abortions each year. With the growth of Choices and her advocacy for women's right to choose, Merle has been the lightning rod for death threats and bomb threats to the center. She eloquently describes the murder of her colleagues as well as abortion clinics that have been set on fire."Intimate Wars" is a riveting read about one person's role in fighting for a woman's inalienable right to either terminate her pregnancy or not. For anyone interested in an excellent description of the struggle to secure this right I highly recommend this beautifully written searingly honest memoir.Stanley L Rustin Ph.D.Professor Emeritus - Queensborough Community College of the City University of New York

Merle Hoffman's life story is riveting. A former classical pianist, a self-made millionaire, and a feminist who found her life's work providing abortions, she has been a fearless crusader for women's right to choose.Over the years, Hoffman has used her entrepreneurial spirit to build one of the most comprehensive women's medical centers in the country. In 1971 (two years before the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion nationally), Hoffman founded Choices, an abortion clinic in New York. As a medical provider, she pioneered "patient power," encouraging women to participate in their own health care decisions. And going against even her own expectations for her life after fifty, she adopted a child and writes about her experience as a mother.Whether addressing the murder of abortion providers like Dr. George Tiller or challenging women to understand their own power over their bodies and the language used to wield such power, Merle Hoffman has been on the front lines of the feminist movement, a fierce warrior in the battle for choice.