

**T**HIS VOLUME BRINGS TOGETHER the latest approaches in bioarchaeology in the study of sex and gender. Archaeologists have long used skeletal remains to identify gender. Contemporary bioarchaeologists, however, have begun to challenge the theoretical and methodological basis for sex assignment from the skeleton. Simultaneously, they have started to consider the cultural construction of the gendered body and gender roles, recognizing the body as uniquely fashioned from the interaction of biological, social, and environmental factors. As the contributors to this volume reveal, combining skeletal data with contextual information can provide a richer understanding of life in the past.

“This book on gender and sex breaks new ground in several directions. It blends new theoretical approaches with new twists on methodologies and data analysis, with new case studies. This book will be a standard in teaching bioarchaeology for some time.”

—DEBRA L. MARTIN, coauthor of *Bodies and Lives in Ancient America: Health Before Columbus*

“An innovative collection of scholarship that should compel bioarchaeologists to transform our investigative and interpretive practices around the categories of sex and gender. This book is a must-read for bioarchaeologists who crave more social theoretical rigor in the field.”

—ANN M. KAKALIOURAS, Whittier College

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