This book provides a comprehensive review of attitudes toward same-sex marriage in the United States, examining historical events, religious traditions, and gender norms that have influenced understandings of same-sex marriage in America. Information regarding same-sex relationships in other cultures, both today and in previous eras, provides insightful perspective to the topic; arguments for and against same-sex marriages are presented along with rebuttals to both positions. Same-sex marriage continues to be a polarizing subject in the United States and other parts of the world. This new edition of Same-Sex Marriage: A Reference Handbook brings readers up to date on the status of same-sex unions from social, legal, political, and historical perspectives. * Presents up-to-date coverage of important events in the modern history of same-sex marriage in the United States and other parts of the world as well as public opinion and statistics on same-sex marriage * Describes and explains changes in the legal status of same-sex marriage since the U.S. Supreme Court decision Same-sex marriage is the most conflicting issue in the contemporary social world. The opponents of the single-sex marriage propagate that same-sex marriage is harmful socially and morally whereas its proponents are of the view that same-sex marriage is an individual right that brings no harm to the society. This paper explores the both viewpoints in the social, religious and historical perspective.