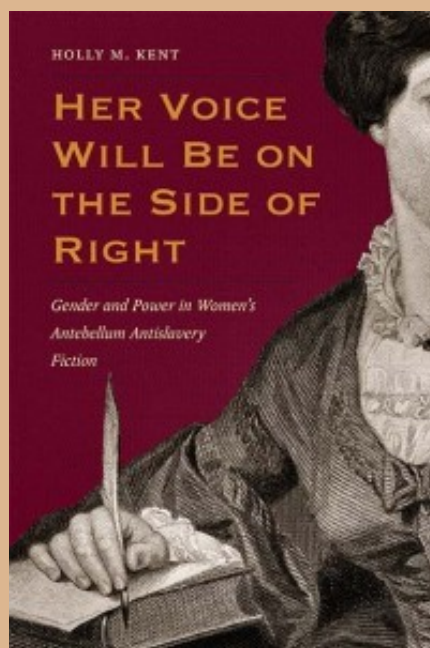


“WRITING FREEDOM: ABOLITIONIST WOMEN’S FICTION BEFORE THE U.S. CIVIL WAR”



DR. HOLLY M. KENT
Associate Professor of History
University of Illinois-Springfield

In the antebellum era, free American women published numerous antislavery short stories and novels: why did they turn to the medium of fiction to spread the abolitionist gospel? And what roles did they argue African American and white women could play in the antislavery movement? “Writing Freedom” will consider these questions, reflecting on the complicated ways antislavery women used their pens in the fight to end slavery.

Holly M. Kent received her B.A. in English from The College of New Jersey, and her M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Lehigh University. She has worked at the University of Illinois-Springfield since 2011, where she teaches classes in U.S. women’s history, the history of slavery and abolition, and fashion history. Her book *Her Voice Will Be on the Side of Right: Gender and Power in Women’s Antebellum Antislavery Literature* was published by Kent State University Press in 2017, and her edited collection *Teaching Fashion Studies* will be published by Bloomsbury Press in August 2018.

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4:10 P.M. | STEPS 101