

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910383830303321
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Titolo	Exploring Political Legacies / / by Stephen Farrall, Colin Hay, Emily Gray
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Pivot, , 2020
ISBN	9783030370060 3030370062
Edizione	[1st ed. 2020.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xv, 107 pages)
Collana	Building a Sustainable Political Economy: SPERI Research & Policy, , 2946-3408
Disciplina	300 328
Soggetti	Political planning World politics Political science Executive power Comparative government Public Policy Political History Political Theory Executive Politics Comparative Politics Political Science
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Chapter One: Tracing the Past in the Present: Defining and Operationalising the Concept of Political Legacy -- Chapter Two: Political Generations and the Fear of Crime -- Chapter Three: Housing Law, Household Victimisation and the Spatial Reconfiguration of Property Crime -- Chapter Four: Rising Punitiveness in the English & Welsh Criminal Justice System -- Chapter Five: Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	The concept of the political legacy, despite its importance for institutionalist and historically-minded political analysts more generally, remains both elusive and undeveloped theoretically. This

book seeks to address that oversight by building on existing studies which have approached the notion of a legacy to offer a clear definition and operationalisation of the term which might be used to inform future research. Legacies we view as traces of the past in the present; the claim to the existence of a legacy is both a causal and a counter-factual claim. We propose, in the light of this, a multi-dimensional approach to gauging political legacies, reflecting on some of the theoretical, analytical and methodological concerns which need to be addressed in establishing credible claims to their existence. These we develop and illustrate with respect to the literature on Thatcherism.

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