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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 235-246) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Historical background -- Understanding the First Amendment -- Religious expression in public places -- Religious expression in public schools -- Public funding of religious schools -- Historical issues of religious expression versus competing social interests -- Current issues of religious expression versus competing social interests -- Religious expression and political life.
Sommario/riassunto	First Amendment rights have been among the most fiercely debated topics in the aftermath of 9/11. In the current environment and fervor for "homeland security," personal freedoms in exchange for security are coming under more scrutiny. Among these guaranteed freedoms are the protection of religious expression given by the U.S. Constitution and the constitutional prohibitions against behaviors that violate the separation of church and state. The mandate that the government "shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" is a general principle that has been tested in numerous cases since the 1990s. Haiman's book provides a comprehensive overview of the historical context and legal challenges surrounding religious expression in the United States, from the colonial period to the present day. It examines the relationship between religion and government, the role of the First Amendment in protecting religious freedom, and the ongoing debates over issues such as school prayer, religious symbols in public spaces, and the separation of church and state. The book also explores the impact of 9/11 on religious expression and the challenges of balancing national security concerns with individual freedoms. Haiman's analysis is informed by a deep understanding of constitutional law and historical precedent, providing a valuable resource for anyone interested in the complex and often contentious issue of religious expression in the American context.