1. Record Nr. UNINA9910452026403321 Autore **Dubber Markus Dirk Titolo** The police power [[electronic resource]]: patriarchy and the foundations of American government / / Markus Dirk Dubber New York,: Columbia University Press, c2005 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-231-50695-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (605 p.) Disciplina 342.73/0418 Soggetti Police power - United States - History Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Gift/Arsenault, R. Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 219-257) and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: "The Power to Govern Men and Things" -- Part I. From Household Governance to Political Economy -- 1. Police as Patria Potestas -- 2. Blackstone's Police -- 3. Continental Police Science -- Part II. American Police Power -- 4. Policing the New Republic -- 5. Definition by Exclusion -- 6. Police Power and Commerce Power -- Part III. Police, Law, Criminal Law -- 7. The Forgotten Power and the Problem of Legitimation -- 8. The Law of Police: Internal and External Constraints -- 9. Lochner's Law and Substantive Due Process -- Conclusion: Toward a Critical Analysis of Police and Punishment -- Index --Backmatter Sommario/riassunto Mention the phrase Homeland Security and heated debates emerge about state uses and abuses of legal authority. This timely book is a comprehensive treatise on the constitutional and legal history behind the power of the modern state to police its citizens. Dubber explores the roots of the power to police--the most expansive and least limitable of governmental powers--by focusing on its most obvious and problematic manifestation: criminal law. He argues that the defining characteristics of this power, including the inability to accurately define it, reflect its origins in the discretionary and virtually

limitless patriarchal power of the householder over his household. The paradox of patriarchal police power as the most troubling yet least

scrutinized of governmental powers can begin to be resolved by subjecting this branch of government to the critical analysis it merits. Dubber shows us that the question must become how can the police power and criminal law together serve the goals of social equity that define and give direction to contemporary democratic societies? This book goes to the heart of this neglected but crucial topic.