Record Nr. UNINA9910456101403321 Autore Sallaz Jeffrey J. <1974-> Titolo The labor of luck [[electronic resource]]: casino capitalism in the United States and South Africa / / Jeffrey J. Sallaz Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-35988-6 9786612359880 0-520-94465-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (345 p.) Disciplina 338.4/77950968 Soggetti Casinos - United States Casinos - South Africa Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 293-309) and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Tables -- Preface --Introduction: Dealing With Globalization -- 1. Nevada: Learning To Deal -- 2. Silver State Casino: Entrepreneurs At Work -- 3. South Africa: Gambling With Empowerment -- 4. Gold City Casino: Effacing Labor --5. The Politics Of Producing Service -- 6. Cut From The Same Cloth: Convergent Historical Origins -- 7. The Birth Of Regulation: States, Stigmata, And Symbolic Capital -- 8. Of Dice And Men: Divergent Modes Of Management -- Conclusion: Casino Capitalism And Politico-Performativity -- Methodological Appendix: Comparative Ethnography And Reflexive Science -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto In this gripping ethnography, Jeffrey J. Sallaz goes behind the scenes of the global casino industry to investigate the radically different worlds of work and leisure he found in identically designed casinos in the United States and South Africa. Seamlessly weaving political and economic history with his own personal experience, Sallaz provides a riveting account of two years spent working among both countries' casino dealers, pit bosses, and politicians. While the popular imagination sees the Nevada casino as a hedonistic world of

consumption, The Labor of Luck shows that the "Vegas experience" is

made possible only through a variety of systems regulating labor, capital, and consumers, and that because of these complex dynamics, the Vegas casino cannot be seamlessly picked up and replicated elsewhere. Sallaz's fresh and path-breaking approach reveals how neoliberal versus post-colonial forms of governance produce divergent worlds at the tables, and how politics, profits, and pleasure have come together to shape everyday life in the new economy.