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Nota di contenuto	Delineating the problem / William A. Galston and Pietro S. Nivola -- Disconnected : the political class versus the people / Morris P. Fiorina and Matthew S. Levendusky -- Disconnected, or joined at the hip? / Alan I. Abramowitz, Gary C. Jacobson -- Rejoinder / Morris P. Fiorina and Matthew S. Levendusky -- Rejoinder / Alan I. Abramowitz -- Polarization then and now : a historical perspective / David W. Brady and Hahrie C. Han -- Polarization runs deep, even by yesterday's standards / James E. Campbell, Carl M. Cannon -- Polarized by God? : American politics and the religious divide / E.J. Dionne Jr. -- Myths and realities of religion in politics / Alan Wolfe, Andrew Kohut -- How the mass media divide us / Diana C. Mutz -- Two alternative perspectives / Thomas Rosentiel, Greg Easterbrook -- Polarizing the House of Representatives : how much does gerrymandering matter? / Thomas E. Mann -- Why other sources of polarization matter more / Gary C.

Jacobson, Thomas B. Edsall.

Sommario/riassunto

Analysts and pundits increasingly perceive a widening gulf between "red states" and "blue states." Yet the research to support that perception is scattered and sometimes difficult to parse. America's polarized politics, it is said, poses fundamental dangers for democratic and accountable government. Heightened partisanship is thought to degrade deliberation in Congress and threaten the integrity of other institutions, from the courts to the media. But, how deep do the country's political divisions actually run? Are they truly wreaking havoc upon the social fabric? Has America become a house divided? This important new book, *Red and Blue Nation?*, gets to the bottom of this perplexing issue. The first of two volumes cosponsored by Brookings and the Hoover Institution carefully considers the extent to which polarized views among political leaders and activists are reflected in the population at large. It pays particular attention to factors such as the increased influence of religion and the changing nature of the media. The authors show that while the severity of the country's "culture wars" is often overstated, significant fissures have opened. In *Red and Blue Nation?* leading journalists and scholars combine their different insights to enrich our understanding of the issue, offering thoughtful analyses of the underlying problems. This comprehensive and accessible discussion of the polarization debate will be an essential resource for policymakers, scholars, and anyone interested in the health of American public discourse.
