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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- PART 1: THE MAINSTREAM PARLEMENTAIRE MENTALITE: The mainstream parlementaires: who they were and how they got there -- Constitutionalism: a nexus of political-historical and professional values -- Cultural values -- Social and personal values -- PART 2: RELIGION IN THE PARLEMENTAIRE MENTALITE: Setting thhhhhe problem: religious values -- Challenge and response of the early generation: mid-1520s to mid-1530s -- The engine of repression: the transitional generation, 1540-1551 -- The road to civil war (1): 1555-1561 -- The road to civil war (2): 1561-1562 -- The crisis generation in civil war, 1562-1582 -- PART 3: THE PARLEMENT AND THE LEAGUE, 1585-1594:

The buildup, 1585 to May 1588 -- The rebellion against the crown to the reign of Henry III, May 1588 to August 1, 1589 -- Terror and reaction, August 1589 to December 1591, 1592 -- The resurrection of the Parlement, 1593-1594 -- Epilogue: Plus Ca Change ..., 1594-1605 -- Hypotheses and conclusions -- Appendix: Pierre de L'Estoile as a documentary source for events, 1574-1611.

Sommario/riassunto

This book, the culmination of a lifelong career in French history, tackles head-on the central question of the French Religious Wars: Why did France prove so consistently hostile and resistant to Protestantism? Distinguished scholar Nancy Lyman Roelker claims that what ultimately motivated the passion and violence of the civil wars was religion. She demonstrates that not only the body politic but also the body social was defined by Gallican Catholicism.

Roelker underscores the role the Parlement played in shaping and safeguarding the social, as well as the political, order. Her study is based on extensive research in the correspondence, memoirs, tracts, diplomatic dispatches, and procedural manuals of mainstream Catholic magistrates as well as dissenters. It creates an overview of the mentalities of the Parlement, analyzes religious attitudes toward major events of the period, and examines the Parlement's role in the triumph of Henri IV. Along the way, it sheds light on the inner workings of the Parlement and other political institutions, on social structures, and on collective ideas.
