

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777587703321
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Titolo	Political support in a frustrated America [[electronic resource] /] / Stephen J. Farnsworth
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Westport, Conn., : Praeger, 2003
ISBN	1-280-42344-7 9786610423446 0-313-05165-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (200 p.)
Disciplina	320.973
Soggetti	Legitimacy of governments - United States Political culture - United States Political leadership - United States - Public opinion Political participation - United States Public opinion - United States United States Politics and government 2001-2009
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. [169]-182) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Tables; Acknowledgments; 1. A Crisis of Discontent and Alienation?; 2. ""I Pledge Allegiance?"": Support for the Political Regime; 3. ""Broken Branches?"": Support for the Component Parts of Government; 4. ""The Great Destroyer?"": Political Support and the Mass Media; 5. ""Voices in the Wilderness?"": Ordinary Citizens and Political support; 6. Conclusion; Appendices; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Public confidence and trust in government is low these days. Farnsworth pinpoints this disappointment to shifting expectations of what, exactly, government should do. Politicians were once expected to maintain economic growth, but in our post-scarcity era most citizens expect them to provide services - such as welfare or environmental - that are often contentious. Enlarging the scope of local political empowerment will increase public support by making politics more approachable and responsive.