Record Nr. UNINA9910780291503321 Autore Mitchell Harvey **Titolo** America after Tocqueville: democracy against difference / / Harvey Mitchell [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2002 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-107-12553-7 **ISBN** 0-521-03024-2 1-280-15962-6 0-511-12038-9 0-511-33007-3 0-511-51173-6 0-511-04532-8 0-511-14771-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xi, 324 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 320.973 Soggetti **Democracy - United States Equality - United States** United States Politics and government United States Social conditions To 1865 Inglese Lingua di pubblicazione **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 295-309) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: thinking about American democracy -- Democracy's experiment: from inequality to equality -- Achieving a democratic civil society -- Beginnings and history: red and white in Tocqueville's America -- The New England township before the revolution: Tocqueville's American pastoral -- A second beginning: black and white in Tocqueville's America -- Difference, race, and color in America -- Maintaining American democracy -- The state, authority, and the people. America after Tocqueville complements Harvey Mitchell's previous Sommario/riassunto book, Individual Choice and the Structures of History: Alexis de

Tocqueville as Historian Reappraised (1996). This study draws on Democracy in America to study the condition of democracy in the

United States in our own time. Three aspects of Americanism inform Harvey Mitchell's book, and cannot be separated from Tocqueville's consideration of the three races. First, he addresses tensions in the United States between ideas of equality and a political system that tries to keep it within bounds. He turns to the relationship between this system and the dynamics of American capitalism. and he analyses the criteria for inclusion and exclusion in American life. Overall, he asks if Americans have surrendered to what Tocqueville called the materialization of life; if that compromise means their abandonment of their original spiritual quest; and, if they are on the way to a radical alienation from politics.