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Nota di contenuto	; 1. The political demography of think tanks -- ; 2. The evolution of think tanks -- ; 3. Political credibility -- ; 4. The policy roles of experts -- ; 5. Policy influence : making research matter -- ; 6. Think tanks, experts, and American politics -- ; App. A. Details on the characteristics, perceptions, and visibility of think tanks -- ; App. B. List of in-depth interviews.
Sommario/riassunto	While the number of think tanks active in American politics has more than quadrupled since the 1970s, their influence has not expanded proportionally. Instead, the known ideological proclivities of many,

especially newer think tanks with their aggressive efforts to obtain high profiles, have come to undermine the credibility with which experts and expertise are generally viewed by public officials. This book explains this paradox. The analysis is based on 135 in-depth interviews with officials at think tanks and those in the policy making and funding organizations that draw upon and support their work. The book reports on results from a survey of congressional staff and journalists and detailed case studies of the role of experts in health care and telecommunications reform debates in the 1990s and tax reduction in 2001.
