1. Record Nr. UNINA9910784812003321 Autore Nagel Robert F Titolo Judicial power and American character [[electronic resource]]: censoring ourselves in an anxious age // Robert F. Nagel New York,: Oxford University Press, 1994 Pubbl/distr/stampa 0-19-771965-1 **ISBN** 1-280-56111-4 9786610561117 0-19-535841-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (199 p.) Disciplina 347.73/12 347.30712 Soggetti Constitutional law - Moral and ethical aspects - United States Judicial power - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Contents: 1. Introduction: The Court as Cultural Barometer: 2. Watching Ourselves: The Thomas Hearings and National Character: Inequality as Equality: Offensiveness as Virtue: Careerism and Sexual Equality: Careerism and Responsibility: Moralism and Opportunism: 3. Shaping Law: Elitism and Democracy in the Bork Hearings; Bork against the Mainstream; Bork as the Mainstream; Meeting the Enemy; 4. Marching on Constitution Avenue: Public Protest and the Court; Judges as Politicians: Marching and Advocacy: Legalism, Realism, and Edwin Meese's Heresy 5. Speaking before All Others: Interpretation as the Suppression of DisagreementThe Rule of Law; Legal Traditions and Constitutional Rights; Political Resistance and the Expansion of Rights; 6. Pursuing Visions: Interpretation as Moral Evasion; Sexual Speech and Moral

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## Sommario/riassunto

This book examines judicial power as an integral part of our increasingly anxious and intolerant society. Nagel shows how constitutional politics embodies cultural tendencies toward moral evasiveness, privatization, and opportunism, and that judicial decisions often censor important beliefs and traditions. Ranging widely over topics such as Clarence Thomas' confirmation, abortion, flag-burning, and gay rights, the analysis crosses conventional political and philosophical lines to conclude that the real protection for legal values lies in robust politics.