1. Record Nr. UNINA9910789626003321 **Autore** Minnite Lorraine Carol Titolo The myth of voter fraud [[electronic resource] /] / Lorraine C. Minnite Ithaca,: Cornell University Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8014-5906-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (308 p.) Disciplina 324.6/60973 Elections - Corrupt practices - United States Soggetti Political corruption - United States Voting - United States United States Politics and government Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Chapter 1. Introduction -- Chapter 2. What Is Voter Fraud? -- Chapter 3. Are U.S. Elections Vulnerable to Voter Fraud? -- Chapter 4. Evidence from the States -- Chapter 5. Would the Rational Voter Commit Fraud? --Chapter 6. The Political Work of Fraud Allegations -- Chapter 7. Voter Fraud Allegations and Their Consequences -- Appendix 1. Allegations of Voter Fraud in the 2004 Election Cycle -- Appendix 2. Selected State Election Codes and Case Law Criminalizing Election Fraud in Twelve States -- Appendix 3. The Quest for Federal Data on Voter Fraud --Appendix 4. Steps in Extracting Voter Fraud Records from the Federal Court Cases Integrated Database -- Appendix 5. Reconciling Differences in Agency Coding of Federal Election Law Violations --Appendix 6. Oregon Election Law Complaints -- Notes -- Index Sommario/riassunto Allegations that widespread voter fraud is threatening to the integrity of American elections and American democracy itself have intensified since the disputed 2000 presidential election. The claim that elections are being stolen by illegal immigrants and unscrupulous voter registration activists and vote buyers has been used to persuade the

public that voter malfeasance is of greater concern than structural inequities in the ways votes are gathered and tallied, justifying ever tighter restrictions on access to the polls. Yet, that claim is a myth. In

The Myth of Voter Fraud, Lorraine C. Minnite presents the results of her meticulous search for evidence of voter fraud. She concludes that while voting irregularities produced by the fragmented and complex nature of the electoral process in the United States are common, incidents of deliberate voter fraud are actually quite rare. Based on painstaking research aggregating and sifting through data from a variety of sources, including public records requests to all fifty state governments and the U.S. Justice Department, Minnite contends that voter fraud is in reality a politically constructed myth intended to further complicate the voting process and reduce voter turnout. She refutes several highprofile charges of alleged voter fraud, such as the assertion that eight of the 9/11 hijackers were registered to vote, and makes the question of voter fraud more precise by distinguishing fraud from the manifold ways in which electoral democracy can be distorted. Effectively disentangling misunderstandings and deliberate distortions from reality, The Myth of Voter Fraud provides rigorous empirical evidence for those fighting to make the electoral process more efficient, more equitable, and more democratic.