1. Record Nr. UNINA9910792356103321 Autore Richards David A. J. Titolo Fundamentalism in American religion and law: Obama's challenge to patriarchy's threat to democracy / / David A.J. Richards [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa 0-511-73934-6 **ISBN** 1-107-20407-0 1-282-52579-4 9786612525797 0-511-67803-7 0-511-68126-7 0-511-67677-8 0-511-68324-3 0-511-67603-4 0-511-67928-9 1 online resource (x, 313 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 342.7308/52 Constitutional law - United States Soggetti Constitutional law - Religious aspects - Christianity Law - United States - Christian influences Christianity and law Religious fundamentalism - Political aspects - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction: defining the problem -- The progressive recognition of human rights under American constitutional law -- The fundamentalism of constitutional originalism -- The motivations of constitutional fundamentalism -- Fundamentalism in Roman Catholicism -- Fundamentalism among Protestants -- Mormon fundamentalism -- Patriarchal roots of constitutional fundamentalism

-- Fundamentalism in religion and law: a critical overview --

Conclusion: patriarchy as the American dilemma: facing the problem

of fundamentalism at home and abroad.

Sommario/riassunto

Why, from Reagan to George Bush, have fundamentalists in religion and in law (originalists) exercised such political power and influence in the United States? Why has the Republican Party forged an ideology of judicial appointments (originalism) hostile to abortion and gay rights? Why and how did Barack Obama distinguish himself among Democratic candidates not only by his opposition to the Iraq war but by his opposition to originalism? This book argues that fundamentalism in both religion and law threatens democratic values and draws its appeal from a patriarchal psychology still alive in our personal and political lives and at threat from the constitutional developments since the 1960s. The argument analyzes this psychology (based on traumatic loss in intimate life) and resistance to it (based on the love of equals). Obama's resistance to originalism arises from his developmental history as a democratic, as opposed to patriarchal, man who resists the patriarchal demands on men and women that originalism enforces - in particular, the patriarchal love laws that tell people who and how and how much they may love.