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Titolo	Social movements and free-market capitalism in Latin America [[electronic resource] ] : telecommunications privatization and the rise of consumer protest // Sybil Rhodes
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ISBN	0-7914-8258-8 1-4237-4790-9
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Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 193-214) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Consumer movements -- Explaining the emergence of consumer movements -- Authoritarian privatization and delayed consumer mobilization in Chile -- The "original sins" of privatization in Argentina -- Contentious consumer mobilization in Argentina -- The gradual and contested privatization of Brazil's "Telessauro" -- "Post-Jurassic" regulation and contained consumer response -- Democratizing free-market capitalism.
Sommario/riassunto	This innovative book examines how the privatization and reregulation of the telecommunications sectors in Chile, Argentina, and Brazil in the 1980s and 1990s provoked the rise of new consumer protest movements in Latin America. Sybil Rhodes looks at how hasty privatization of state-owned telephone companies led to short-term economic windfalls for multinational corporations but long-term instability due to consumer movements or the threat of them. Eventually these governments implemented consumer-friendly regulation as a belated form of damage control. In contrast, governments that privatized through more gradual, democratic processes were able to make credible commitments to their citizens as well as to their multinational investors by including regulatory regimes

with consumer protection mechanisms built in. Rhodes illustrates how consumers—previously unacknowledged actors in studies of social movements, market reforms, and democratizations in and beyond Latin America—are indispensable to understanding the political and social implications of these broad global trends.

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