Record Nr. UNINA9910809463003321 Autore Spear Allan H **Titolo** Crossing the barriers: the autobiography of Allan H. Spear // Allan H. Spear; foreword by Barney Frank; afterword by John Milton Minneapolis, : University of Minnesota Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa 0-8166-7536-8 **ISBN** Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (468 p.) Disciplina 328.73/092 В Soggetti Legislators - Minnesota Gay politicians - Minnesota Civil rights workers - United States Gay liberation movement - Minnesota Minnesota Politics and government 1951-Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di contenuto A difficult child, 1937-1954 -- Bright college years, 1954-1958 --Discovering the African American past--and present, 1958-1964 --Becoming a Minnesotan, 1964-1967 -- Love, war, and politics, 1967-1969 -- Campus and community, 1969-1972 -- The turning point: coming out and getting in, 1972 -- Entering the Senate and leaving the closet, 1973-1974 -- The first struggle for gay rights, 1975-1978 --Settling into a legislative career, 1978-1982 -- A new district, a new partnership, and new responsibilities, 1982-1988. Sommario/riassunto Allan Spear had a long and distinguished career as a historian and as a Minnesota state senator. Perhaps best known for coming out as openly gay during his first term in the Minnesota Senate-becoming one of the first elected officials in the nation to do so-Spear was also a leader of Eugene McCarthy's run for the presidency, an organizer against the war in Vietnam, and a key proponent for the establishment of the African-American studies department at the University of Minnesota. Spear's memoirs are fascinating and moving: in early chapters on his childhood

and college years, he writes with gr