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Titolo	Achieving access : professional movements and the politics of health universalism // Joseph Harris
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Collana	The culture and politics of health care work
Disciplina	362.1
Soggetti	Health services accessibility - Thailand Health services accessibility - Brazil Health services accessibility - South Africa AIDS (Disease) - Treatment - Government policy - Thailand AIDS (Disease) - Treatment - Government policy - Brazil AIDS (Disease) - Treatment - Government policy - South Africa Medical policy - Thailand Medical policy - Brazil Medical policy - South Africa
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Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Democratization, elites, and the expansion of access to healthcare and medicine -- Thailand : chasing the dream of free medical care for the sick -- Brazil : against all odds -- South Africa : embracing national health insurance in name only -- Thailand : from village safety to universal access -- Brazil : constituting rights, setting precedents, challenging norms -- South Africa : contesting the luxury of AIDS dissidence.
Sommario/riassunto	At a time when the world's wealthiest nations struggle to make health care and medicine available to everyone, why do resource-constrained countries make costly commitments to universal health coverage and AIDS treatment after transitioning to democracy? Joseph Harris explores the dynamics that made landmark policies possible in Thailand and Brazil but which have led to prolonged struggle and contestation in

South Africa. Drawing on firsthand accounts of the people wrestling with these issues, *Achieving Access* documents efforts to institutionalize universal healthcare and expand access to life-saving medicines in three major industrializing countries. In comparing two separate but related policy areas, Harris finds that democratization empowers elite professionals, such as doctors and lawyers, to advocate for universal health care and treatment for AIDS. Harris's analysis is situated at the intersection of sociology, political science, and public health and will speak to scholars with interests in health policy, comparative politics, social policy, and democracy in the developing world. In light of the growing interest in health insurance generated by implementation of the Affordable Care Act (as well as the coming changes poised to be made to it), *Achieving Access* will also be useful to policymakers in developing countries and officials working on health policy in the United States.
