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Sommario/riassunto	The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which barred practically all Chinese from American shores for ten years, was the first federal law that

banned a group of immigrants solely on the basis of race or nationality. By changing America's traditional policy of open immigration, this landmark legislation set a precedent for future restrictions against Asian immigrants in the early 1900's and against Europeans in the 1920's. Tracing the origins of the Chinese Exclusion Act, Andrew Gyory presents a bold new interpretation of American politics during Reconstruction and the
