Record Nr. UNINA9910813176103321 Autore Vavrus Mary Douglas Titolo Postfeminist news: political women in media culture // Mary Douglas Vavrus Pubbl/distr/stampa Albany, : State University of New York Press, c2002 0-7914-8834-9 **ISBN** Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (238 p.) Collana SUNY series Communication studies Disciplina 302.23/082/0973 Soggetti Mass media and women - United States Women politicians - United States Feminism and mass media - United States United States Politics and government 1989-Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 199-216) index. ""Postfeminist News: Political Women in Media Culture""; ""Contents""; Nota di contenuto ""Acknowledgments""; ""Introduction""; ""1. Theorizing Media Representation of Electoral Feminism"; ""2. Anita Hill, Clarence Thomas, and the Crisis of White Patriarchal Authority"; ""3. Postfeminist Identities, Neoliberal Ideology, and Women of the Year""; ""4. From Women of the Year to a€œSoccer Momsa€?: The Case of the Incredible Shrinking Women""; ""5. a€œPray Tell, Who Is the a€?Shea€?a €??: Campaign 2000, or the Year of One Woman""; ""AFTERWORD: Putting Ally on Trial: Contesting Postfeminism in Media Culture"" ""Notes"""Index""; ""A""; ""B""; ""C""; ""D""; ""E""; ""F""; ""G""; ""H""; ""I""; ""J""; ""K""; ""L""; ""M""; ""N""; ""O""; ""P""; ""Q""; ""R""; ""S""; ""T""; ""U""; ""V"": ""W"": ""Y"" Sommario/riassunto Winner of the 2003 Diamond Anniversary Book Award presented by the National Communication Association In the media-saturated decade of the 1990s, news reports shaped public sentiment about women in electoral politics and beyond. Mary Douglas Vavrus explores the process of representing political women in media, and argues that contemporary news accounts promote a postfeminist politics that

encourages women's private, consumer lifestyles and middle-class aspirations, while it discourages public life and political activism. The

author discusses the Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas hearings of 1991, the 1991–92 "Year of the Woman" in politics, the 1996 presidential campaign's use of "soccer moms," and Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign for Senate in 2000. Vavrus assesses the logic that emerges in these narratives' recurrent themes about gender and explores their significance for women and for feminism, ultimately arguing that feminism has been supplanted by postfeminism in news accounts of political women.