Record Nr. UNINA9910817144503321 America at the ballot box: elections and American political history / / **Titolo** edited by Gareth Davies and Julian E. Zelizer Pubbl/distr/stampa Philadelphia:,: University of Pennsylvania Press,, [2015] ©2015 **ISBN** 0-8122-9136-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (352 p.) Collana Politics and culture in modern America Disciplina 324.973 Elections - United States - History Soggetti Presidents - United States - Election - History United States Politics and government 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 and index. Nota di contenuto The devolution of 1800: Jefferson's election and the birth of American government / Jeffrey L. Pasley -- The bombshell of 1844 / Sean Wilentz -- Beyond the realignment synthesis: the 1860 election reconsidered / Adam I. P. Smith -- Markets, morality, and the media: the Election of 1884 and the iconography of Progressivism / Richard R. John --Anglophobia in nineteenth-century elections, politics, and diplomacy / Jay Sexton -- The war and peace election of 1916 / Elizabeth Sanders -- Farewell to the "smoke-filled room" : parties, interests, public relations, and the election of 1924 / Bruce J. Schulman -- The New Deal in 1940: embattled or entrenched? / Gareth Davies -- "Why don't you just get an actor?": the advent of television in the 1952 campaign / Kevin M. Kruse -- Giving liberalism a window: the 1964 election / Julian E. Zelizer -- The 1980 election: victory without success / Meg Jacobs -- Beyond the water's edge: foreign policy and electoral politics / Andrew Preston -- From corn to caviar: the evolution of presidential election communications, 1960-2000 / Brian Balogh. Sommario/riassunto Elections are, and always have been, the lifeblood of American democracy. Often raucous and sharply contentious, sometimes featuring grand debates about the nation's future, and invariably full of

dramatic moments, elections offer insight into the character and

historical evolution of American politics. America at the Ballot Box uses the history of presidential elections to illuminate American political democracy and its development from the early Republic to the late twentieth century. Some of the contributions in America at the Ballot Box focus on elections that resulted in dramatic political change, including Jefferson's defeat of Adams in 1800, the 1860 election of Lincoln, and Reagan's 1980 landslide victory. Others concentrate on contests whose importance lies more in the way they illuminate the broad, underlying processes of political change, such as the corruption controversy of Cleveland's acrimonious election in 1884 or the advent of television advertising during the 1952 campaign, when Eisenhower defeated Stevenson. Another set of essays takes a thematic approach. exploring the impact of foreign relations, Anglophobia, and political communications over long periods of electoral time. Uniting all of the chapters is the common conviction that elections provide a unique vantage point from which to view the American political system. Ranging from landmark contests to less influential victories and defeats, the essays by leading political historians seek to rehabilitate the historical significance of presidential elections and integrate them into the broader evolution of American government, policies, and politics. Contributors: Brian Balogh, Gareth Davies, Meg Jacobs, Richard R. John, Kevin M. Kruse, Jeffrey L. Pasley, Andrew Preston, Elizabeth Sanders, Bruce J. Schulman, Jay Sexton, Adam I. P. Smith, Sean Wilentz, Julian E. Zelizer.