1. Record Nr. UNINA9910825931603321 Autore Alexander Gregory S. <1948-> Titolo Commodity & propriety: competing visions of property in American legal thought, 1776-1970 / / Gregory S. Alexander Chicago,: University of Chicago Press, 1997 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-299-10448-7 **ISBN** 0-226-01352-9 Edizione [1999th ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (500 p.) Disciplina 330.1/7 Property - Social aspects - United States - History Soggetti Property - United States - History Civil society - United States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 387-470) and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- PART ONE: THE CIVIC REPUBLICAN CULTURE, 1776-1800 -- PART TWO: THE COMMERCIAL RLEPUBLICAN CULTURE, 1800-1860 -- PART THREE: THE INDUSTRIAL CULTURE 1870-1917 -- PART FOUR: THE LATE MODERN CULTURE 1917-1970 -- Epilogue -- Notes -- Index Most people understand property as something that is owned, a means Sommario/riassunto of creating individual wealth. But in Commodity and Propriety, the first full-length history of the meaning of property, Gregory Alexander uncovers in American legal writing a competing vision of property that has existed alongside the traditional conception. Property, Alexander argues, has also been understood as proprietary, a mechanism for creating and maintaining a properly ordered society. This view of property has even operated in periods-such as the second half of the nineteenth century-when market forces seemed to dominate social and legal relationships. In demonstrating how the understanding of property as a private basis for the public good has competed with the better-known market-oriented conception, Alexander radically rewrites

debates and recent Supreme Court decisions.

the history of property, with significant implications for current political