

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910826360703321
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Titolo	Selling the air : a critique of the policy of commercial broadcasting in the United States // Thomas Streeter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, c1996
ISBN	1-283-09765-6 9786613097651 0-226-77729-4
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (354 p.)
Disciplina	384.54/0973
Soggetti	Broadcasting policy - United States Broadcasting - Law and legislation - United States Broadcasting - United States - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Liberal television -- pt. 2. The politics of broadcast policy in a corporate liberal state -- pt. 3. Selling the air : property creation and the privilege of communication.
Sommario/riassunto	In this interdisciplinary study of the laws and policies associated with commercial radio and television, Thomas Streeter reverses the usual take on broadcasting and markets by showing that government regulation creates rather than intervenes in the market. Analyzing the processes by which commercial media are organized, Streeter asks how it is possible to take the practice of broadcasting-the reproduction of disembodied sounds and pictures for dissemination to vast unseen audiences-and constitute it as something that can be bought, owned, and sold. With an impressive command of broadcast history, as well as critical and cultural studies of the media, Streeter shows that liberal marketplace principles-ideas of individuality, property, public interest, and markets-have come into contradiction with themselves. Commercial broadcasting is dependent on government privileges, and Streeter provides a searching critique of the political choices of corporate liberalism that shape our landscape of cultural property and electronic intangibles.

