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Laski: Changing Perceptions of Civil Society in British Political Thought, Late Sixteenth to Early Twentieth Centuries; 2. Central Government 'Interference': Changing Conceptions, Practices, and Concerns, c.1700-1850; 3. 'Opinions deliver'd in conversation': Conversation, Politics, and Gender in the Late Eighteenth Century; 4. Civil Society by Accident? Paradoxes of Voluntarism and Pluralism in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

5. Civil Society in Nineteenth-century Britain and Germany: J. M. Ludlow, Lujo Brentano, and the Labour Question6. Altercation Over Civil Society. The Bitter Cry of the Edwardian Middle Classes; 7. Public or Private Ownership? The Dilemma of Urban Utilities in London and New York, 1870-1914; 8. British Progressives and Civil Society in India, 1905-1914; 9. Military Service Tribunals: Civil Society in Action, 1916-1918; 10. The Countryside, Planning, and Civil Society in Britain; 11. Women and Civil Society: Feminist Responses to the Irish Constitution of 1937

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#### Sommario/riassunto

This book explores the many different strands in the language of civil society from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries. Through a series of case-studies it investigates the applicability of the term to a wide range of historical settings. The contributors show how past understandings of the term were often very different from (even in some respects the exact opposite of) those held today. - ;This book explores the many different strands in the language of civil society from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries. Through a series of case-studies it investigates the applicability of the

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