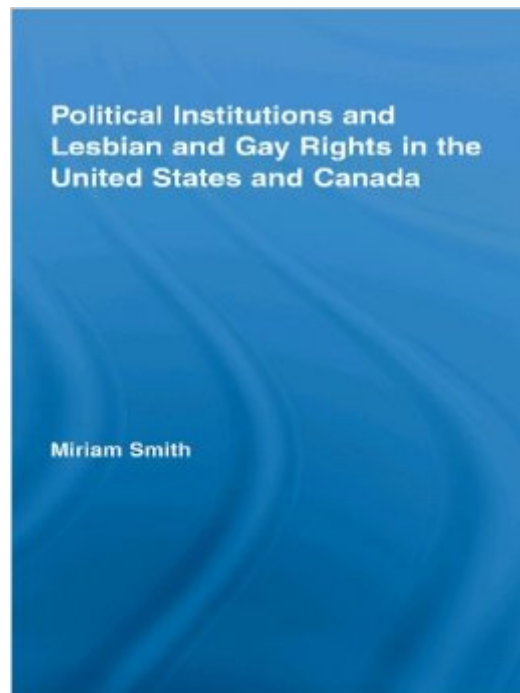


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Political Institutions And Lesbian And Gay Rights In The United States And Canada (Routledge Studies In North American Politics)



Synopsis

Lesbian and gay citizens today enjoy a much broader array of rights and obligations and a greater ability to live their lives openly in both the U.S. and Canada. However, while human rights protections have been exponentially expanded in Canada over the last twenty years, even basic protections in areas such as employment discrimination are still unavailable to many in the United States. This book examines why these similar societies have produced such divergent policy outcomes, focusing on how differences between the political institutions of the U.S. and Canada have shaped the terrain of social movement and counter-movement mobilization. It analyzes cross-national variance in public policies toward lesbians and gay men, especially in the areas of the decriminalization of sodomy, the passage of anti-discrimination laws, and the enactment of measures to recognize same-sex relationships. For political science, sociology, and queer studies alike, this book will prove vital as movements for lesbian and gay rights continue to recast the social landscape in North America and beyond.

Book Information

File Size: 453 KB

Print Length: 245 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Up to 4 simultaneous devices, per publisher limits

Publisher: Routledge (August 18, 2008)

Publication Date: August 18, 2008

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B001PC203C

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #641,358 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #99

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender eBooks > Politics #119

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Customer Reviews

This book has something for everyone. For those looking for the cutting edge of historical institutionalist analysis, there is no need to look any farther. For those interested in the comparative politics of lesbian and gay activism, there are profound insights, especially in a policy field that has been largely determined - I would say overdetermined - by cultural studies-type analyses. And for those concerned with the complex questions associated with intersectionality, and how race in particular has played a singular, defining role in how human rights issues are framed or not, this is a particularly gripping read. We need more analyses that position lesbian and gay politics as a proper site of study, especially those anchored in traditional frameworks or approaches such as institutionalist analysis.

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