

California: The Politics of Diversity


By David G. Lawrence


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CALIFORNIA: THE POLITICS OF DIVERSITY, Seventh Edition, explores the uniqueness and excitement of California's political environment through two key themes: diversity and hyperpluralism. An experienced educator with a background in local government, the author brings an informed, insightful perspective to the examination of the numerous pressures that make governing the state increasingly challenging. To help readers better understand California politics in a national context, the book also discusses aspects of American politics such as the democratic, elite, and pluralist theories and shows how those concepts can aid in understanding California politics.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is a clear, comprehensive take on California politics. An important foundation for an undergraduate class on California politics, with an argument about why it is difficult to govern California, either at the statewide or local level."

"[T]he best California politics book on the market because of how it teaches students how to understand California politics in the context of diversity--which is what characterizes California today."

About the Author

David G. Lawrence is professor emeritus of political science at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California. As a teacher, scholar, and former public official, he has applied theory and practice to California politics. He served on a city council as mayor pro tem, chaired a regional planning agency, and is former president of the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG). He currently serves on the Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee, a group that advises the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments on the expenditure of sales tax revenues earmarked for transportation (an estimated \$1 billion over 30 years). He is also former president of the California Center for Education in Public Affairs, a consortium of colleges and universities dedicated to helping students better understand California politics through Sacramento seminars and post-election briefings.

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