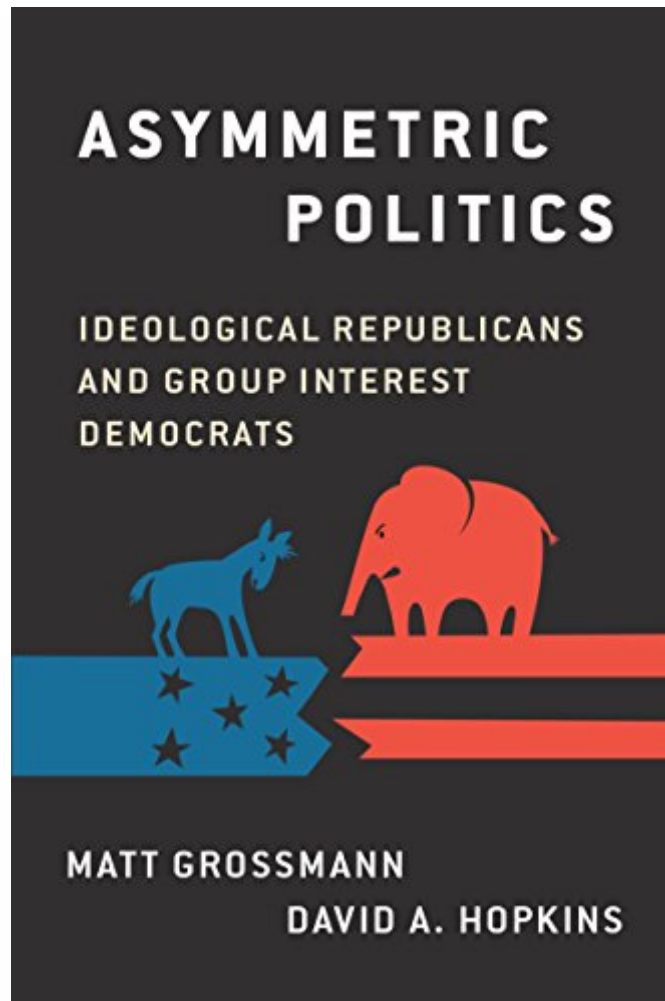


The book was found

Asymmetric Politics: Ideological Republicans And Group Interest Democrats



Synopsis

Why do Republican politicians promise to rein in government, only to face repeated rebellions from Republican voters and media critics for betraying their principles? Why do Democratic politicians propose an array of different policies to match the diversity of their supporters, only to become mired in stark demographic divisions over issue priorities? In short, why do the two parties act so differently-whether in the electorate, on the campaign trail, or in public office? *Asymmetric Politics* offers a comprehensive explanation: The Republican Party is the vehicle of an ideological movement while the Democratic Party is a coalition of social groups. Republican leaders prize conservatism and attract support by pledging loyalty to broad values. Democratic leaders instead seek concrete government action, appealing to voters' group identities and interests by endorsing specific policies. This fresh and comprehensive investigation reveals how Democrats and Republicans think differently about politics, rely on distinct sources of information, argue past one another, and pursue divergent goals in government. It provides a rigorous new understanding of contemporary polarization and governing dysfunction while demonstrating how longstanding features of American politics and public policy reflect our asymmetric party system.

Book Information

File Size: 13796 KB

Print Length: 558 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press (August 10, 2016)

Publication Date: August 10, 2016

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01K7TJ19Y

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #56,225 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #11 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government >

Ideologies & Doctrines > Democracy #14 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > Political Parties #50

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