

A Representative Supreme Court?: The Impact of Race, Religion, and Gender on Appointments (Contributions in Legal Studies)

A "Representative" Supreme Court?

THE IMPACT OF RACE,
RELIGION, AND GENDER ON
APPOINTMENTS

Barbara A. Perry

Foreword by
DAVID M. O'BRIEN

In recent decades, the U.S. Supreme Court has taken on an increased political prominence, due largely to such controversial issues as abortion, the separation of church and state, and civil rights. Because such issues could be affected by a Court members personal beliefs and experiences, the question of how race, religion, and gender influence Supreme Court appointments is a crucial one. In this work, Barbara Perry explores the impact of these factors on the Court, placing the presidential nominations in their historical and political contexts. She examines the question of whether justices should be chosen in order to create a representative court that reflects elements in American society. The book is based on both primary and secondary sources, including interviews with seven members of the Court. Following a detailed introduction, Perry provides a historical analysis of the appointments of eight Catholics, five Jews, one black, and one woman, revealing a link between the appointments and the political, social, electoral, and demographic contexts in which they were made. She traces the decline in importance of the religious factor, as the ascendance of religious groups in mainstream politics no longer made it necessary for presidents to maintain a representative Court position. Representative considerations, however, will continue to play a role in the selection process, and Perry argues for a reconciliation between the undeniable pull of politics and ideology and the demands for merit-based appointments. This work will add an important new perspective to studies of the Supreme Court, as well as to the study of law, political science, and American history.

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Earlier in Perrys career, she published A Representative Supreme Court?: The Impact of Race, Religion, and Gender on Appointments. and attitudinal model studies. **The Innovators - Google Books Result** appointment to the High Court the appointment of almost 50 percent women to . woman judge on the High Court and only one Chief Justice of a Supreme Gender, Law and the Legal Professions (2006) Thornton, Dissonance and appointment to the judiciary was too late to effect remediation and the focus should. **Other Resources on Judicial Diversity, 1990-2012 - JAS** Judging Bertha Wilson, Feminist Legal Studies, 11: 30710. . Indeed, another Canadian Supreme Court judge, Justice Claire LHeureux-Dube, male judges reported that gender had little or no effect on the process or outcome about other forms of exclusion (on the basis of race, religion, sexuality, etc.) **Representative Decision Making on the Federal Bench: Clintons** Buy A Representative Supreme Court? 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