



## Public Opinion + Conducting Empirical Analysis

By Rosalee A. Clawson, Zoe M. Oxley

SAGE Publications Inc, United States, 2011. Kit. Book Condition: New. Revised ed.. 279 x 217 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Public Opinion: One of the central tenets of a democracy is that we expect the public to have some kind of a role in governmental decision making. After all, democracy means government by the people and for the people. But exactly what role does public opinion play? And do citizens live up to democracy s expectations of them? In their new introductory text, Rosalee A. Clawson and Zoe M. Oxley clearly and systematically link normative questions of democratic theory - whether citizens endorse the basic principles of our democratic system; whether their opinions are pliable; whether they organize their political thinking; and, to existing empirical research on public opinion. Putting the core ideas of public opinion into explicit dialogue with the core assumptions of democratic theory, the authors explore the fruitful and sometimes frustrating tensions between democratic ideals and their practice. The authors begin with a clear examination of the normative debates of democratic theory, outlining the classical, pluralist, participatory, and democratic elitism strands. Along the way, they explore the basics of public opinion research. In each...



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