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Nevada Politics and Government

Conservatism in an Open Society

By Leonard E. Goodall and Don W. Driggs

Our Price: **\$20.00**

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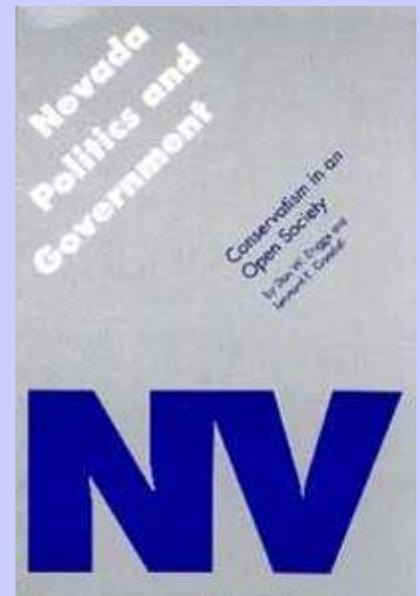
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examines the many seeming contradictions of Nevada's political character. This has always been a one-industry state: Once it was mining, now the casinos dominate the economy. Until a few years ago, Nevada was defined by isolated mining communities, resulting in an individualistic political culture where every man was self-reliant and government was weak, corrupt or non-existent. Recently, urban interests have come to dominate, and an "instant government" has emerged, but many things remain unchanged. As in the boom days of the mining era, the current government and economy are based on the promise of ever increasing revenues. Nevada is still the land of "resource extraction," but now it mines out-of-state tourists, and the vein might not last forever. -- *Glenn Campbell*

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From the Book Cover

Nevada's highly individualistic political culture has produced a conservative political philosophy in an open society. Economic developments resulting from mining and gambling reinforced and heightened the individualistic ethic that many early settlers brought to the frontier state. This ethic is also evident in the opposition of most Nevadans to big government, big labor, and big business. Belief in limited government partially explains the apparent anomaly of the electorate's backing a pro-choice position on abortion while opposing the Equal Rights Amendment.

The book discusses the important roles played by Nevada's present U.S. senators in two of the state's ongoing controversies with the federal government: the longstanding water rights dispute between Native Americans, backed by the federal government, and Nevada's ranchers; and the decade-long fight against the establishment of the nation's first permanent nuclear waste depository at Yucca Mountain.

Don W. Driggs is Professor of Political Science Emeritus at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is the author of *The Constitution of the State of Nevada: A Commentary*.

Leonard E. Goodall is a professor of management and public administration at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is the author of numerous works, including *State Politics and Higher Education*.

The award-winning *Politics and Governments of the American States* series presents the unique political history of each state in the United States. The volumes focus on common themes of federalism, constitutionalism and political culture. John Kincaid is general editor of the series; Daniel J. Elazar is founding editor. Please contact the University of Nebraska Press for a complete listing of available titles in the series.

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