Contents

List of Figures  ix
List of Tables xi
List of Contributors xii
Acknowledgments xviii

PART I WHY MIGHT POLARIZATION HARM DEMOCRACY?
THEORY AND COMPARISON

1 How Democracies Endure: The Challenges of Polarization and Resilience
   Robert C. Lieberman, Suzanne Mettler, and Kenneth M. Roberts  3

2 Polarization and the Durability of Madisonian Checks and Balances: A Developmental Analysis
   Paul Pierson and Eric Schickler  35

3 Pernicious Polarization and Democratic Resilience: Analyzing the United States in Comparative Perspective
   Jennifer McCoy and Murat Somer  61

PART II POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS IN POLARIZED TIMES

4 Crosscutting Cleavages, Political Institutions, and Democratic Resilience in the United States
   Frances E. Lee  95

5 Unilateralism Unleashed? Polarization and the Politics of Executive Action
   Douglas L. Kriner  118
Contents

6 Court-Packing and Democratic Erosion
Thomas M. Keck

PART III SOCIAL POLARIZATION AND PARTISANSHIP

7 The Social Roots, Risks, and Rewards of Mass Polarization
Lilliana Mason and Nathan P. Kalmoe

8 The Great White Hope: Threat and Racial Resilience in the Age of Trump
Christopher Sebastian Parker and Matt A. Barreto

9 The Religious Sort: The Causes and Consequences of the Religiosity Gap in America
Michele F. Margolis

10 Weaponized Group Identities and the Health of Democracy: Why the National Rifle Association Is Good at Democracy but Bad for It
Matthew J. Lacombe

PART IV VICIOUS CIRCLES? THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POLARIZED BEHAVIOR AND INSTITUTIONS

11 Polarization, the Administrative State, and Executive-Centered Partisanship
Desmond King and Sidney M. Milkis

12 Laboratories of What? American Federalism and the Politics of Democratic Subversion
Philip Rocco

13 Conservative Extra-Party Coalitions and Statehouse Democracy
Alexander Hertel-Fernandez

PART V CAN POLITICAL ACTION SAVE DEMOCRACY IN POLARIZED TIMES?

14 Elections, Polarization, and Democratic Resilience
David A. Bateman

15 Citizen Organizing and Partisan Polarization from the Tea Party to the Anti-Trump Resistance
Theda Skocpol, Caroline Tervo, and Kirsten Walters

Index