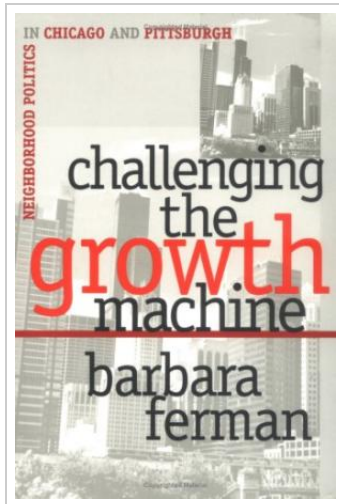




Challenging the Growth Machine: Neighborhood Politics in Chicago and Pittsburgh (Paperback)

By Barbara Ferman

University Press of Kansas, United States, 1996. Paperback. Condition: New. New.. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Economic development and urban growth are the contested grounds of urban politics. Business elites and politicians tend to forge pro-growth coalitions centered around downtown development while progressive and neighborhood activists counter with a more balanced approach that features a strong neighborhood component. Urban politics is often shaped by this conflict, which has intellectual as well as practical dimensions. In some cities, neighborhood interests have triumphed; in others, the pro-growth agenda has prevailed. In this illuminating comparative study, Barbara Ferman demonstrates why neighborhood challenges to pro-growth politics were much more successful in Pittsburgh than they were in Chicago. Operating largely in the civic arena, Pittsburgh's neighborhood groups encountered a political culture and institutional structure conducive to empowering neighborhood progressivism in housing and economic development policymaking. In contrast, the pro-growth agenda in Chicago was challenged in the electoral arena, which was dominated by machine, ward-based politicians who regarded any independent neighborhood organizing as a threat. Consequently, neighborhood demands for policymaking input were usually thwarted. Besides revealing why the development policies of two important American cities diverged, Ferman's unique...



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