This journal provides a forum for professionally informed commentary on issues affecting contemporary American politics. This includes but is not limited to issues engaging parties, elections, and political participation; the news media, interest groups, Congress, the Presidency, and the Courts; trends in public finance, presidential popularity, congressional productivity; in contemporary, historical, or comparative perspective.

The journal is motivated by the view that social scientists, historians, and legal scholars frequently have important insights into the concerns that arise in contemporary politics and government, drawing upon the disciplinary knowledge at their command. Yet they frequently lack a publishing outlet willing to print the analytic reasoning that gives weight to the resulting commentary. The Forum is designed to fill this gap.

We contemplate a journal free of fixed position and requiring no particular verdict with respect to policies, institutions, or processes. Well-reasoned discussion disciplined by reference to established bodies of knowledge or aimed at stimulating the creation of such knowledge is the goal of this journal.

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Contents

Articles

The 2020 Election —— 439

Elizabeth M. Sawyer, Byron E. Shafer and Regina L. Wagner
Misreporting: Social Scientists, Political Commentators, and the Politics of Presidential Selection —— 441

Travis N. Ridout, Erika Franklin Fowler and Michael M. Franz
Spending Fast and Furious: Political Advertising in 2020 —— 465

Angie Maxwell
Why Trump Became a ‘Confederate’ President —— 493

Angela X. Ocampo, Sergio I. Garcia-Rios and Angela E. Gutierrez
Háblame de tí: Latino mobilization, group dynamics and issue prioritization in the 2020 Election —— 531

Heather L. Ondercin
Marching to the Ballot Box: Sex and Voting in the 2020 Election Cycle —— 559

David E. Campbell, James R. G. Kirk and Geoffrey C. Layman
Religion and the 2020 Presidential Election: The Enduring Divide —— 581

Kenneth M. Johnson and Dante J. Scala
The Rural-Urban Continuum of Polarization: Understanding the Geography of the 2018 Midterms —— 607

Jamie L. Carson, Spencer Hardin and Aaron A. Hitefield
You’re Fired! Donald Trump and the 2020 Congressional Elections —— 627

Book Review

Ashley Jardina
Boris Heersink and Jeffrey A. Jenkins: Republican Party Politics and The American South 1865–1968 —— 651
Casey B. K. Dominguez

Learning From Loss: The Democrats 2016–2020 — 655