

Contents

List of Illustrations		xi
Preface		xiii
Chapter One	<i>Introduction</i>	1
	Party Disalignment and Realignment	4
	Characteristics of Disalignment	6
	Realignment Theory	7
	Working Definitions and Variables	8
	Objectives and Hypotheses	9
	Methodology	10
	Plan of the Book	10
Chapter Two	<i>Parties and Party Systems</i>	13
	Major vs. Minor Parties	14
	The Party Base	14
	Party Labels	18
	A Definition of Political Parties	19
	Party System Consolidation and Institutionalization	20
	Socioeconomic Cleavages and Party Preferences	21
	New Parties and New Cleavages	22
	Party Durability	25
	Party Systems	28
	Electoral Systems	29
	Party Types	34
	Perspectives on Leadership	37

Chapter Three	<i>Realignment and Dealignment</i>	43
	The Origins of Realignment Theory	43
	Realignment Criticisms	47
	Realignment Resurrected?	49
	The Dealignment Perspective	53
	Political Change outside the United States	55
Chapter Four	<i>Disalignment and Realignment: A New Theoretical Approach</i>	65
	A Different Lens	66
	Calculation of Parties' Bases and Medial Voters	68
	A Theory of Disalignment	71
	Disalignment and Electoral Systems	73
	A New Theory of Realignment	75
	A Typology of Elections	79
	Introduction to the Cases	81
	Hypotheses	85
Chapter Five	<i>The Case of the American Whig Party</i>	87
	Origins and Rise of the Whigs	87
	The 1824 Election	89
	The 1828 Election	90
	Party Development	92
	The Jackson Presidency	94
	The Birth of the Whig Party	96
	The 1836 Election	99
	The Frustrations of the 1840 Election	101
	The Tyler Disaster	104
	The 1844 Election	106
	The Mexican War and the 1848 Election	108
	Taylor, the West, and Patronage	111
	The Compromise of 1850	113
	The 1850 Election and Its Aftermath	116
	The 1852 Election	117
	Temperance, Immigration, and Catholicism	119
	The Kansas-Nebraska Bill and the End of the Whigs	122

	The Know Nothing Surge	124
	The Whig Rise and Fall	127
	Conclusions	133
Chapter Six	<i>The Case of the British Liberal Party</i>	141
	Origins and Rise of the Liberals	142
	Liberal Doctrines	144
	The Age of Gladstone	145
	Gladstone and Ireland	147
	The Prewar Years	148
	The House of Lords Battle	152
	Labor Discord	157
	Women's Suffrage	158
	The Irish Crises	160
	Coalition and War Management	163
	The Expanded Electorate	167
	The 1918 "Coupon" Election	168
	The 1920s	172
	Local Elections	178
	Conclusions	179
Chapter Seven	<i>The Case of Canada's Progressive Conservative Party</i>	187
	Quebec and Regionalism in Canada	188
	The Unassimilated Province	190
	Western Protest	194
	The Party System	196
	Regional and Provincial Competition	198
	Electoral Structure and Serial Party Systems	199
	Pan-Canadianism in the Third-Party System	200
	Mulroney and the Meech Lake Accord	203
	Preludes to Disaster	205
	The 1993 Earthquake	208
	The New Protest Parties	211
	Continuity of Change: 1997–2002	213
	Renewal of Change: 2004–2008	214
	Who Won the Merger?	221

	Provincial vs. Federal Party Systems	224
	Conclusions	229
Chapter Eight	<i>The Case of the Italian Party System</i>	237
	The Rise of the Italian State	237
	Influences on the Party System	238
	The Quasi-Stable Party System	242
	The Postwar Party System to 1992	244
	The Collapse of the First Republic	251
	Italy: Conclusions and Outlook	256
Chapter Nine	<i>Comparative Analysis of the Cases</i>	259
	Conditions Necessary for Disalignments	259
	Leadership Failure	260
	Intensity of National Identity Cleavage Issues and Positions	264
	Alienation of the Core Base	269
	Availability of a Successor Party or Parties	272
	The Electoral System	272
	Analysis of the Cases against the Hypotheses	275
Chapter Ten	<i>Conclusions and Implications for American Politics in the 21st Century</i>	279
	Protecting the Base	279
	Base Integrity and Party Polarization	281
	The Obstruction of Governance	284
	The Intensity of Belief	287
	The Cartel Parties	290
	New Party Barriers	292
	The Reform Party Experience	293
	Clarity of Choice	294
	The Italian Analogy	295
	Could Disalignments Recur?	296
	Are Disalignments Cyclical?	299
	Selected Bibliography	303
	Index	315