Takeover offers the first systematic study of state takeovers of local school districts in the United States. Relying on historical analysis, case studies (with a primary focus on Newark, New Jersey) and an original dataset of nearly 1000 school districts, the book examines the political causes and consequences of state takeovers. The book shows that although the justification for state takeovers have been generally based on concerns with poor academic performance, questions of race and political power have played a critical role in the emergence of state takeovers of local school districts.

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