

## Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i>	ix
<i>List of Tables</i>		xi
<i>Preface</i>		xiii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>		xvii
1 The Rise of Anger in the American Public		1
1.1 What Is Anger?		3
1.2 Anger, Public Opinion, and Mass Political Behavior		4
1.3 Trends in Public Opinion and Political Behavior		6
1.3.1 Declining Trust in Government		6
1.3.2 Weakening Commitment to Democratic Norms		9
1.3.3 High Partisan Loyalty		11
1.4 Rage, Negative Partisanship, and the Sources of Anger		12
1.4.1 Partisan Sorting		14
1.4.2 A New Media Environment		23
1.4.3 Technology and the Internet		25
1.5 Political Elites and American Rage		26
2 Political Elites and the Strategic Use of Anger		28
2.1 Elites and the Invocation of Anger		29
2.1.1 Historical Trends		29
2.1.2 Anger in the Contemporary Era		32
2.2 Anger as an Essential Function of Candidate Performance		36
2.3 Anger and Candidate Rhetoric in 2016		38
2.4 Anger and Partisan Media		45
2.5 Conclusion		55
2.6 Appendix		56

3	Trait-Based Anger and Governmental Distrust	58
3.1	Trait-Based versus State-Based Anger	59
3.2	Anger, Political Preferences, and Public Opinion	61
3.3	Personality in Context	63
3.4	Study Design	64
3.5	Anger and Evaluations of the National Government	67
3.6	A Note on the Causal Ordering	71
3.7	Conclusion and Discussion	72
4	The Causal Effect of Anger on Trust in Government	74
4.1	The Behavioral Effects of Anger	75
4.2	Anger, Behavior, and Trust in Government	76
4.2.1	Targeted Political Anger and Trust in Government	76
4.2.2	Generalized Apolitical Anger and Trust in Government	77
4.3	Anger, Evaluations of Government, and Causality	79
4.4	The Magnitude Is What Matters	86
4.5	External Validation	88
4.6	Conclusion and Discussion	93
4.7	Appendix	95
5	Anger and Democratic Values in the Mass Public	99
5.1	Conceptualizing Democracy	101
5.2	Anger and Democratic Commitment	103
5.3	Empirical Examination	108
5.3.1	Study Design	108
5.3.2	Results	111
5.3.3	Anger and the Institutional Structures of Democracy	113
5.4	Conclusion and Discussion	116
5.5	Appendix	117
5.5.1	Experiment #1	117
5.5.2	Experiment #2	119
6	Anger and Voter Loyalty	122
6.1	The 2016 US Presidential Election	123
6.2	Why Stoke Anger?	124
6.3	Angry Voters, Loyal Voters	127
6.4	Anger and Voter Loyalty in a Nationalized Environment	132
6.5	Just Polarization?	140
6.6	Conclusion and Discussion	144
7	Anger and the Future of American Government	146
7.1	Can It Be Reversed?	147
7.2	Consequences of Anger for American Government	150
	<i>Bibliography</i>	153
	<i>Index</i>	165