Contents

Preface ix

Introduction: The Decline of Confidence in Government 1
Joseph S. Nye, Jr.

PART ONE
The Scope and Performance of Government 19

One
The Evolving Scope of Government 21
Ernest R. May

Two
Measuring the Performance of Government 55
Derek Bok

Three
Fall from Grace: The Public's Loss of Faith in Government 77
Gary Orren
PART TWO

The Menu of Explanations

Four

Is It Really the Economy, Stupid?
Robert Z. Lawrence

Five

Social and Cultural Causes of Dissatisfaction with U.S. Government
Jane Mansbridge

Six

The Polarization of American Parties and Mistrust of Government
David C. King

Seven

The Politics of Mistrust
Richard E. Neustadt

PART THREE

Data on Public Attitudes Toward Governance

Eight

Changing Attitudes in America
Robert J. Blendon, John M. Benson, Richard Morin, Drew E. Altman, Mollyann Brodie, Mario Brossard, and Matt James
Nine
Postmaterialist Values and the Erosion of Institutional Authority
Ronald Inglehart

Ten
Public Trust and Democracy in Japan
Susan J. Pharr

Conclusion: Reflections, Conjectures, and Puzzles
Joseph S. Nye, Jr., and Philip D. Zelikow

Notes

Contributors

Index