

Capitol Punishment The Hard Truth About Washington Corruption From Americas Most Notorious Lobbyist Jack Abramoff

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Capitol Punishment - Jack Abramoff 2011

The former convicted lobbyist talks about his past as a highly-paid political operative and discusses the current culture of Washington which continues to pay exorbitant fees for lobbyists, fostering a climate of corruption, inefficiency, and waste.

The Mask and the Flag - Paolo Gerbaudo 2017-05-15

From the Arab Spring to the Spanish Indignados, from Occupy Wall Street in New York to Nuit Debout in Paris, contemporary protest bears the mark of citizenism, a libertarian and participatory brand of populism which appeals to ordinary citizens outraged at the arrogance of political and financial elites in the wake of the Great Recession. This book draws on 140 interviews with activists and participants in occupations and demonstrations to explore the new politics nurtured by the 'movement of the squares' of 2011-16 and its reflection of an exceptional phase of crisis and social transformation. Gerbaudo demonstrates how, in waging a unifying struggle against a perceived Oligarchy, today's movements combine the neo-anarchist ethos of horizontality and leaderlessness inherited from the anti-globalisation movement, and a resurgent populist demand for full popular sovereignty and the reclamation of citizenship rights. He analyses the manifestation of this ideology through the signature tactics of these upheavals, including protest camps in public squares, popular assemblies and social media activism. And he charts its political ramifications from Podemos in Spain to Bernie Sanders in the US, revealing how the central square occupations have been foundational to current movements for radical democracy worldwide.

The Democracy Fix - Caroline Fredrickson 2019-04-23

The former special assistant for legislative affairs to President Clinton, president of the American Constitution Society, and author of the "damn fine" (Elle) Under the Bus shows how the left can undo the right's damage and take the country back Despite representing the beliefs of a minority of the American public on many issues, conservatives are in power not just in Washington, DC, but also in state capitals and courtrooms across the country. They got there because, while progressives fought to death over the nuances of policy and to bring attention to specific issues, conservatives focused on simply gaining power by gaming our democracy. They understood that policy follows power, not the other way around. Now, in a sensational new book, Caroline Fredrickson—who has had a front-row seat on the political drama in DC for decades while working to shape progressive

policies as special assistant for legislative affairs to President Clinton, chief of staff to Senator Maria Cantwell, deputy chief of staff to Senator Tom Daschle, and president of the American Constitution Society—argues that it's time for progressives to focus on winning. She shows us how we can learn from the right by having the determination to focus on judicial elections, state power, and voter laws without stooping to their dishonest, rule-breaking tactics. We must be ruthless in thinking through how work to change the rules of the game to regain power, expand the franchise, end voter suppression, win judicial elections, and fight for transparency and fairness in our political system, and Fredrickson shows us how.

Sideswiped - Robert Ney 2013

In this new book, Bob explains what happened leading up to his resignation, and how powerful members of congress played leading roles in both the Abramoff scandal and Bob's own downfall.

Behavioral Ethics in Practice - Cara Biasucci 2020-11-01

This book is an accessible, research-based introduction to behavioral ethics. Often ethics education is incomplete because it ignores how and why people make moral decisions. But using exciting new research from fields such as behavioural psychology, cognitive science, and evolutionary biology, the study of behavioural ethics uncovers the common reasons why good people often screw up. Scientists have long studied the ways human beings make decisions, but only recently have researchers begun to focus specifically on ethical decision making. Unlike philosophy and religion, which aim to tell people how to think and act about various moral issues, behavioral ethics research reveals the factors that influence how people really make moral decisions. Most people get into ethical trouble for doing obviously wrong things. Aristotle cannot help, but learning about behavioral ethics can. By supplementing traditional approaches to teaching ethics with a clear, detailed, research-based introduction to behavioral ethics, beginners can quickly become familiar with the important elements of this new field. This book includes the bonus of being coordinated with Ethics Unwrapped – a free, online, educational resource featuring award-winning videos and teaching materials on a variety of behavioral ethics (and general ethics) topics. This book is a useful supplement for virtually every ethics course, and important in any course where incorporating practical ethics in an engaging manner is paramount. The content applies to every discipline –business ethics, journalism, medicine,

legal ethics, and others – because its chief subject is the nature of moral decision making. The book is also highly relevant to practitioners across all sectors.

The Alchemy of Authentic Leadership - Steven Mundahl 2013-07

Why do powerful leaders get outed people like Weiner, Schwarzenegger, Petraeus, Woods, and Clinton? Why do leaders risk it all to cheat, and even closer to home why might you? Know thyself! To do this, the leader is taken on a journey of their inner rooms to explore the impact of family dysfunction and beliefs. Only when you commit to becoming the leader of your own life do you possess the alchemical formula for authentic leadership. If not, beware the "BeOUTEDtudes!" Those are the attitudes that could land you a messy divorce, a headline on the front page, or worse. Journey with the author through his own challenges and triumphs in building a strong leadership platform. Learn how to heal into wholeness using evidence-based therapies as well as holistic and intuitive tools. Transform negative corporate cultures using innovative ideas, and, finally, learn the author's alchemical principles, called the Seven Tenets of Leadership.

Issues for Debate in American Public Policy - CQ Researcher, 2015-05-08

This collection of non-partisan reports written by award-winning CQ Researcher journalists focuses on provocative current policy issues. As an annual publication that comes together just months before it goes to press, the volume is as up-to-date as possible. And because it's CQ Researcher, the policy reports are expertly researched and written, showing all sides of an issue. Among the articles featured in the Sixteenth Edition are youth unemployment, the militarization of the police, domestic drones, and food policy debates. Chapters follow a consistent organization—exploring three issue questions, then offering background, current context, and a look ahead—and feature a pro/con debate box. All issues include a chronology, bibliography, photos, charts, and figures.

Washington Babylon - Mark Hyman 2019-10-22

Since America's founding, the nation's capital has experienced more than its share of scandals; thankfully, Washington Babylon explores some of the dirtiest secrets that have occurred throughout US history. Some are from the earliest days of America's founding and include the most famous people in history, like George Washington. Others are still fresh in our minds, as the dust has not even settled. In between, US history is littered with scandals from nearly all walks of life that were the most talked-about stories at the time. Many past scandals remain infamous, such as Watergate, Chappaquiddick, and Abscam. Other scandals that were once the biggest stories of the day have faded into obscurity. Washington Babylon reveals new details in some scandals that were not known when the story first broke, offering a whole new perspective for discussion. This is the most comprehensive collection of American scandals that will educate, entertain, shock, and perhaps, even titillate the reader.

Saving Justice - James Comey 2021-01-12

James Comey, former FBI Director and New York Times bestselling author of *A Higher Loyalty*, uses his long career in federal law enforcement to explore issues of justice and fairness in the US justice system. James Comey might best be known as the FBI director that Donald Trump fired in 2017, but he's had a long, varied career in the law and justice system. He knows better than most just what a force for good the US justice system can be, and how far afield it has strayed during the Trump Presidency. In his much-anticipated follow-up to *A Higher Loyalty*, Comey uses anecdotes and lessons from his career to show how the federal justice system works. From prosecuting mobsters as an Assistant US Attorney in the Southern

District of New York in the 1980s to grappling with the legalities of anti-terrorism work as the Deputy Attorney General in the early 2000s to, of course, his tumultuous stint as FBI director beginning in 2013, Comey shows just how essential it is to pursue the primacy of truth for federal law enforcement. *Saving Justice* is gracefully written and honestly told, a clarion call for a return to fairness and equity in the law.

The Republic of Virtue - F. H. Buckley 2017-11-28

Public corruption is the silent killer of our economy. We've spawned the thickest network of patronage and influence ever seen in any country, a crony capitalism in which business partners with government and transfers wealth from the poor to the rich. This is a betrayal of the Framers' vision for America, and of the Constitution they saw as an anti-corruption covenant. Most Americans get it, and this explains the otherwise improbable rise of Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders. When a country is corrupt, legislative efforts to make things better can actually make them worse. That's what has happened with our campaign finance laws, says the conservative, and not entirely without reason. We've criminalized political speech and sent the message that it's unsafe to get involved in politics without a lawyer at one's side. Donor disclosure requirements have also unleashed Internet mobs that attack political opponents. We'd be better off without any of them, Buckley argues in this provocative book. They're a net with the curious feature that the big fish swim through safely while only the little fish are caught, and those with the wrong political beliefs. All such rules are a disaster, and should be replaced by a different set of laws that focus on crony capitalism and the nexus of legislators and lobbyists that prey on our economy.

The US Congress for Kids - Ronald A. Reis 2014-11-01

With a focus on dramatic stories, personalities, and turning points, *The US Congress for Kids* examines the major milestones in congressional history, from the abolition of slavery, extending the vote to African Americans and to women, and investigating misconduct in both government and private institutions. Young history buffs will love the drama, controversy, and colorful characters that have always been part of Congress's history while teachers and parents will appreciate the thorough coverage and clear discussions of Congressional purpose, structure, history, and ongoing issues. Helping kids understand why government matters, the book looks beyond the Washington "beltway" to how members of Congress interact with constituents, those citizens that put them in office. Educational, hands-on activities that illuminate the workings of the US Congress include making a House ceremonial mace, creating your own congressional money, making a capitol dome, and designing a Congressional Medal of Honor. Ronald A. Reis is the author of numerous nonfiction books for kids and young adults, including *Christopher Columbus and the Age of Exploration for Kids*, selected for the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People list. He lives in Calabasas, California. Henry A. Waxman, a Democrat, is the US representative for California's 33rd congressional district. Kristi Noem, a Republican, is the US representative for South Dakota's at-large congressional district.

Harvard Law Review - Harvard Law Review 2013-06-10

The Harvard Law Review is offered in a digital edition, featuring active Contents and URLs, linked notes, and proper ebook formatting. The contents of Issue 8 include: Article, "Racial Capitalism," by Nancy Leong Essay, "Shallow Signals," by Bert I. Huang Book Review, "All Unhappy Families: Tales of Old Age, Rational Actors, and the Disordered Life," by Ariela R. Dubler Book Review, "Lawyers, Law, and the New Civil Rights History," by Risa Goluboff Note, "Recasting the U.S.

International Trade Commission's Role in the Patent System" Note, "Juvenile Miranda Waiver and Parental Rights" Note, "The Province of the Jurist: Judicial Resistance to Expert Testimony on Eyewitnesses as Institutional Rivalry" Note, "Proposing a Locally Driven Entrepreneur Visa" In addition, the issue features student commentary on Recent Cases, including such subjects as Illinois's ban on public carry of firearms, "bookmarking" of infringing material as a copyright violation, causation and criminals' statutory restitution, free movement rights in the EU, local bottling and the dormant commerce clause, and binding unnamed class members with a denial of class action certification. Finally, the issue includes notes on Recent Publications as well as a comprehensive Index to Volume 126 (2012-2013).

Unmasked - Laurence Cockcroft 2016-11-30

How corrupt is the West? Europe and North America's formal self-perception is one of high standards in public life. And yet, corruption is receiving ever greater attention in the European, American and Canadian press, with high-profile cases affecting both the corporate and political worlds. This book identifies the driving forces behind such cases, particularly the role of political finance, lobbying, the banking system and organised crime. It analyses the sectors which are particularly prone to corruption, including sport, defence and pharmaceuticals. In the course of their investigation, the authors consider why anti-corruption legislation has not been more effective and why there is an increasing discrepancy between regulation and commercial and cultural practice. Are Europe and the US genuinely serious about fighting corruption and if so what measures will be taken to roll it back?

Hopelessly Divided - Douglas E. Schoen 2012-04-16

Just in time for the 2012 election, Douglas E. Schoen, one of America's preeminent political pundits, analyzes the growing chasm between the political class—politicians, lobbyists, fundraisers, consultants—and the American Mainstream, frustrated with government's inability to address the major issues affecting their lives. This gap has given rise to populist movements on the right and the left and driven our two-party system to the brink of possible collapse—in ways that have never been fully discussed or articulated.

America's War Machine - James McCartney 2015-10-27

When President Dwight D. Eisenhower prepared to leave the White House in 1961, he did so with an ominous message for the American people about the "disastrous rise" of the military-industrial complex. Fifty years later, the complex has morphed into a virtually unstoppable war machine, one that dictates U.S. economic and foreign policy in a direct and substantial way. Based on his experiences as an award-winning Washington-based reporter covering national security, James McCartney presents a compelling history, from the Cold War to present day that shows that the problem is far worse and far more wide-reaching than anything Eisenhower could have imagined. Big Military has become "too big to fail" and has grown to envelope the nation's political, cultural and intellectual institutions. These centers of power and influence, including the now-complicit White House and Congress, have a vested interest in preparing and waging unnecessary wars. The authors persuasively argue that not one foreign intervention in the past 50 years has made us or the world safer. With additions by Molly Sinclair McCartney, a fellow journalist with 30 years of experience, *America's War Machine* provides the context for today's national security state and explains what can be done about it.

It's Even Worse Than It Looks - Thomas E. Mann 2016-04-05

Hyperpartisanship is as old as American democracy. But now, acrimony is not confined to a moment; it's a permanent state of affairs and has seeped into every part of the political process. Identifying the overriding problems that have led Congress—and the United States—to the brink of institutional collapse, *It's Even Worse Than It Looks* profoundly altered the debate about why America's government has become so dysfunctional. Through a new preface and afterword, Thomas Mann and Norman Ornstein bring the story forward, examining the 2012 presidential campaign and exploring the prospects of a less dysfunctional government. As provocative and controversial as ever, *It's Even Worse Than It Looks* will continue to set the terms of our political debate in the years to come.

Angel Patriots - Alexander Riley 2015-03-13

When United Flight 93, the fourth plane hijacked in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, the gash it left in the ground became a national site of mourning. The flight's 40 passengers became a media obsession, and countless books, movies, and articles told the tale of their heroic fight to band together and sacrifice their lives to stop Flight 93 from becoming a weapon of terror. In *Angel Patriots*, Alexander Riley argues that by memorializing these individuals as patriots, we have woven them into much larger story of our nation—an existing web of narratives, values, dramatic frameworks, and cultural characters about what it means to be truly American. Riley examines the symbolic impact and role of the Flight 93 disaster in the nation's collective consciousness, delving into the spontaneous memorial efforts that blossomed in Shanksville immediately after the news of the crash spread; the ad-hoc sites honoring the victims that in time emerged, such as a Parks Department-maintained memorial close to the crash site and a Flight 93 Chapel created by a local Catholic priest; and finally, the creation of an official, permanent crash monument in Shanksville like those built for past American wars. Riley also analyzes the cultural narratives that evolved in films and in books around the events on the day of the crash and the lives and deaths of its "angel patriot" passengers, uncovering how these representations of the event reflect the myth of the authentic American nation—one that Americans believed was gravely threatened in the September 11 attacks. A profound and thought-provoking study, *Angel Patriots* unveils how, in the wake of 9/11, America mourned much more than the loss of life.

Terms of Engagement - Clark Neily III 2013-10-08

The Constitution was designed to limit government power and protect individuals from the tyranny of majorities and interest-group politics. But those protections are meaningless without judges who are fully committed to enforcing them, and America's judges have largely abdicated that responsibility. All too often, instead of judging the constitutionality of government action, courts simply rationalize it, as the Supreme Court did in upholding the Affordable Care Act, which represented the largest—and most blatantly unconstitutional—expansion of federal power since the New Deal. The problem lies not with the Constitution, but with courts' failure to properly enforce it. From the abandonment of federalism to open disregard for property rights and economic freedom, the Supreme Court consistently protects government prerogatives at the expense of liberty. The source of this error lies in the mistaken belief on both the left and the right that the leading constitutional value is majority rule and the chief judicial virtue is reflexive deference to other branches of government. This has resulted in a system where courts actually judge the constitutionality of government action in the handful of cases they happen to care about, while merely pretending to

judge in others. The result has been judicial abdication, removing courts from their essential role in the system of checks and balances so carefully crafted by our Founders. This book argues that principled judicial engagement—real judging in all cases with no exceptions—provides the path back to constitutionally limited government.

Corruption, Contention and Reform - Michael Johnston 2014

Explores four types of corruption and the implications for reform, emphasizing practical ways to check abuses of wealth and power.

Republic, Lost - Lawrence Lessig 2015-10-20

Revised and updated for the 2016 election with 75% new material. In an era when special interests funnel huge amounts of money into our government—driven by shifts in campaign-finance rules and brought to new levels by the Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*—trust in our government has reached an all-time low. More than ever before, Americans believe that money buys results in Congress, and that business interests wield control over our legislature. With heartfelt urgency and a keen desire for righting wrongs, Harvard law professor Lawrence Lessig takes a clear-eyed look at how we arrived at this crisis: how fundamentally good people, with good intentions, have allowed our democracy to be co-opted by outside interests, and how this exploitation has become entrenched in the system. Rejecting simple labels and reductive logic—and instead using examples that resonate as powerfully on the Right as on the Left—Lessig seeks out the root causes of our situation. He plumbs the issues of campaign financing and corporate lobbying, revealing the human faces and follies that have allowed corruption to take such a foothold in our system. He puts the issues in terms that nonwonks can understand, using real-world analogies and real human stories. And ultimately he calls for widespread mobilization and a new Constitutional Convention, presenting achievable solutions for regaining control of our corrupted-but redeemable-representational system. In this way, Lessig plots a roadmap for returning our republic to its intended greatness. While America may be divided, Lessig vividly champions the idea that we can succeed if we accept that corruption is our common enemy and that we must find a way to fight against it. In *REPUBLIC, LOST*, he not only makes this need palpable and clear—he gives us the practical and intellectual tools to do something about it.

The Death of Public Integrity - Robert Roberts 2019-10-07

From the late nineteenth century through the 1970s, several government reform movements succeeded in controlling traditional types of public corruption. But has this historic success led to a false sense of security among public management scholars and professionals? As this book argues, powerful special interests increasingly find effective ways to gain preferential treatment without violating traditional types of public corruption prohibitions. Although the post-Watergate good government reform movement sought to close this gap, the 1980s saw a backlash against public integrity regulation, as the electorate in the United States began to split into two sharply different camps driven by very different moral value imperatives. Taking a historical view from the ratification of the U.S.

Constitution through to the Trump administration, *The Death of Public Integrity* details efforts by reformers to protect public confidence in the integrity of government at the local, state, and federal levels. Arguing that progressives and conservatives increasingly live in different moral worlds, author Robert Roberts demonstrates the ways in which it has become next to impossible to hold public officials accountable without agreement on what constitutes immoral conduct. This book is required reading for students of public administration, public policy, and

political science, as well as those interested in public service ethics.

Nation on the Take - Wendell Potter 2017-02-07

"A rallying cry to bring government back under the control of the people . . . Their argument is impassioned and accessible." --Library Journal
American democracy has become coin-operated. Special interest groups increasingly control every level of government. The necessity of raising huge sums of campaign cash has completely changed the character of politics and policy making, determining what elected representatives stand for and how their time is spent. The marriage of great wealth and intense political influence has rendered our country unable to address our most pressing problems, from runaway government spending to climate change to the wealth gap. It also defines our daily lives: from the cars we drive to the air we breathe to the debt we owe. In this powerful work of reportage, Wendell Potter and Nick Penniman, two vigilant watchdogs, expose legalized corruption and link it to the kitchen-table issues citizens face every day. Inciting our outrage, the authors then inspire us by introducing us to an army of reformers laying the groundwork for change, ready to be called into action. The battle plan for reform presented is practical, realistic, and concrete. No one—except some lobbyists and major political donors—likes business as usual, and this book aims to help forge a new army of reformers who are compelled by a patriotic duty to fight for a better democracy. An impassioned, infuriating, yet ultimately hopeful call to arms, *Nation on the Take* lays bare the reach of moneyed interests and charts a way forward, toward the recovery of America's original promise.

Congress - Andrew J. Taylor 2013-03-26

An innovative examination of Congress' performance, using benchmarks and aspirations to assess whether or not it can be considered a successful legislative body

Debating Reform - Richard J. Ellis 2016-08-04

Debating Reform: Conflicting Perspectives on How to Fix the American Political System, Third Edition edited by Richard J. Ellis and Michael Nelson, gets readers to consider the key issues in reforming political institutions. Written specifically for this volume, each pro or con essay is contributed by a top scholar and examines a concrete proposal for reforming the political system. By focusing on institutions, rather than liberal or conservative public policies, the essays move readers to leave behind ideology and grapple with evidence, and then draw their own conclusions and build their own arguments.

Beating the Odds - Justin Yifu Lin 2019-08-27

This powerful book shows how poor countries can ignite growth without waiting for global action or the creation of ideal local conditions.

America: Unite or Die - Douglas E. Schoen 2021-12-21

WHAT AMERICA MUST DO TO ACHIEVE UNITY AND SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY AMERICA: UNITE OR DIE is a real-time analysis of why American Democracy is crumbling and why both sides — Republicans and Democrats — are responsible for its collapse. This is the first objective, nonpartisan analysis of what has happened, and most importantly, explains what we can do to avoid impending doom for our system, and most of all, our nation. ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE? America is the only country in the history of the world founded on an idea—and that idea is liberty. It's an idea that resulted in the most flourishing citizenry in human history, but today that idea is under attack, not just from foreign adversaries but from within as the extreme right of the Republican Party and extreme left of the Democratic Party move further and further apart. These dangerous, corrosive positions pose a serious threat to the

foundations of American democracy as we now face: · A political class that has lost touch with mainstream America. · Public loss of trust in the institutions of democracy. · The rise and mobilization of extremism on the right and left, both threatening violence. · The rise of social media, websites, and cable TV news that splinters audiences and creates alternate realities. · Inequality of opportunity that creates a two-tiered society of haves and have-nots. · Anti-democratic regimes ruling China and Russia that threaten freedom around the world. In an era of growing distrust, demonization, and hatred, as we live America's tragic 'Tale of Two Cities,' our most inspired turn is to embrace the idea engendered in a true symbol of American democracy: the mighty woman with a torch, 'the Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World': "Give me your tired, your poor/ Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free". When citizens who work hard and play by the rules believe they have no shot at the American Dream – or conclude that the American values, identity, and the principles they grew up with are vanishing – a giant question mark hangs over the future of our democracy. If we hope to preserve our democracy, both sides must start by reaffirming their belief in the democratic principles of America so they can move from the fringes to the moderate middle-of-the-road positions that millions of Americans embrace. AMERICA: UNITE OR DIE is an inspired plan to turn the Divided States of America into the Reunited State of America. "America: Unite or Die is a must-read for anyone interested in politics and governing or in the current dysfunction of our political system. Douglas Schoen and Carly Cooperman are great scholars and practitioners of American politics. They are two of the country's finest pollsters and strategists who have seen it all—from advising presidents in the White House to analyzing the voters in the precincts across America. The polarization in this country today is explained clearly. Every citizen who cares about this extraordinary country of ours should read this book and be enlightened about what's going on around them." –Ed Rollins, former assistant to President Reagan for political and governmental affairs, and former co-chairman to the National Republican Congressional Committee

Heist - Peter H. Stone 2006

"Before he took up lobbying, Jack Abramoff was an aspiring moviemaker who cowrote and produced Red Scorpion, a Cold War potboiler starring hulking Swedish actor Dolph Lundgren. It drew decidedly mixed reviews. Century Strategies, Ralph Reed's Georgia-base

Welfare for the Rich - Phil Harvey 2020-08-04

Welfare for the Rich is the first book to describe and analyze the many ways that federal and state governments provide handouts—subsidies, grants, tax credits, loan guarantees, price supports, and many other payouts—to millionaires, billionaires, and the companies they own and run. Many journalists, scholars, and activists have focused on one or more of these dysfunctional programs. A few of the most egregious examples have even become famous. But Welfare for the Rich is the first attempt to paint a comprehensive, easily accessible picture of a system largely designed by the richest Americans—through lobbyists, lawyers, political action committees, special interest groups, and other powerful influencers—with the specific goal of making sure the government keeps wealth and power flowing from the many to the few.

Scoundrels - James Michael Martinez 2023

"Political scandals have become an indelible feature of the American political system since the creation of the republic more than two centuries ago. This book surveys both the most infamous scandals as well as more obscure episodes in an effort to understand how these incidents have altered the course of American

political history"--

Ethics in Politics - Emily Crookston 2016-12-08

Within the field of political philosophy, the role of states, governments, and institutions has dominated research. This has led to a dearth of literature that examines what individuals—e.g., voters, lobbyists, and politicians—ought (or ought not) to do. Ethics in Politics: The Rights and Obligations of Individual Political Agents meets this need, providing a timely discussion of normative questions concerning political agents and the systems in which they act. The book contains eighteen original chapters by leading scholars which cover a range of topics including irrational voting, bribery, partisanship, and political lying. Ethics in Politics is a unique and accessible resource for students, researchers, and all interested readers, and sheds light on important but underexplored issues in ethics and political philosophy.

Stealing Our Democracy - Don Siegelman 2020-06-16

In a searing political memoir, former Alabama Governor Don Siegelman explodes the myth of an impartial U.S. justice system. He should know. Arguably the most successful and promising politician in modern Alabama history, his three-decade career in public service ran afoul of Republican opponents who used the federal judicial system to take him out of contention in Alabama and nationally. Siegelman ultimately was sentenced to 88 months in federal prison and served five years, with long stretches in solitary confinement during which he was a literal political prisoner, cut off from interviews and outside contact. Stealing Our Democracy reveals how Siegelman's enemies – including politicized prosecutors and a corrupt judge – stripped him of his freedom, his career, and his law license, and deprived him of his family and friends. His is an intensely personal account of how our system can fail and be abused for political greed. And if it could happen to him, he writes, it can happen to any of us, particularly in an era when Donald Trump is abusing his power and using the Department of Justice as a political weapon to defend himself and to destroy those who oppose him. Siegelman draws on his experience as a public servant and an inmate to show why the nation's prisons must be reformed along with our system of indictment, prosecution, and sentencing. Finally, Stealing Our Democracy offers a blueprint for voters in 2020 of what must be done to preserve democracy.

Do I Make Myself Clear? - Harold Evans 2017-05-16

*New York Times Bestseller * One of NPR's Best Books of 2017 A wise and entertaining guide to writing English the proper way by one of the greatest newspaper editors of our time. Harry Evans has edited everything from the urgent files of battlefield reporters to the complex thought processes of Henry Kissinger. He's even been knighted for his services to journalism. In DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?, he brings his indispensable insight to us all in his definite guide to writing well. The right words are oxygen to our ideas, but the digital era, with all of its TTYL, LMK, and WTF, has been cutting off that oxygen flow. The compulsion to be precise has vanished from our culture, and in writing of every kind we see a trend towards more--more speed and more information but far less clarity. Evans provides practical examples of how editing and rewriting can make for better communication, even in the digital age. DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR? is an essential text, and one that will provide every writer an editor at his shoulder.

Jesus on Death Row - Mark Osler 2010-09-01

What does the most infamous criminal proceeding in history--the trial of Jesus of Nazareth--have to tell us about capital punishment in the United States? Jesus Christ was a prisoner on death row. If that statement surprises you, consider this

fact: of all the roles that Jesus played--preacher, teacher, healer, mentor, friend--none features as prominently in the gospels as this one, a criminal indicted and convicted of a capital offense. Now consider another fact: the arrest, trial, and execution of Jesus bear remarkable similarities to the American criminal justice system, especially in capital cases. From the use of paid informants to the conflicting testimony of witnesses to the denial of clemency, the elements in the story of Jesus' trial mirror the most common components in capital cases today. Finally, consider a question: How might we see capital punishment in this country differently if we realized that the system used to condemn the Son of God to death so closely resembles the system we use in capital cases today? Should the experience of Jesus' trial, conviction, and execution give us pause as we take similar steps to place individuals on death row today? These are the questions posed by this surprising, challenging, and enlightening book

A Capitalism for the People - Luigi Zingales 2014-02-11

Born in Italy, University of Chicago economist Luigi Zingales witnessed firsthand the consequences of high inflation and unemployment--paired with rampant nepotism and cronyism--on a country's economy. This experience profoundly shaped his professional interests, and in 1988 he arrived in the United States, armed with a political passion and the belief that economists should not merely interpret the world, but should change it for the better. In *A Capitalism for the People*, Zingales makes a forceful, philosophical, and at times personal argument that the roots of American capitalism are dying, and that the result is a drift toward the more corrupt systems found throughout Europe and much of the rest of the world. American capitalism, according to Zingales, grew in a unique incubator that provided it with a distinct flavor of competitiveness, a meritocratic nature that fostered trust in markets and a faith in mobility. Lately, however, that trust has been eroded by a betrayal of our pro-business elites, whose lobbying has come to dictate the market rather than be subject to it, and this betrayal has taken place with the complicity of our intellectual class. Because of this trend, much of the country is questioning--often with great anger--whether the system that has for so long buoyed their hopes has now betrayed them once and for all. What we are left with is either anti-market pitchfork populism or pro-business technocratic insularity. Neither of these options presents a way to preserve what the author calls "the lighthouse" of American capitalism. Zingales argues that the way forward is pro-market populism, a fostering of truly free and open competition for the good of the people--not for the good of big business. Drawing on the historical record of American populism at the turn of the twentieth century, Zingales illustrates how our current circumstances aren't all that different. People in the middle and at the bottom are getting squeezed, while people at the top are only growing richer. The solutions now, as then, are reforms to economic policy that level the playing field. Reforms that may be anti-business (specifically anti-big business), but are squarely pro-market. The question is whether we can once again muster the courage to confront the powers that be.

America, Compromised - Lawrence Lessig 2018-10-22

"There is not a single American awake to the world who is comfortable with the way things are." So begins Lawrence Lessig's sweeping indictment of contemporary American institutions and the corruption that besets them. We can all see it--from the selling of Congress to special interests to the corporate capture of the academy. Something is wrong. It's getting worse. And it's our fault. What Lessig shows, brilliantly and persuasively, is that we can't blame the problems of contemporary American life on bad people, as our discourse all too often tends to

do. Rather, he explains, "We have allowed core institutions of America's economic, social, and political life to become corrupted. Not by evil souls, but by good souls. Not through crime, but through compromise." Every one of us, every day, making the modest compromises that seem necessary to keep moving along, is contributing to the rot at the core of American civic life. Through case studies of Congress, finance, the academy, the media, and the law, Lessig shows how institutions are drawn away from higher purposes and toward money, power, quick rewards--the first steps to corruption. Lessig knows that a charge so broad should not be levied lightly, and that our instinct will be to resist it. So he brings copious, damning detail gleaned from years of research, building a case that is all but incontrovertible: America is on the wrong path. If we don't acknowledge our own part in that, and act now to change it, we will hand our children a less perfect union than we were given. It will be a long struggle. This book represents the first steps.

Twilight of the Elites - Chris Hayes 2013-06-11

A powerful and original argument that traces the roots of our present crisis of authority to an unlikely source: the meritocracy. Over the past decade, Americans watched in bafflement and rage as one institution after another -- from Wall Street to Congress, the Catholic Church to corporate America, even Major League Baseball -- imploded under the weight of corruption and incompetence. In the wake of the Fail Decade, Americans have historically low levels of trust in their institutions; the social contract between ordinary citizens and elites lies in tatters. How did we get here? With *Twilight of the Elites*, Christopher Hayes offers a radically novel answer. Since the 1960s, as the meritocracy elevated a more diverse group of men and women into power, they learned to embrace the accelerating inequality that had placed them near the very top. Their ascension heightened social distance and spawned a new American elite--one more prone to failure and corruption than any that came before it. Mixing deft political analysis, timely social commentary, and deep historical understanding, *Twilight of the Elites* describes how the society we have come to inhabit -- utterly forgiving at the top and relentlessly punitive at the bottom -- produces leaders who are out of touch with the people they have been trusted to govern. Hayes argues that the public's failure to trust the federal government, corporate America, and the media has led to a crisis of authority that threatens to engulf not just our politics but our day-to-day lives. Upending well-worn ideological and partisan categories, Hayes entirely reorients our perspective on our times. *Twilight of the Elites* is the defining work of social criticism for the post-bailout age.

The American Congress: A Reference Handbook - Sara L. Hagedorn 2019-06-30

This volume thoroughly examines the operations and politics of the U.S. Congress. It guides readers to their own assessment of congressional politics and provides them with the basis for future reading and study of the subject. • Presents the major functions of Congress and how they have evolved • Discusses proposed solutions to more than a dozen major problems facing Congress and enables readers to judge for themselves whether or not such solutions are likely to work or may have unforeseen consequences • Synthesizes a comprehensive body of scholarly discussion on Congress, providing readers with a foundation for additional reading and research • Explains why hyper-partisan politics, also known as "tribalism," has developed in Congress and why it leads to a stalemate in lawmaking • Provides readers with an understanding of the checks and balances system, and why Congress often fails to exercise those powers

January 6 - Julie Kelly 2022-01-03

Americans were shocked and outraged to see chaos unfold at the Capitol on January 6, 2021. The melee shut down plans by some Republican lawmakers to object to Congress's official certification of the 2020 presidential election results. Democrats, the news media, and many leading Republicans immediately blamed the roughly four-hour disturbance on President Trump. The president "incited an insurrection," the American public was told. It prompted a second impeachment trial of Donald Trump after he left office. But one year later, the original narrative of what happened that day has crumbled while hundreds of Americans have been swept up in an unprecedented investigation led by Joe Biden's Justice Department to punish them for their involvement in the January 6th protest. The public has been misled—and flat-out lied to—about a number of aspects related to that day. This book exposes them all.

The Destructionists - Dana Milbank 2022-08-09

NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER • A scalding history of twenty-five years of Republican attempts to hold on to political power by any means necessary, by a hugely popular Washington Post political columnist "A thorough and scathing account of how the

Republican Party fell prey to Trumpism."—The New York Times Book Review In 1994, more than 300 Republicans under the command of obstructionist and rabble-rouser Congressman Newt Gingrich stood outside the U.S. Capitol to sign the Contract with America and put bipartisanship on notice. Twenty-five years later, on January 6, 2021, a bloodthirsty mob incited by President Trump invaded the Capitol. Dana Milbank sees a clear line from the Contract with America to the coup attempt. In the quarter century in between, Americans have witnessed the crackup of the party of Lincoln and Reagan, to its current iteration as a haven for white supremacists, political violence, conspiracy theories and authoritarianism. Following the questionable careers of party heavyweights Newt Gingrich, Karl Rove, Mitch McConnell, and Rudy Giuliani, and those of many lesser known lowlights, Milbank recounts the shocking lengths the Republican Party has gone to to maintain its grip on the American people.

Corruption, Accountability and Discretion - Nancy S. Lind 2017-10-25

This timely and insightful book provides the key elements needed to understand the nature and prevalence of corruption in public governance, as well as the devastating public policy consequences.