A Preface To Democratic Theory Expanded Edition

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publisher description

robert dahl s preface helped launch democratic theory fifty years ago as a new area of study in political science and it remains the standard introduction to the field exploring problems that had been left unsolved by traditional thought on democracy dahl here examines two influential models the madisonian which represents prevailing american doctrine and its recurring challenger populist theory arguing that they do not accurately portray how modern democracies operate he then constructs a model more consistent with how contemporary democracies actually function and in doing so develops some original views of popular sovereignty and the american constitutional system

the thoroughly revised and updated handbook on theories of governance brings together leading

scholars in the field to summarise and assess the diversity of governance theories the handbook advances a deeper theoretical understanding of governance processes illuminating the interdisciplinary foundations of the field

the routledge handbook of political parties provides a systematic and comprehensive overview of the study of political parties provided by leading experts in the field in an era of widespread political disillusionment political parties are often the main targets of citizen dissatisfaction yet they are the key institutions that make democracy work analysing political parties in unrivalled depth and breath with comparative thematic chapters throughout as well as a dedicated section on political parties and party politics in specific country and regional settings this handbook examines and illuminates the key questions around how parties organise how their ideologies have evolved over time their relationship with society how they differentiate themselves and how they respond to new social economic and political developments the routledge handbook of political parties is essential reading and an authoritative reference for scholars students researchers and practitioners involved in and actively concerned about research in the study of political parties party systems and party politics

an original defense of the unique value of voting in a democracy voting is only one of the many ways that citizens can participate in public decision making so why does it occupy such a central place in the democratic imagination in election day political theorist emilee booth chapman provides an original answer to that question showing precisely what is so special about how we vote in today s democracies by presenting a holistic account of popular voting practices and where they fit into complex democratic systems she defends popular attitudes toward voting against radical critics and offers much needed guidance for voting reform elections embody a distinctive constellation of democratic values and perform essential functions in democratic communities election day dramatizes the nature of democracy as a collective and individual undertaking makes equal citizenship and individual dignity concrete and transparent and socializes citizens into their roles as equal political agents chapman shows that fully realizing these ends depends not only on the widespread opportunity to vote but also on consistently high levels of actual turnout and that citizens experiences of voting matters as much as the formal properties of a voting system and these insights are also essential for crafting and evaluating electoral reform proposals by rethinking what citizens experience when they go to the polls election day recovers the full value of democratic voting today

a detailed new examination of the initiatives governments are exploring to reform the institutions and procedures of liberal democracy in order to provide more opportunities for political participation and inclusion combining theory and empirical case studies this is a systematic evaluation of the most visible and explicit efforts to engineer political participation via institutional reforms part i discusses the phenomenon of participatory engineering from a conceptual standpoint while parts ii iii and iv take a comparative as well as an empirical perspective the contributors to these sections analyze participatory institutions on the basis of empirical models of democracy such as direct democracy civil society and responsive government and analyze the impact of these models on political behaviour part v includes exploratory regional case studies on specific reform initiatives that present descriptive accounts of the policies and politics of these reforms delivering a detailed assessment of democracy and comparative politics

cultural history and themendment new york times v sullivan and its times kermit l hall new directions in american constitutional history words as hard as cannon balls women s rights agitation and liberty of speech in nineteenth century america sandra f vanburkleo race state market and civil society in constitutional history mark tushnet constitutional history and the cultural turn cross examining the legal reelist narratives of henry fonda norman l rosenberg contributors

waligorski shows why there is such resilience and viability to this brand of liberalism the chapter on keynes is as good a short piece on the economist as can be found anywhere kenneth m dolbeare author of american political thought a coherent and insightful book by a sagacious thinker charles e lindblom author of politics and markets

maltz reformulates the justification for originalist review and refines originalist theory itself he argues that a pure originalist approach mandates excessive judicial intervention under the constitution and he shows that most nonoriginalist theorists have failed to provide a sufficient functional justification for nonoriginalist intervention

drawing on the new physics as the scientific foundation of transformational politics becker and slaton write compellingly about teledemocracy social energy and democratic quanta they outline their quantum political theory in rich detail demonstrating how we have entered a phase of highly charged erratic and sometimes self contradictory packets of social political energy that appears to occur with a rough regularity but with differing levels of velocity and force becker and slaton explore the current state and future of televoting electronic town meetings and other initiatives designed to put the public back into public affairs this book will prove to be a fascinating read for scholars students researchers and policymakers interested in new political paradigms politics and public administration

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