Routledge Philosophy Guidebook To Plato And The Republic

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the idea of the centralized state has played a powerful role in shaping french republicanism but for two hundred years many have tried to find other ways of being french and republican these essays challenge the traditional account bringing together new insights from leading scholars

the birth of the second spanish republic in april 1931 ushered in a period of possible secularisation to spain liberals welcomed legal changes while conservatives feared the special privileges they enjoyed would end the catholic church remained a central focus of left wing antagonism and right wing allegiances and conflicts surrounding the future of religion grew severe while members of the spanish catholic hierarchy had clearly supported the right and disdained the left the actions and opinions of the vatican and its hierarchy stationed in spain were much more nuanced similarly when conservative military action plunged spain into a civil war in july 1936 the majority of the spanish catholic hierarchy openly supported their victory but the highest levels of the vatican remained silent this book explores the unique position and specialised reactions of the vatican concerning the second republic and civil war for the holy see the conflict in spain was not an isolated event at the edge of the continent but part of a larger narrative of ideological and political tension swirling across europe any public statement by the vatican concerning the spanish

republic or civil war could be misconstrued as support for one side or another and threaten the church true the vatican often remained silent and some have suggested this supports the conclusion that the church worked for franco but by accessing previously unavailable sources directly from the vatican this book can help to clarify the difficult options that awaited the holy see during this disastrous period similarly this book works to highlight the fact that the catholic church was not some monolithic entity but men like pope pius xi and secretary of state pacelli had their own understandings of spirituality and politics

toward the end of the astonishing period of athenian creativity that furnished western civilization with the greater part of its intellectual artistic and political wealth plato wrote the republic his discussion of the nature and meaning of justice and of the ideal state and its ruler all subsequent european thinking about these subjects owes its character directly or indirectly to this most famous and most accessible of the platonic dialogues although he describes a society that looks to some like the ideal human community and to others like a totalitarian nightmare in the course of his description plato raises enduringly relevant questions about politics art education and the general conduct of life the translation is by a d lindsay

in the transatlantic world of the late eighteenth century easterly winds blew radical thought to america thomas paine had already arrived on these shores in 1774 and made his mark as a radical pamphleteer during the revolution in his wake followed more than 200 other radical exiles english dissenters whigs and painites scottish lads o parts and irish patriots who became influential newspaper writers and editors and helped change the nature of political discourse in a young nation michael durey has written the first full scale analysis of these radicals evaluating the long term influence their ideas have had on american political thought transatlantic radicals uncovers the roots of their radicalism in the old world and tells the story of how these men came to be exiled how they emigrated and how they participated in the politics of their adopted country nearly all of these radicals looked to paine as their spiritual leader and to thomas jefferson as their political champion they held egalitarian anti federalist values and promoted an extreme form of participatory democracy that found a niche in the radical wing of jefferson's republican party their divided views on slavery however reveal that democratic republicanism was unable to cope with the realities of that institution as political activists during the 1790s they proved crucial to jefferson's 1800 presidential victory then after his views moderated and their influence waned many repatriated others drifted into anonymity and a few managed to find success in the new world although many of these men are known to us through other histories their influence as a group has never before been so closely examined durey persuasively demonstrates that the intellectual ferment in britain did indeed have tremendous influence on american politics his account of that influence sheds considerable light on transatlantic political history and differences in religious political and economic freedoms skillfully balancing a large cast of characters transatlantic radicals depicts

the republic

the republic is a dialogue by plato in which the famous athenian philosopher examines the nature of an ideal society the insights are profound and timeless a landmark of western literature the republic is essential reading for philosophy students

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