

The Politics Of Freedom

Isaiah Berlin and the Politics of Freedom
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The Limits of Individual Liberty
Eminent Indians on Indian Politics
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The Public
Politics and Liturgy
Bruce Baum
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Herbert Metford Thompson
Elisha Mulford
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Philip Pettit
John C. Donovan
Ben Worthy
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since his death in 1997 isaiah berlin s writings have generated continual interest among scholars and educated readers especially in regard to his ideas about liberalism value pluralism and positive and negative liberty most books on berlin have examined his general political theory but this volume uses a contemporary perspective to focus specifically on his ideas about freedom and liberty isaiah berlin and the politics of freedom brings together an integrated collection of essays by noted and emerging political theorists that commemorate in a critical spirit the recent 50th anniversary of isaiah berlin s famous lecture and essay two concepts of liberty the contributors use berlin s essay as an occasion to rethink the larger politics of freedom from a twenty first century standpoint bringing berlin s ideas into conversation with current political problems and perspectives rooted in postcolonial theory feminist theory democratic theory and critical social theory the editors begin by surveying the influence of berlin s essay and the range of debates about freedom that it has inspired contributors chapters then offer various analyses such as competing ways to contextualize berlin s essay how to reconsider berlin s ideas in light of struggles over national self determination european colonialism and racism and how to view berlin s controversial distinction between so called negative liberty and positive liberty by relating berlin s thinking about freedom to competing contemporary views of the politics of freedom this book will be significant for both scholars of berlin as well as people who are interested in larger debates about the meaning and conditions of freedom

this edition of a 1995 book sage publications contains a new introduction by the series editor and a new preface readers familiar with foucault s work will appreciate the difficulty in critically studying its arresting paradoxical nature dumm political

science amherst college negotiates the problem by creating a thematic framework the idea of being free in a modern western capitalist democracy and examining it through a foucaultian lens he focuses on the politics of freedom negative freedom the disciplinary society ethics seduction governments and provides an enlightening companion to foucault s postmodern philosophy annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

in this short yet ambitious work philip pettit offers a single unified and overarching theory of freedom a puzzling topic freedom extends from the individual and the metaphysical i e free will to the social and the political yet a theory connecting these two realms has yet to be devised in an elegant accessible manner pettit presents a survey of available theories of freedom then develops his own one that manages to straddle the personal and political spheres the view he develops which includes the seemingly paradoxical notion that we are free to the extent that we are capable of being held responsible will make this pioneering book highly important to a wide range of philosophers

why do governments pass freedom of information laws the symbolic power and force surrounding foi makes it appealing as an electoral promise but hard to disengage from once in power however behind closed doors compromises and manoeuvres ensure that bold policies are seriously weakened before they reach the statute book the politics of freedom of information examines how tony blair s government proposed a radical foi law only to back down in fear of what it would do but foi survived in part due to the government s reluctance to be seen to reject a law that spoke of freedom information and rights after comparing the british experience with the difficult development of foi in australia india and the united states and the rather different cases of ireland and new zealand the book concludes by looking at how the disruptive dynamic and democratic effects of foi laws continue to cause controversy once in operation

with a new introduction by the author the vital center is an eloquent and incisive defense of liberal democracy against its rivals to the left and to the right communism and fascism it shows how the failures of free society had led to the mass escape from freedom and sharpened the appeal of totalitarian solutions it calls for a radical reconstruction of the democratic faith based on a realistic understanding of human limitation and frailty

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